



## **LEP – Sub Committee**

## **LEP - Joint Scrutiny Committee**

**Private and Confidential: NO**

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## **Introduction to Lancashire Innovation Ecosystem** (Appendix 'A')

**Report Author: Matt Wright, Innovation Manager**  
**Matthew.Wright@lancashirelep.co.uk**

### **Executive Summary**

The attached report sets out an introduction to innovation policy, challenges and opportunities in Lancashire aimed at informing scrutiny members of the key issues to be considered.

### **Recommendation**

The Joint Scrutiny Committee are asked to note and comment on the report enabling members to consider areas they may wish to scrutinise further in terms of Innovation policy and delivery.

## **Background and Advice**

This report sets the scene for the innovation ecosystem in Lancashire, giving an introduction to the field of innovation, the trends and opportunities presented by innovation and technology and the emphasis placed on innovation in current and emerging LEP plans.

Innovation is a core component of the LEP strategy and is illustrated as a cross cutting theme in the Strategic Framework which sets out the key sectors and activities which can benefit from innovation.

The LEP Growth Plan is structured around four overarching drivers of growth and shared prosperity, with the following ambitions:

- **Skills:** to build a talent pipeline aligned with the needs of the economy, boost the skills of our people to enhance productivity and drive an inclusive workforce in partnership with business, providers and stakeholders.



- Business: to make our economy more prosperous and resilient by enabling business recovery, growth, diversification and internationalisation through digital transformation, tailored business support and strong sector leadership.
- Innovation: to be more innovative by embracing technological change and collaborating across sectors to support globally leading, cutting edge R&D and enable the broader diffusion and adoption of innovation across our business base.
- Infrastructure: to enable sustainable growth through strategic transport, digital and utilities infrastructure and focus growth around the development and expansion of high-quality strategic employment sites and thriving town centres.

### List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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N/A

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A