

Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director – Place

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	26 November 2019
Subject:	Greater Lincolnshire Local Industrial Strategy

Summary:

Local Industrial Strategies (LIS) are being developed across the UK with the aim of addressing issues affecting low productivity (in terms of business efficiency) and regional disparities to create growth and improve living standards across the country.

The current priorities and highlights from the evidence are included in the LIS attached. Members will recall that at the meeting of the Committee in October 2019, the emerging storyboard was discussed, and comments incorporated. The full working draft is now attached for further and more detailed comments from the Scrutiny Committee.

A central aim of the strategy is to put our area in a strong position for the future. It is a long-term strategy to support our growing business sectors. This means taking account of how the economy will evolve in the future, and how trends such as technological change, globalisation and demographic change are likely to impact on our economy.

Actions Required:

Members of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee are invited to consider and comment on the direction and focus of the Draft Local Industrial Strategy.

1. Background

In November 2017, the Government released a white paper titled "Industrial Strategy: building a Britain fit for the future." This paper set out the Government's long term plan for boosting productivity and earning power of people in the UK. As part of this, Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) across the country were asked to develop their own local industrial strategies alongside Government.

Government has stated that agreeing a LIS will be a necessary condition for Mayoral Combined Authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships to draw down any future Local Growth Funding including the new UK Shared Prosperity Fund,

which is being developed to replace European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) once we exit the EU.

The aim is that LIS's should help all places to:

- **Increase productivity and realise their potential:** Building on well evidenced and distinctive strengths aligned with the national Industrial Strategy
- **Set out the spatial impacts of national and local policy across cities, towns and rural areas:** Informing priorities and choices and demonstrating how they will allow all communities to contribute to, and benefit from, economic prosperity.

In order to do this our LIS will need to:

- a. **Be distinctive:** Identify distinctive and specific local strengths and weaknesses.
- b. **Align with the national strategy:** Identify priorities across the five pillars of productivity: Ideas, People, Infrastructure, Business Environment and Places and connect into relevant Grand Challenges as set out by Government.
- c. **Take a partnership approach:** Bring together public and private local actors that are brought into a set of shared ambitions.
- d. **Be targeted:** It should not be exhaustive but should identify a strategic course, supported by complimentary policies and actions. There should be a clear rationale as to why proposed interventions will make a difference for specific problems.
- e. **Future proof the economy:** Take account of how the economy will evolve by 2050 – for example, how global trends such as technological change and industrial digitalisation, Brexit, globalisation and demographic change are impacting on the local economy.
- f. **Focus on improving living standards:** As well as economic growth, it is not just about more jobs but more high quality jobs and better pay.
- g. **Evaluate and evolve:** Set out clear plans to evaluate progress and feed this back into ongoing development and enhancement of interventions.
- h. **Seek competitive advantage:** Position Greater Lincolnshire as a demonstrator in areas of key competence aiming for first to market status in crossover points between sectors/industries and technology.

The strategy must be heavily based in evidence therefore the LEP has produced an extensive evidence base on which to base the Local Industrial Strategy, which is due to be published later in the year.

The LEP has been working with private, public and third sector stakeholders and Government departments over the past 18 months to work through the focus and direction of the strategy. This included a public call for evidence on our LIS Framework in January 2019, MP round table meetings with business and numerous stakeholder sessions.

The current priorities and highlights from the evidence are included in the LIS attached. Members will recall that at the last meeting of the Committee, the emerging storyboard was discussed, and comments incorporated. The full working draft is now attached for further and more detailed comments from the Scrutiny Committee.

2. Conclusion

As a result of the above work, Greater Lincolnshire LEP is currently in the process of drafting a Local Industrial Strategy, which will be co-produced with Government. Due to the requirement of Government co-production and sign-off it is unclear when the Local Industrial Strategy will be published, but Government have stated that all Local Industrial Strategies will be in place by March 2020.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Greater Lincolnshire LEP Local Industrial Strategy DRAFT (To Follow)

5. Background Papers

This report was written by Ruth Carver, who can be contacted on 01522 550515 or ruth.carver@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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