

**Paper for: The LEP Board**

**Title: Youth Committee**

**Date: 11 December 2019**

**Strategic Purpose: Delivery of Strategic Objectives / Improving Governance**

**Resource Implications: Board Mentor, Budget c.a. £10,000, Recruitment, Secretariat.**

**Board: For Decision – To agree the key terms for the Youth Sub-Committee and approve recruitment of members.**

**Introduction**

The board began a discussion in September regarding the purpose and constitution of a Junior Board, tasking a sub-group of Board members (Peter Broxton, Nicola Dunbar, Chris Hindley, Nichola Newton) to further develop proposals and revert to the full board. In developing those ideas, members of the Task Group asserted the need for an alternate name of the Junior Board, now referred to as the Youth Committee (which may change name again), to reinforce that the Youth Committee should carry equal status and standing with other committees of the Board. The following paragraphs encapsulate the now developed proposals to fulfil the Board’s commitment to establish a Youth Committee, which the Board is asked to approve and to authorise the recruitment for members.

**Purpose and Constitution**

1. Purpose:
   1. To provide an advisory role to the LEP as it develops strategies and programmes and to ensure they encompass views on the economy and economic growth of younger members of our community.
   2. To help research and address specific issues relating to young people in the economy.
   3. To act as advocates to young people of LEP and local strategies, policies and programmes that are aimed at the younger generation.
2. Constitution:
   1. The Youth Committee is constituted as a full sub-committee of the Board, with the Chair, elected from and by the Committee, being a full LEP board member.
   2. A nominated Board member shall act as mentor and advisor to the Chair and the Youth Committee.
   3. Up to 12 Members.
   4. Age group of members: 18 - 27 years.
3. Tenure:
   1. Normally 3 years, i.e. similar to the board.
   2. However, to create “stagger”, appoint some on 2 years and some on 3 years (if all on same tenure risk of no continuity).
   3. Members can be re-appointed for one further term of 2-3 years if they still meet the eligibility criteria.
4. Procedure / Process
   1. The Youth Committee is “issues” focussed, working on an agenda that it decides within the strategic framework of the LEP.
   2. Meetings of the Committee may be virtual, minutes will be taken, and reports and minutes shared with the full Board.
   3. The meeting will be provided with secretariat support from officers within the LEP.
5. Time Commitment:
   1. Typically, 1 – 2 day per month, for meetings and working on issues.
6. Funding:
   1. Voluntary with reimbursement of expenses.
   2. A budget, up to £10,000, will be provided to the committee to enable it to carry out its’ functions. If additional funds are required, approval up to a maximum of £50,000 (per the existing Scheme of Delegations) will need to be sought from the Chief Executive.

**Recruitment of Members**

It is proposed to run a campaign during Jan -March 2020, with the Committee being established by 1st April 2020.

1. Recruitment:
   1. Ensure diversity of gender and other characteristics.
   2. From representative organisations – Private, Public and Third Sector.
   3. Via industry and stakeholder network organisations, approach to key industries, colleges of higher education.
   4. Engage Faith / Community leaders – particularly to enhance diversity.
2. Selection Criteria:
   1. Live, work or study in the sub-region of Cheshire and Warrington (or locally resident studying away for C&W).
   2. Genuine interest in Economic Growth and Socio-Economic issues and strategies to address them.
   3. Able to represent wider views of young people in employment, training or study. (Desirable if in our key strategic industries or sectors).
   4. Can act as a Brand Ambassador for the sub-region.
   5. Value the “training” we can offer…strategic thinking, working in teams, presentations, ambassadorial role.

**Ian Brooks, Finance and Commercial Director**

**December 2019**