

Role, Job Description and Person Specification

In order to affect this role, the Chair of the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership will ensure the organisation has the capability to deliver on the fundamental task of generating inclusive economic growth, including analysing evidence of economic strengths and weaknesses of Lancashire; identifying the priority areas for investment; and to develop an investment plan to secure necessary funding to take this work forward.

To ensure effective and efficient focus on the priorities for local economic growth and to deliver impact, there should be robust monitoring and evaluation programmes used to inform decisions around awarding, continuing or withdrawing funding.

Chair Role and Job Description

- Provide visible leadership and strategic direction to the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board, translating an ambitious strategic vision into a deliverable Local Industrial Strategy.
- Chair and develop an effective Board of Directors.
- Drive the development of innovative commercial approaches to deliver productivity and growth improvements.
- Work with the LEP Executive to maximise investment into Lancashire and to direct investment, where possible, to narrow the gap between our most affluent and most deprived communities.
- Forge and protect long-term relationships with Lancashire's businesses to help deliver their growth objectives and potential and support the wider growth of Lancashire, including its sectors and supply chains.
- Maintain a clear, evidence-based knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of the Lancashire economy and the opportunities for growth.
- Act as an advocate for Lancashire and be able to represent the concerns of its people, institutions and businesses, both locally, nationally, internationally and at the highest levels of Government.
- Hold stakeholders to account for delivery, ensuring tough decisions are taken.
- Play a leading role in regional and national initiatives by building collaboration with other Local Enterprise Partnerships including through participation in the Northern Powerhouse (N11) forum.
- Support, motivate and hold to account the Executive Team in its delivery of strategies, plans, targets and budgets.
- Lead the Board in its scrutiny of the Executive Team in delivering strategies, plans, targets and budgets effectively.
- Ensure the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership is managed as a going concern and that commercial investment models underpin its future sustainability.
- Work with the Accountable Body and Executive Team to ensure the highest standards of public and company governance, financial control and conduct of financial affairs.
- Allocate specific roles and responsibilities to Board Directors; supporting and holding them to account for their delivery, with particular regard to the importance of skills and employment, business support, innovation and programme delivery.

Person Specification

Part One Experience and knowledge

1. Nationally recognised business leader who can confidently represent Lancashire in all local, national and international media, providing an apolitical, pro-business perspective.
2. Strong private sector background and business acumen with successful experience of building effective organisations through change management, entrepreneurship and innovation.
3. Strong connection with Lancashire, with a good understanding of how the area's productivity and growth drivers can improve economic outcomes.
4. A highly effective influencer, with successful experience of building a network of meaningful relationships across sectors and at all levels.
5. Highly strategic, with experience of bringing the long-term to life, inspiring, engaging and building ownership necessary to achieve generational change

Part Two Skills and abilities

1. Ability to provide leadership, create and inspire others with a long-term vision for Lancashire and promote cross-LEP and pan-northwest working to maximise economic benefit for all.
2. Ability to build relationships, influence and work collaboratively with a wide variety of public and private sector stakeholders of all sizes, including local communities, businesses networks, elected representatives, education institutions and voluntary and community sector bodies.
3. Strong commitment to equality and diversity on the LEP Board and in all LEP activity.
4. A strategic operator able to analyse and interpret the external environment, articulate the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership's position within it and amplify the Board's stated ambitions.
5. Ability to establish and maintain robust governance and assurance frameworks and systems to ensure effective financial performance and the delivery of agreed outcomes.
6. Good business networks with very capable interpersonal, communication networking skills.

Terms of Appointment

The new Chair must commit to an initial term of 3 years with an option to extend for a further 3 years by mutual agreement.

Expenses are payable in accordance the LEP's assurance framework. PA support available.

Time Commitment

The Chair will be required to:

- Chair and attend Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board meetings (circa 6 per year)
- Attend Lancashire Leaders meetings (circa 6 per year)
- Chair and attend other meetings as required to fulfil the role, including meetings of the N11 Partnership, Transport for the North and LEP Network.
- Actively represent the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership and Lancashire locally, nationally and internationally.
- Chair and attend meetings with MPs, Government Ministers and senior officials
- Approximate time investment of 5 days per month