

Report of Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support

Report to Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth)

Date: 10 April 2019

Subject: Draft Scrutiny Inquiry Report – Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" 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 of main issues

1. Leeds City Council has an ambition to be the best city in the UK: one that is compassionate and caring with a strong economy, which tackles poverty and reduces inequalities. It wants Leeds to be a city that is fair and sustainable, ambitious, creative and fun for all with a council that its residents can be proud of: the best council in the country.
2. The Best Council Plan 2018/19 – 2020/21 states that not everyone in Leeds is benefiting fully from the City's economic success. The Plan highlights that overall the prospects for economic growth in Leeds remain robust, supported by the city's skilled workforce, the growth and innovation of its firms and universities, and the progress being made with infrastructure. The Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy sets out 'how Leeds City Council, the private sector, universities, colleges and schools, and social enterprises in the city will work together to grow the Leeds economy, ensuring that everyone in the city contributes to, and benefits from, growth to their full potential.'
3. At the meeting on the 20 of June 2018, the Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth) considered how the scrutiny process could influence and shape the implementation of the Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy. The Board focused on changes in the labour market and how the strategy could support interventions to address skills, pay and progression to benefit those resident in our most deprived areas. It was resolved at this meeting that this would be the Scrutiny Boards main inquiry for the 2018/19 municipal year.

4. The inquiry was conducted over four evidence gathering sessions which took place between September 2018 and January 2019 when the Board received a range of evidence both written and verbal. Following the gathering of evidence a Scrutiny inquiry report has been drafted and will be presented to the Scrutiny Board for consideration and agreement in advance of the meeting.
5. Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 13.2 states that "where a Scrutiny Board is considering making specific recommendations it shall invite advice from the appropriate Director(s) prior to finalising its recommendations. The Director shall consult with the appropriate Executive Member before providing any such advice. The detail of that advice shall be reported to the Scrutiny Board and considered before the Board's recommendations are finalised and published on the Council's website". Advice provided is reflected in the current draft report presented to the Scrutiny Board.
6. A further opportunity for the provision of advice from the Officers and Executive Board Members is available at the meeting on the 10 April 2019 and the Scrutiny Board is recommended to consider this before agreeing its report.
7. Once the Board publishes its final report, the appropriate Director(s) will be asked to formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's report within approximately three months.

Recommendations

8. The Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth) is recommended to consider and agree the Scrutiny Inquiry report following its inquiry into The Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy.

Background documents

9. None used¹

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.