

**Report of the Director of City Development
Report to Executive Board**

Date: 24 July 2019

Subject: Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy 2018 – 2023, One Year On

Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s): City wide	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has consultation been carried out?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, access to information procedure rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary

1. Main issues

- This paper provides an update to Executive Board on the progress made by the city on delivering Inclusive Growth since publication. Although the strategy is a five year plan an annual update is appropriate to showcase some of the projects being undertaken across Leeds, particularly as the last 12 months has been so productive.
- The One Year On document is appended to this report and sets out our 12 Big Ideas for Inclusive Growth, and under each of these provides some key projects and progress reports. This is not an exhaustive list of everything going on in the city, rather a broad selection ranging from large scale achievements with implications across the region, highlights include securing the new Headquarters of Channel 4, our success in tackling childhood obesity, and working with key Leeds businesses in our Inclusive Anchors programme, to local projects such as new community housing in Chapeltown, digital inclusion workshops and Asset Based Community Development.
- The report also updates some of the data in the Growth Strategy and provides new figures to help quantify all that is being achieved across the city. Inclusive Growth is a relatively new concept and as such requires a new way to measure success. Typically growth is determined through economic activity such as the value of the economy over time, the number of jobs or unemployment. Inclusive Growth rejects the idea that wealth will 'trickle down' the economy in favour of approaches to

stimulating growth that promote fairness, address distributional issues and ultimately reduce inequality.

- The document also highlights the growing need to tackle climate change and reaffirms the council's commitment to this aim following the declaration of a Climate Emergency in April. There are many projects across the city which are helping to reduce our carbon footprint, including our district heating network piping cheap low carbon heat to Council homes, upgrading 92,000 street lamps, insulating homes, improving air quality and a new Clean Air Zone, tackling flooding and moving forward with plans to make Leeds a Hydrogen City.
- A One Year On report will be produced each year to update Executive Board and showcase the great work that communities and citizens of Leeds are doing to deliver Inclusive Growth. To further help deliver our goals, we have formed an Inclusive Growth Delivery Partnership with 12 new Big Idea Ambassadors from across the city. These will meet for the first time this week and will be a valuable asset over the next 12 months and beyond.
- Our work on inclusive growth is beginning to see results, but we are not complacent as there are still significant issues in the city, not least inequality which remains a stubborn problem for many of our communities. Leeds has some of the most disadvantaged wards in the country and these need more support, which will be a focus for the new Ambassadors.

2. Best Council Plan Implications

- The Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy was adopted by Executive Board in June 2018 and together with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy forms the foundation for the Best Council Plan.

3. Resource Implications

- The measures in this report do not have a direct impact on funding, nor set out a budget. The One Year On report is an overview of many different projects run in the city. The projects which are run in full or in partnership with the council have been assessed for resources and value for money elsewhere.

Recommendations

Executive Board is recommended to:

- a) Note the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy One Year On report attached as Appendix A, welcome its findings and congratulate all the people involved in delivering projects that benefit Inclusive Growth across the city.
- b) Agree to support the new 12 Big Idea Ambassadors and the Inclusive Growth Delivery Partnership.
- c) Note that the Director of City Development is the lead officer for the implementation of the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy.

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report introduces the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy One Year On report attached at Appendix A which sets out progress made on the Inclusive Growth agenda over the last 12 months.

2. Background information

- 2.1 The Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy 2018 – 2023 provides a framework for how best to deliver growth that is inclusive and benefits all of our citizens and communities. It sets out a series of ideas and actions for growth, as well as broad themes of the Leeds economy and targeted sectors.
- 2.2 The strategy has been well received by partners and stakeholders, with many making pledges setting out what they will do to help us deliver our aims. Since the publication of the strategy further pledges have been received bringing the total to over 50 and some of these are detailed in the One Year On report, all are published in full at www.leedsgrowthstrategy.com.
- 2.3 The council is delivering three workshops centred on the three themes in the strategy of People, Place and Productivity. The first of these was held in April under the theme People and attended by 100 partners, it showcased some of the projects underway in the city included the Leeds Ambassadors, our health partners and new approaches to education. Some of these are detailed in the One Year On report. The next event on Productivity will take place in September.
- 2.4 Executive Board were updated on the Inclusive Growth Delivery Partnership in January, and since then we have advertised for our 12 Big Idea Ambassadors. Following a good response from a high calibre of applicants these have now been selected, with consultation from Members, and the first meeting of the partnership takes place this week co-chaired by the Leader of the Council.

3. Main issues

- 3.1 The One Year On report is a showcase of some of the great projects taking place across the city. Leeds has many strong communities and the wide variation of projects and events outlined in the report demonstrates just how dynamic and broad the Leeds economy is. It is important to note that the projects in the report are not a comprehensive list, rather a selection of some of the things happening in Leeds. Inclusion does not mean these projects are elevated above other great work happening in our communities.
- 3.2 A year is a good length of time to take stock of the Inclusive Growth agenda, and whilst it is not a long period for showing economic change (and the economic analysis in the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy remains valid) there has been a lot of developments over the last 12 months to showcase. The Inclusive Growth Strategy set out our ambition clearly and rather than repeat this the One Year On report has a clear project focus.
- 3.3 The structure of the document focusses on the 12 Big Ideas, it provides a short update on the strength of the Leeds economy, and also has a focus on projects being undertaken across the city to address Climate Change. The bulk of the report showcases projects delivering under the three themes of the strategy: People, Place and Productivity, and the following sections highlight some policies, programmes and projects highlighted in the report.

Strengths / Challenges

- 3.4 A year is a short period of time when looking at the Leeds economy but the most recent data shows that the city is still experiencing growth and is the main driver of the Leeds City Region. Despite this issues with inequality remain and Leeds has some of the most disadvantaged wards in the country. Over 172,000 people in Leeds live in poverty, and in-work poverty continues to rise and now affects over 70,000 people.
- 3.5 The city has key strengths in financial and business services, advanced manufacturing, health, and creative and digital industries. Leeds has a strong knowledge-rich employment base linked to the city's universities and teaching hospitals which are major innovation assets. Leeds also performs well in terms of business start-ups, with strong growth in digital and medical technologies, telecoms and creative industries. Strong private sector growth since 2010 has maintained the city's employment rate above regional and national averages.
- 3.6 Leeds has a relatively strong position on most health and social care indicators compared to other Core Cities, and there has been some notable improvements such as smoking reduction and people surviving longer with long term conditions. But there are still issues particularly the stalling of improvements in life expectancy for people living in our deprived areas who continue to have poorer health outcomes and in some cases, in line with national trends, progress has slowed and the gaps have widened.
- 3.7 Educational attainment remains a challenge, Leeds underperforms against other core cities for Foundation and Key Stage 2, but performance improves for older child at KS4. Worryingly, the attainment gap between children who are on free school meals and those who are not widens throughout their education and the city's performance is generally below comparator areas.
- 3.8 As with the wider national picture, productivity remains a challenge in the city. A key area for concern is the 'hollowing-out' of skilled and semi-skilled occupations, traditionally in the manufacturing sector, but increasing across a wider range of sectors. Although Leeds produces lots of highly skilled jobs, recent employment and output growth has seen a rise in 'lower productivity' sectors such as consumer-services and this continues to impact on growth and productivity.
- 3.9 Transport investment is still an issue for the city, as there remains a disparity between funding nationally, for example IPPR North figures show spending of £4,155 per capita planned for London, compared to just £1,600 in the North.

People

Falling Childhood Obesity

- 3.10 Our approach of linking health and activity is paying dividends. We are the only large city in the UK, and one of a few in Europe, that is reducing childhood obesity rates through interventions such as Henry (Health, Exercise, Nutrition for the Really Young). This programme equips parents with the skills, knowledge and confidence to provide a healthy and active family environment. The programme mainly works with families of children aged between 0 -5, recognising that getting the best start in life is a great way to prevent obesity as children get older. The results are clear, there has been a 6.4% fall in obesity rates in 4-5 year olds in recent years, with the biggest falls recorded in some of the most deprived neighbourhoods, where rates fell nearly 9%.

Age Friendly Leeds

- 3.11 Leeds has a comparatively young population, but in line with demographic change seen globally, we expect the number of people over 65 to rise by one third over the next 15 years. Our Age Friendly Leeds initiatives enable older people to stay in their homes longer, improving quality of life saving the NHS and council money. We are using technology to help people connect with their neighbours and prevent loneliness. Leeds Beckett University and the council are working with Samsung to develop devices which meet the needs of older people in the city.

Inclusive Anchors programme

- 3.12 Anchor institutions are big, locally rooted organisations like councils, colleges, universities, hospitals and other big businesses. Together they employ over 48,000 people across the city, spend hundreds of millions of pounds, and deliver vital services. They have a big impact on local communities and economies. Over the past year our Inclusive Anchors Programme has produced many benefits with the core focus on procurement, employment and a healthy workplace.

Place

Asset Based Community Development

- 3.13 ABCD is a new approach to using assets that are already in communities to inspire and nurture people in a way that recognises and celebrates the uniqueness of neighbourhoods. Local assets could be: a patch of unused land, a neighbour who knows the local baby groups, a local business who is happy to share their office space, a fast-food restaurant where young adults meet or a retired teacher looking to meet new people. The assumption is that, given the tools and the opportunity, small groups of local residents can change the things that they believe need changing in their community better than anyone else.

Chapelton Community Housing

- 3.14 This is the UK's first Housing Infrastructure Fund scheme to start building and demonstrates how the city is able to speedily leverage funding to deliver housing. In partnership with Unity Housing Association the council is redeveloping a brownfield site in the heart of Chapelton to provide new housing for the elderly, more affordable and community housing. We are awaiting a decision on much larger £55m HIF bid for infrastructure schemes that will support the delivery of 9,000 new homes in the city centre.

Connecting Leeds

- 3.15 Transport investment continues at pace in the city. Progress in the last 12 months include:
- A programme of bus priority corridors and new park & ride sites that start on site this year
 - Continued investment in high quality cycling infrastructure
 - Securing £20m funding to pedestrianise parts of the city centre around the Headrow
 - Improvements to Leeds Station in the concourse and a new platform to increase capacity

- Beginning construction on the East Leeds Orbital Road, unlocking housing development and improving congestion

Productivity

3.16 100% Digital Leeds

3.17 The challenge:

- 90,000 adults in Leeds don't have essential digital skills
- 50,000 people in Leeds are not online
- 40% of council housing tenants are not online

Our solution is 100% Digital Leeds and the council has invested £1 million to increase the digital confidence, capability and connectivity. Improving digital skills has many benefits, it can help people be better informed, pay less for things, be more employable, feel more independent, be less isolated, and live better, easier, longer lives. Some of the things we've done over the last 12 months include:

- Biggest tablet lending scheme in the country
- 26 community organisations have joined the Online Centres Network
- Digital inclusion grants programme for the third sector
- Over 600 Digital Champions recruited/trained
- Extended free council Wi-Fi to 20 community centres
- Over 2,000 people have registered with the Learn My Way online learning platform and have completed over 12,000 online courses

Nexus

3.18 The University of Leeds opened its £40m state of the art Innovation and Enterprise Centre, Nexus in April, which connects business to world-leading research at Leeds University. It provides a range of innovative services including conducting research for companies, improving business performance by developing new techniques or technologies, de-risking investment in research and innovation, providing access to a portfolio of patented technologies, and access to talent and training programmes. Nexus forms part of the Leeds Innovation District, which is developing at a fast pace as both universities are currently developing their estates and the Leeds General Infirmary realigning its city centre site.

Next Steps

3.19 Whilst we continue to move forward with delivering Inclusive Growth, there is still more to do and we are not complacent to the challenges. The Leeds Inclusive Growth Delivery Partnership has now been formed and will help to continue delivering Inclusive Growth and turn the corner on issues facing the city over the next 12 months.

3.20 The Leeds Inclusive Growth Delivery Partnership will work together to agree the outcomes we are seeking for our themes: people, place and productivity. We have developed a framework of indicators to measure inclusive growth, and will select which are most relevant to tell us when we are turning the curve and achieving our outcomes.

3.21 Measuring our success is important, but establishing a baseline for inclusive growth over this year has proved to be challenging. Identifying and obtaining meaningful data outside the usual standard measures for example, GVA, which doesn't tell us

how benefits of economic growth are distributed and employment figures which has a time lag in the data.

- 3.22 As there is still no standard framework for measurement of Inclusive Growth, this allows us to create bespoke indicators for Leeds that reflect our economy. Mixing those standard measures, with a range of indicators that tell us more about the lives, health and wellbeing of the people who live and work in Leeds. Several economic consultants and foundations have developed their own versions of measurement focussing on a mix of typical indicators combined with broader, societal goals such as better health, or time for family and friends. Evaluating different models has enabled us the development of our own range of indicators based on the good elements of existing models, the availability and reliability of data. We are working in partnership with Leeds University to create a tool for Leeds that will be proposing is used to set a baseline for this year and can understand progress on Inclusive Growth moving forward.

4. Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

- 4.1.1 The Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy was subject to extensive consultation and adopted in June 2018. Since then further partnership work across the city has taken place including the appointment of the 12 Big Idea Ambassadors, this was done with cooperation from Members.
- 4.1.2 The Leader of Council and Executive Member for Inclusive Growth and Culture has been consulted on the One Year On report.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

- 4.2.1 Themes running through this report have an impact on equality and diversity. The Council aims to improve the lives of all its citizens and has a duty to foster good relations between different groups in the community. The Inclusive Growth Strategy encourages inclusive growth, aiming to ensure that the benefits of a prosperous economy impact on all Leeds citizens, this includes supporting young people, people with disabilities and those suffering from mental health issues.
- 4.2.2 An Equality Diversity, Cohesion and Integration screening has been undertaken to assess the impact of this report on equality and diversity and is attached as an Appendix.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

- 4.3.1 The Inclusive Growth Strategy is a core strategy underpinning Leeds City Council policies. Inclusive Growth is also a key driver of the Best Council Plan for 2020/21.

Climate Emergency

- 4.3.2 The One Year On report has a section on Climate Change and showcases some of the many projects across the city which are helping to reduce our carbon footprint, including our district heating network which pipes cheap low carbon heat to some Council homes, upgrading 92,000 street lamps, insulating homes, improving air

quality and a new Clean Air Zone, tackling flooding and moving forward with plans to make Leeds a Hydrogen City. It reaffirms the council's commitment following the declaration of a Climate Emergency in March.

- 4.3.3 The Climate Emergency requires a renewed focus on promoting active travel, sustainable development, reducing waste and supporting biodiversity as our local economy continues to grow.

4.4 Resources, procurement and value for money

- 4.4.1 The measures in this report do not have a direct impact on funding, nor set out a budget. The One Year On report is an overview of many different projects run in the city. The projects which are run in full or in partnership with the council have been assessed for resources and value for money separately.

4.5 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

- 4.5.1 There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report..
- 4.5.2 This report is eligible for Call-In.

4.6 Risk management

- 4.6.1 There is always a risk to the Leeds economy through both policies and external pressures. The Council recognises that growing the economy has positive benefits to the city.
- 4.6.2 Specific financial risks, including fraud, and risks in relation to safeguarding, business continuity and information governance are not considered to be impacted by the recommendations in this report.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 This report presents an update on the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy 2018 – 2023 for Members. The One Year On report sets out a series of projects that have helped the city achieve its aim on delivering Inclusive Growth for the benefits of all our citizens.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Executive Board is recommended to:
- a) Note the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy One Year On report attached as Appendix A, welcome its findings and congratulate all the people involved in delivering projects that benefit Inclusive Growth across the city.
 - b) Agree to support the new 12 Big Idea Ambassadors and the Inclusive Growth Delivery Partnership.
 - c) Note that the Director of City Development is the lead officer for the implementation of the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy.

7. Background documents¹

7.1 None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.