



Leicestershire County Council Scrutiny Commission Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership

Andy Reed, OBE LLEP Chair

Sue Tilley, Interim Director of the LLEP

Overview of Delivery Plan Status April 2022 March 2023

Meeting our objectives



LLEP Annual Report April 2021 to March 2022

[Annual Reports and AGM | LLEP - click link for video](#)



LLEP ECONOMIC GROWTH STRATEGY: 2021-2030 the framework

Productive

Increase GVA and productivity, continue to develop a leading science and technology-led economy

- Entrepreneurial, resilient and high growth businesses
- Attract and growth international businesses, investment and visitors
- Employment and skills for growth
- World-class business locations

Innovative

Global innovation leadership, increase innovation activities across the whole business base

- Global innovation leadership
- Increase and broaden innovation activity amongst businesses
- Successfully pioneer and apply **emerging** and new technologies
- Innovation** for sustainability

Inclusive

Create a resilient, adaptive workforce where all residents have access to skills and career progression and are paid the living wage

- Informed choices and routes to job and skills progression
- Improve skills and qualifications attainment and employability of the workforce
- Improve access to work, labour market inclusion and wellbeing at work
- Improve jobs quality, in-work progression and pay

Sustainable

Become a leader in zero carbon solutions, with sustainability principles built into everything we do

- Sustainable places, city and town centres
- Sustainable transport and connectivity
- Sustainable energy
- Sustainable business

Productivity Pillar

Productivity	Delivery Plan objective	RAG	Progress
	<p>Increased demand for support by Drawing together and enhancing existing business support provision</p> <p>Developing and co-ordinating a cohesive framework for local start-up support</p> <p>Promotion via Business Gateway Growth Hub</p>	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hindered by the gap in Growth Hub Manager and reduced funding. (Growth Hub Manager now in post) ➤ Growth Hub activities have centred on keeping the service running rather than expanding demand. ➤ Activities will be reshaped according to new BEIS funding and the outcome of a current external review of activity. ➤ Start-up support and ecosystem has been included in the Growth Hub review by Focus consultants.
	<p>Provide ongoing advice and support to businesses through the Growth Hub</p>	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Service has been maintained throughout the transitional period.
	<p>Support productivity improvements, digital transformation, HR and skills, and diversification through Growth Hub webinars and 1-2-1 support</p>	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ongoing programme of Business Support programmes funded by ERDF ➤ Successful collaborative bid for Made Smarter Programme ➤ Successful collaborative bid for Create Growth programme
	<p>Support delivery of the Business Tourism Service and the activities of the Tourism Advisory Board</p>	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Funding via Growing Places Fund to support Place Marketing which has supported campaigns such Tourism video and, Uncover the Story and the recent Fitcation visitor campaign.

Innovation Pillar

Innovation	Delivery Plan objective	RAG	Progress
	Continuing to support life sciences, space and earth observation at our Enterprise Zones and facilitate funding ambitions for Space Park 3	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strong focus on our Innovation Beacons – the Enterprise Zones ➤ Dedicated support for Enterprise Zones provided by LLEP programme manager Cheryl Maguire and senior management
	Supporting business through our Ambition to Grow programme	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ambition to Grow has now been commissioned and rolled out with businesses recruited.
	Driving up opportunities for collaboration, knowledge exchange, pooling of resources, and applied problem solving via our Innovation Board	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Innovation Board established with a defined programme of work and dashboard performance metrics . ➤ Close ongoing collaborations and partnership working with 3 Universities, Business and Finance and Innovate UK working to MIT REAP principles
	Improving the region's culture of innovation, as well as increasing awareness of the business performance benefits, through specific actions agreed by our Innovation Steering Group. This will include a Leicestershire Innovation Festival wo23	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Innovation Board Delivery model is in development with early interventions being put into practice. ➤ Leicestershire Innovation Festival planned for February 2023. Ambitious programme of activity
	Developing peer-to-peer idea exchanges through our Growth Hub and following the MIT Reap model of innovation support for SMEs	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ERDF Funded 'Ambition to Grow ' being delivered using ERDF funding. Workshop delivery commenced and should achieve the set targets.
	Continuing to partner with the Midlands Engine Investment Fund, which has provided millions of pounds of finance for LLEP businesses since 2020	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identified as an area where the LLEP and Growth Hub could strengthen. New Growth Hub manager will progress this. ➤ Included in Growth Hub consultant review.

Inclusivity Pillar

Inclusion	Delivery Plan objective	RAG	Progress
	Engaging with all schools and colleges in our area through the Careers Hub	Green	➤ All secondary schools and colleges engaged with. However, engagement from the school could be better in a small number of cases.
	Working with schools and colleges to support We Discover as we seek to support young people with SEND to make informed choices and have routes to job and skills progression	Green	➤ We Discover SEND project progressing well, resourced and working with partners.
	Working with local employers to create virtual insight experiences for young people and adults in Leicester and Leicestershire	Green	➤ Over 200 virtual insight experiences created, including companies such as Cadent, ICFC and Cavendish Nuclear.
	Using our NEET prevention project to work with local young people	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Project is now on the second and final cohort. The first cohort was below target numbers. ➤ Phase 2 active in Charnwood. week. There are challenges trying to secure work experience. A number of attendees have been going for interviews and secured jobs. ➤ The cohort specification widened to include refugees due to a shortfall in the original target group.
	DIGITAL POVERTY Supporting seven LLEP-funded local digital poverty projects with training and digital-ready devices, including a device loan scheme, through our Digital Skills Partnership	Green	➤ Projects starting to submit claims for successful outcomes. Most projects are six months in to a 2-year programme.
	Continuing the development of SportPark	Green	➤ Project is on target with anticipated final claim due in December 2022 (Q3)

Sustainability Pillar

Sustainability	Delivery Plan objective	RAG	Progress
	Investing through the Business Rates Pooling Fund in projects including Loughborough town centre regeneration and green growth corridors	Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Investments have been made in several local regeneration projects to support active travel including: ➤ Granby Street/St George Street Regeneration Gateway project has fully completed on the financially and has moved to monitoring. ➤ Loughborough town centre has 95% completed with a final claim due shortly ➤ Green Growth Corridors work on the project has progressed however no financial claim has been submitted.
	Working with Midlands Connect to fund a study looking at the decarbonisation of East Midlands Airport	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The study is still at the procurement stage, funding from Midlands Connect has been secured.
	Working with businesses to encourage their employees to use more active and sustainable forms of transport for commuting and in-work journeys	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Working in collaboration with Go Travel Solutions
	Supporting businesses to access the Zellar programme to identify low carbon measures and increase their energy efficiency	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pilot scheme LLEP Procured 100 licences 90 businesses signed up to date with time frame for the early adopters extended ➤ Other regions have followed our example and commissioned Zellar
	Establishing a local hydrogen intelligence group	Yellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ LLEP officers attend regional hydrogen groups. There are currently no plans to establish a LLEP area group as the regional geography currently feels appropriate.

Thank you and any questions



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