



LEP – Sub Committee

LEP - Lancashire Innovation Board

Private and Confidential: NO

Date: Monday, 6 September 2021

Spotlight Reports – Manufacturing, Food Cluster and Social Innovation.

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Executive Summary

Following discussions at the last meeting of the Innovation Board and in subsequent officer meetings it has been proposed that at future meetings of the Board, members would receive Spotlight Reports - an opportunity to spotlight key activities members are involved with.

It is proposed these are 5 to 10 min pieces each, with a maximum of three per meeting with opportunities for questions/discussion afterwards. There are considered to be three areas of work relevant to the Board at the current time, that have not previously been engaged, as the refreshed Lancashire Innovation Plan develops.

The following three slots have been allocated for this meeting.

- Manufacturing – Claire Whelan
- Food Cluster – Jane Dalton
- Social Innovation – Jane Binnion

Officers have been in touch with the allocated members and a short verbal report will be provided from each at the meeting. Members can invite colleagues to contribute to any presentation. Provision of slides, short written reports or background papers are at the discretion of members. If they are used it would be desirable, where possible, to provide to officers in advance but they can be circulated at or shortly after the meeting by prior agreement.

Recommendation

To receive and note the Spotlight Reports from Board members on Manufacturing, the Food Cluster and Social Innovation.



Background and Advice

While the Spotlight Reports are brief it is useful to align the themes to other items of relevance in the meeting or of current importance. Therefore, the following areas of feedback have been chosen as important to the September Board meeting.

- **Claire Whelan & Sector Group colleague (tba)** – 'The Manufacturing climate and the work of the LEP Sector Group. The key thrust of the meeting in September is going to be looking at the refresh of the Lancashire Innovation Plan in light of the recently launched UK Innovation Strategy. One of the biggest sectors for us here in the county is manufacturing and the related technologies that are key to that sector. It would therefore be really useful to receive a short spotlight report about the Manufacturing Sector Groups findings so far and priorities'.
- **Jane Dalton – the Food Cluster.** 'A key Sector Group of the LEP is the Food and Agriculture Group and it would be really interesting to hear about the work on the Food Cluster at the Innovation Board to consider the linkages to that Sector Group and any crossover of technologies and ideas to other groups. As with manufacturing the work would help us approach the scoping of the new Innovation Plan in light of the UK Innovation Strategy'.
- **Jane Binnion – Social Innovation.** 'This is a key area of work that has not had as much exposure in the past and will be added as a theme in the refreshed Innovation Plan for Lancashire. I think it's fair to say that members would find a brief introduction to social innovation as really useful in thinking about the work on the Lancashire Innovation Plan. This would be a starter piece for this area of work when considering our strategy in the county and any linkages to Sector Groups, as with the above discussions'.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
N/A		
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
N/A		