

Report to: Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board
Report Author: Nick Gerrard, Growth and Prosperity Programme Director, Blackpool Council
Date of Meeting: 10th September 2019

Local Industrial Strategy & The Lancashire Plan – Update

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To provide an update on progress of the Local Industrial Strategy and the Lancashire Plan

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the contents of the report and discuss any issues related to the Fylde Coast's interests.

3.0 Background Information

n/a

a) Local Industrial Strategy

Lancashire LEP continues to develop the Local Industrial Strategy engaging widely with key stakeholders. On the 24th July a workshop was held at Brockholes (attended by local Council officers) to review the latest economic data collation activity and the outline Framework and Action Plan produced by STEER Consulting. This was followed by round table discussions on devising the key "Strategic Imperatives" for the region. A clear link to the 4 "Grand Challenges" e.g. AI & Data, Ageing Society, Clean Growth and Future of Mobility and the 5 national "Productivity" themes (Ideas, People, Infrastructure, Business Environment and Places) is essential.

The workshop closed with STEER due to revisit their proposals ahead of an outline document being available for the 30th September LEP Board. It is understood that a further LIS workshop will be held in October to review and discuss the latest proposals further to the LEP Board. The date is still being determined.

Further to the 30th September Board, direct conversations with Government will ramp up ahead of a proposed draft bid submission before Christmas. The Lancashire LIS must be launched by April 2020. This report recommends that the EPB note the proposed dates of further LIS meetings and discuss any broader implications for the three authorities.

b) Lancashire Plan

Led by the Lancashire LEP, this major strategic document is currently under creation as requested by the Lancashire Leaders Group. It sets out the strategic direction for the development of the

aforementioned LIS and other pan-Lancashire strategies such as the Local Transport Plan and Lancashire Cultural Strategy for example.

The Lancashire Plan will set a long term vision (to 2050) for Lancashire, developed collaboratively with stakeholders, to establish a bold, ambitious and distinctive vision with which pan-Lancashire strategies can respond to in a mutually reinforcing way. As with the LIS, Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Council officers are engaging with this development process as and where possible and ensuring a strong Fylde Coast reference in this major strategy document.