



LEP – Sub Committee

Growth Deal Management Board

8 December 2015

Private and Confidential: No

Social Value

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Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the activity of the Social Value Working Group, and the progress made to date with the development of a Social Value Toolkit.

Recommendation

The Board are invited to receive, consider and comment on the update and the content and format of the draft social value toolkit.

Background and Advice

The Growth Deal Management Board are committed to maximising the Social Value benefits of the individual projects that form part of the Growth Deal Programme, and the Social Value benefits across the Growth Deal Programme.

In order to progress towards realising this aspiration the Growth Deal Management Board, on 21 October 2015, agreed to produce a “Toolkit for Wider Economic and Social Benefits for Growth Deal Projects in Lancashire. In order to do this the Board decided to establish a small working group to include: Graham Cowley, Dr Michele Lawty-Jones, Richard Hothersall, Alison Moore and Martine Winder.

Additionally, it was agreed that the Monitoring and Evaluation Sub-Group should be tasked with undertaking a series of activities.

Monitoring & Evaluation Sub Group Progress

The Monitoring and Evaluation Sub-Committee has been tasked with producing a Growth Deal Benefits Schedule and with managing the monitoring and evaluation process.



This, specifically, requires the Monitoring and Evaluation Sub-Group to:

1. Capture the stated business case benefits for all existing projects in a single Growth Deal Benefits Schedule (Monitoring and Evaluation Sub-Committee)
2. Ensure the project sponsors are required to monitor all outcomes including the wider economic benefits (Monitoring and Evaluation Sub-Committee)
3. Ensure that the evaluation commission has a similarly broad specification (Monitoring and Evaluation Sub-Committee)
4. Require a short “benefits realisation plan” for all projects (with a suggestion of utilising the format adopted by DfT projects).

Progress to Date/Considerations

The Monitoring and Evaluation Sub-Group has made the following progress in relation to the assigned tasks:

➤ Growth Deal Benefits Schedule

The business case benefits for all projects that have received LEP approval, and for which a growth fund agreement is in place, have been collated.

It is not feasible to seek to capture the business case benefits for all 30 Growth Deal projects at this point – as business cases have not yet been developed for all projects. The template that is now in place allows for the addition of further information as future business cases are approved and projects become live.

➤ Monitoring Wider Economic Benefits of Projects

The Monitoring and Evaluation Sub-Group recognised that a number of projects are currently live and have a suite of monitoring requirements against which they have to report (as set out in individual growth fund agreements).

There is an opportunity to amend monitoring requirements for projects that are not yet live, in terms of what reporting is required of them. However, this is more problematic for those projects that are already active.

The sub-group are currently seeking to identify and consider alternative avenues/methods that could be used to monitor wider economic benefits of projects.



➤ **ITT specification**

The ITT specification that was published, and against which tenders were submitted, included specific references to Social Value against which those who submitted tenders were expected to respond to comply.

➤ **Benefits Realisation Plans**

The Sub-Group recognise that it is good practice, within PRINCE 2 methodology, for projects to have benefits realisation plans. There is an opportunity to undertake work to confirm if existing, active, growth deal projects do have benefits realisation plans – and this work will commence in due course.

Social Value Working Group Meeting (27th November 2015)

The Social Value Working Group met for the first time on 27 November 2015. A review of toolkits that are being utilised by other organisations was undertaken in order to inform the development of a toolkit.

At the time of preparing this report, a draft toolkit is under development. It will be presented for consideration, review and comment by the Board at the meeting on 8th December 2015.