

HEY LEP Delivery Plan 2023 / 24

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Executive Summary

The history of the Hull and East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (HEY LEP) since its inception in 2021 has been one of challenge but also one of delivery success. A clear economic strategy for the region has been laid out and programmes such as Growth Hub, Grow Your SME and Growing Places are delivering to support business deliver the economic growth the region needs.

Whilst some of our SMEs and wider business community report that they have bounced back from Covid and created innovative opportunities for their businesses, there remains significant economic headwinds, with challenges including rising costs, access to a suitable workforce and increasing supply chain expenses and delays. Encouraged by the LEP Business Support Board, our Growth Hub will continue to work closely with SMEs, providing advice, support, and access to finance where possible, in close working partnership delivery with both Hull City and East Riding Councils.

We have continued to ensure that our programme investments reach their targets and agreed contractual milestones, and our Growing Places Fund will provide capital grants for businesses in the area until 2025. This programme builds on the success of the Humber LEP's previous Growth Programmes

The HEY LEP Infrastructure Board will continued to monitor the outputs of previous Humber LEP investments.

The Employment and Skills Board is proactively leading on several new areas of work, such as the launch of the HEY Workforce website, which brings together health and wellbeing services. It also offers a range of support to SMEs, who may not have their own HR specialists. Continuing to champion apprenticeships, good careers advice and higher-level and degree qualifications, this board plays an important part in looking forwards to the future skills needs of the region.

There is no doubt that 2023- 2024 will continue to be a period of transition for the LEP, as the funding and policy landscape continues to evolve. We look forward to playing our part in the development of a regional Combined Authority, the first step towards our ambition for a Devolution Deal for the HEY region and will ensure the business voice is adequately reflected in these new arrangements.

This delivery plan seeks to communicate the activity which the LEP will progress in 2023/24.

1. Introduction

The HEY LEP Delivery Plan sets out the key actions that will take place in 2023/24 as we continue to focus on the delivery aspect of the HEY Economic Growth and Workforce Wellbeing Strategy whilst ensuring the provision and administration of a range of programmes which support the economic growth of the HEY LEP area.

Our key Strategic Objectives for 2023/24 are as follows:

SO1 - Develop a high performing and diverse LEP that is at the leading edge of governance, including transparent and accountable decision-making

SO2: To drive the delivery of the HEY Economic Growth and Workforce Wellbeing Strategy with key partners and stakeholders

SO3 - Deliver a range of high quality, high performing programmes which have a significant impact on the people and economy of Hull and East Yorkshire

SO4: Contribute to and influence a range of partnerships, programmes and activities which support the inclusive growth and development of the Hull and East Yorkshire area

However the publication of this Delivery Plan comes at a time of national change for LEPs. Government has indicated within its Levelling Up White Paper¹ and subsequent integration guidance² that LEPs will remain impartial, and business led organisations until such time as they are integrated within Mayoral or Combined Authority structures (MCA/CA). The responsibilities for regional economic strategies, skills, career hubs and business support services remain until they are 'folded into' an MCA/CA. In the HEY LEPs case, both Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire Council have indicated they will work in partnership to develop a Combined Authority and the HEY LEP will work in support of this development, ensuring the voice of the private sector is included in the negotiations with government.

To further complicate the picture, and at the time of publication, the future funding of LEPs and the Growth Hub business support services is not clear. Four potential scenarios are considered:

- | |
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| <p>A: LEP core and Growth Hub funding remains at the same level as 2022/23</p> <p>B: A further reduction in LEP Core and Growth Hub funding is announced</p> <p>C: No further government funding is allocated to LEPs or to the Growth Hub</p> <p>D: An increase in LEP annual funds to previously levels of £500k</p> |
|--|

For the purpose of this Delivery Plan it is assumed that scenario A is the position and therefore the LEP activities remain 'business as usual' until the time of integration. There are potential additional funds that may be drawn from other resources such as the Shared Prosperity and Levelling Up funds and if this is the case then operational plans will reflect these responsibilities.

¹ [Levelling Up the United Kingdom - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/levelling-up-the-united-kingdom)

² [Local Enterprise Partnerships: Integration guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/local-enterprise-partnerships-integration-guidance)

Should government decide that LEPs could play a key role in levelling up and be funded at previous levels the HEY LEP would work with key partners including Greater Lincolnshire LEP to maximise economic opportunities aligned with the Humber. This would allow further activity in areas such as Clean Growth, Inward Investment and Digital Skills with outputs reported to the Humber Leadership Board.

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2. Governance

Strategic Objective: Develop a high performing and diverse LEP that is at the leading edge of governance, including transparent and accountable decision-making

2.1. Governance Structure

The HEY LEP's governance structure is proposed to remain unchanged from 22/23. The Audit, Finance and Governance Panel, Employment and Skills, Business Support and Infrastructure Boards will continue to meet on a bi-monthly basis. The structure can be seen below (Figure 1).

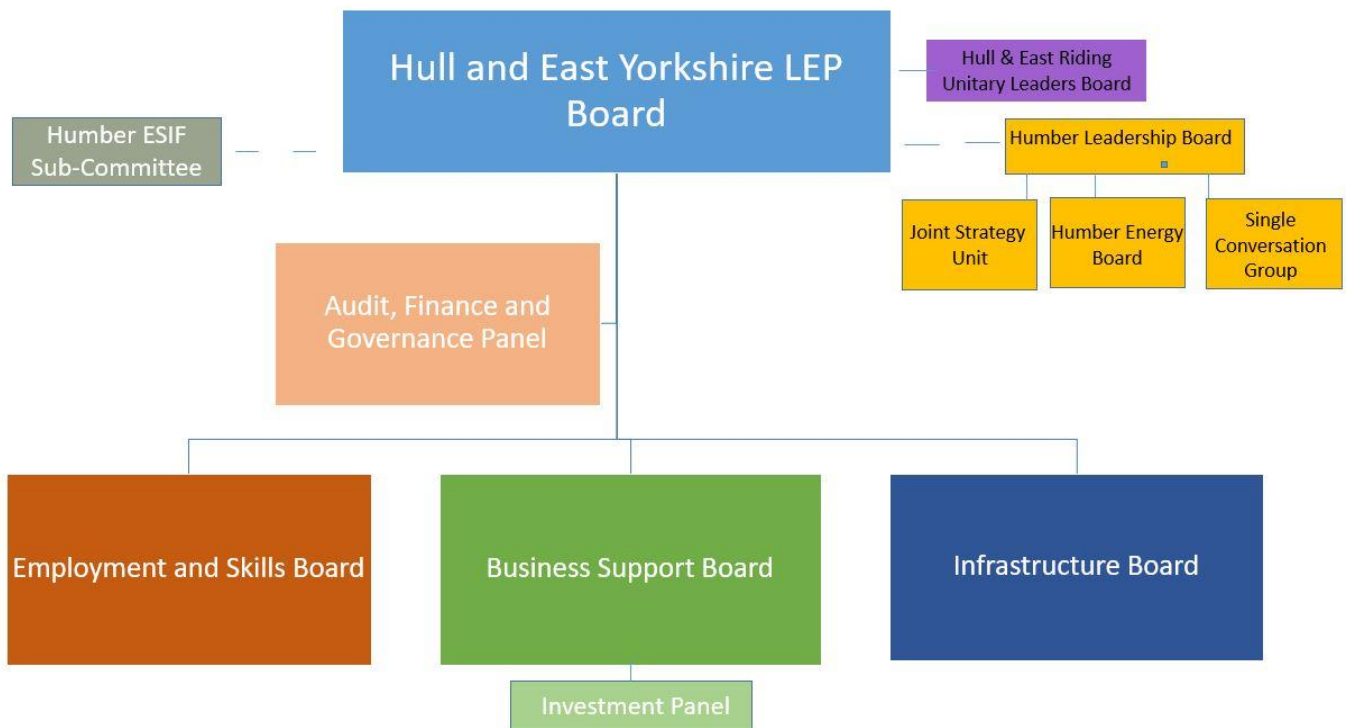


Figure 1: LEP Board and Sub-Board Structure

Working groups associated with the Employment & Skills Board established in 2021 that will continue to meet in 2023/24 include:

- The LEP Skills Network (stakeholder engagement)
- The Career Aspirations group (promoting careers and occupations within the local economy, labour market intelligence and employability work)
- The Apprenticeship & Technical Education group (raising the profile of apprenticeships and increasing uptake, promoting T-Levels, Traineeships and Internships including Supported Internships)
- The HEY LEP Talent Forum (engagement with senior HR leads from local employers)
- The Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership

Several of these are refreshed groups which were originally established as part of the Humber LEP but have been revised to provide a renewed focus on Hull and East Yorkshire. The Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership will also continue its development in 2023/24, following formal adoption by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (see section 4.9.) In 2023/24 the Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership remit will broaden beyond that of just skills. It will pilot the concept of Digital Partnerships, developing a strategy for the development of the digital, tech and creative industry sector.

2.2. Assurance Framework

The Local Assurance Framework is a document that details the LEP's approach to managing funding allocated to it by central Government, in conjunction with Hull City Council as its accountable body and the Hull and East Riding Unitary Leadership Board.

The Assurance Framework sets out how the LEP takes decisions and how it complies with rules on transparency and accountability that are appropriate for an organisation that deals with public funds.

The LEP will continue to ensure compliance with the National Local Growth Framework and will update the Local Assurance Framework as and when required.

There are a number of policies that support the work of the HEY LEP and its boards to ensure fairness and transparency that are a key part of the Assurance Framework. These policies can be found on the [HEY LEP website](#) and will be updated as appropriate.

2.3. Accountable Body Role

The accountable body for the HEY LEP is Kingston upon Hull City Council. Kingston upon Hull City Council holds the LEP's core funding on behalf of the LEP, employs the LEP's Executive Team (which whilst bound and supported by the Council's policies and procedures, are operationally independent) and provides services from its legal, human resource and finance departments.

Kingston upon Hull City Council's Section 151 Officer is responsible for ensuring that a compliant Local Assurance Framework is in place for the HEY LEP and that decisions are made in accordance with it.

2.4. Legal Personality

In order to comply with the National Local Growth Assurance Framework, the HEY LEP has adopted a legal personality. This is in the form of a Company Limited by Guarantee and has required all Board Members to become Directors of the company with liability insurance in place to provide protection against personal liability.

The Company Limited by Guarantee will not be used to transact LEP business as Hull City Council, as the Accountable Body carries out this role on behalf of the LEP. [Hull and East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership Ltd](#) Company Number: 07988601 was established in 2021/22.

2.5. Devolution – Creating a Combined Authority

The Government's Levelling Up White Paper published in February 2022, invited Hull City Council & East Riding of Yorkshire Council to submit a pilot bid for a County Deal. County Deals represent a level 2 devolution settlement providing powers, freedoms and flexibilities in a wide range of economic development functions. The HEY LEP stand ready to support Hull City Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council in the development of the County Deal and has commenced preparations for 'folding in' of the LEP to a combined authority once a devolution deal is completed.

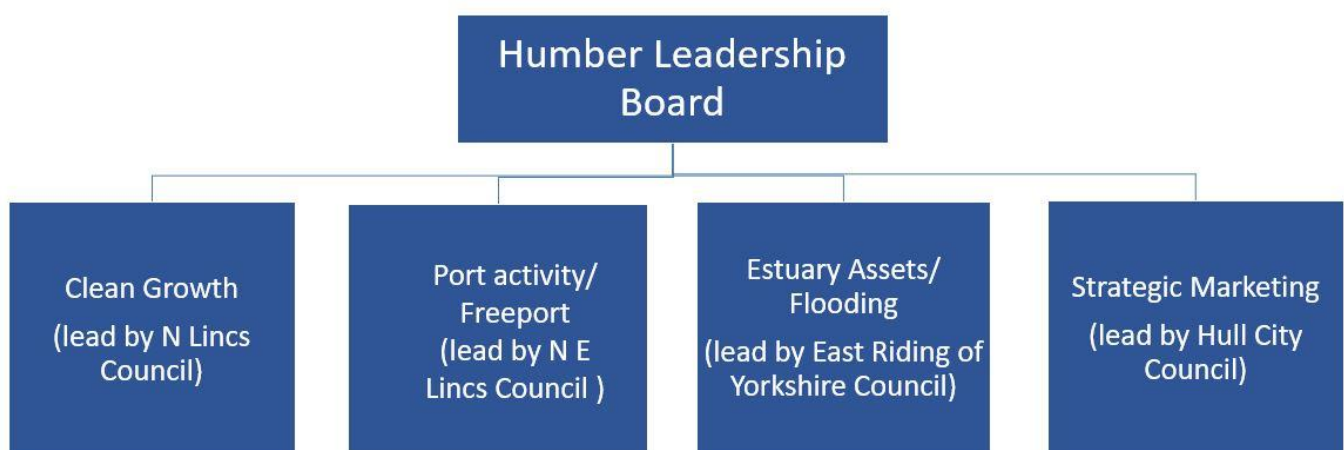
2.6. External Representation

The HEY LEP is a member of a number of formal groups including part of the LEP Network and the NP11 group of LEPs. The HEY LEP holds a place on the Transport for the North Board which is attended by a member of the LEP's Infrastructure Board.

The HEY LEP is also represented at various other local, regional and national forums.

2.7. Pan-Humber Issues

Following the closure of the Humber LEP, some areas of work were transferred to Hull and East Yorkshire LEP and Greater Lincolnshire LEP. The Humber Leadership Board (HLB), the Joint Committee for the Humber, deals with agreed pan Humber issues. Both HEY LEP and GLLEP are members of the HLB.



There are a number of issues that continue to be considered at the Humber level including the Humber Freeport, decarbonisation, flooding and strategic marketing. The HLB has appointed a local authority to take the lead on each of these areas of work. There is agreement on how both LEPs will support any pan Humber issues that may emerge.

2.8. Opportunity Humber

The government's Levelling Up White Paper introduced the formation of Opportunity Humber. Opportunity Humber is a private sector led board, which sits alongside future local devolution arrangements. It works with the local authorities to provide a single voice for the Humber

nationally, globally and into government, and will provide strategic leadership to drive the development and delivery of agreed pan-Humber economic priorities. The Humber LEP seeks to work with this new body to drive the economic aspirations for the region outlined in the Economic Growth and Workforce Wellbeing Strategy.

2.9. Key Actions 2023/24

The key targets for the development of the LEP's governance arrangements are:

Key Actions	When Complete
HEY LEP Local Assurance Framework review	June 2023
HEY LEP will continue to monitor it's governance arrangements as development devolved arrangements are progressed between the Local Authorities and the Government.	Ongoing

3. Strategy

Strategic Objective: To drive the delivery of the HEY Economic Growth and Workforce Wellbeing Strategy with key partners and stakeholders

3.1. HEY Economic Growth and Workforce Wellbeing Strategy

In February 2022, the HEY LEP formally launched its Economic Growth and Workforce Wellbeing Strategy. This followed an extensive period of evidence gathering, strategy development and consultation activities which were used to inform the final version. The HEY LEP now has a robust, evidence-based Strategy that has stakeholder buy-in and sets a clear direction for growth in Hull and East Yorkshire. The Strategy sets out the following vision for the area:

‘Leading the UK with a dynamic net-zero economy, Hull and East Yorkshire is a region with prosperous, productive, and innovative businesses, across all communities. Our diverse and resilient economy includes a skilled workforce across all key sectors with opportunities for all. We are home to high-quality services and facilities that meet the needs of our unique urban, coastal and rural geography, while supporting the health and wellbeing of everyone.’

In order to deliver the vision for the area and the key priorities within the Strategy, an annual delivery plan will be developed. This strategy sets out how the HEY LEP seeks to contribute towards the 12 missions outlined within the Levelling Up White Paper and this will be expanded upon within the delivery plan once future LEP arrangements are clear.

3.2. Growth Hub Review

A review of the HEY Growth Hub concluded in early 2022/23 which considered a number of governance, financial and strategic factors associated with the future development of the Growth Hub. A consultation exercise engaged 717 businesses and 22 stakeholders via surveys and focus groups which produced a comprehensive amount of valuable data and insight from which to make summary findings, which will help to inform the future development of the Growth Hub.

The summary of review findings was presented to the HEY LEP Business Support Board in May 2022. Due to uncertainty regarding the funding position and the future of the Growth Hub network in England, as well as delays to the devolution process in Hull & East Yorkshire, the next stage of the Growth Hub review, including implementation of recommendations has been programmed for the 23/24 financial year.

Once clarity has been provided on the future of the Growth Hub network and regional devolution, the Growth Hub review process will progress to the creation of a robust delivery plan and/or blueprint for a model funded business support service in Hull and East Yorkshire.

3.3. UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Investment Planning

The prospectus for the £2.6 billion UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), which succeeds the former EU structural funds, was launched in April 2022. The UKSPF programme runs from April 2022 to March 2025. However, skills related funding starts in 2024.

The prospectus outlines the three priority areas which the Government see UKSPF as addressing:

- Community and Place
- Supporting Local Business; and
- People and Skills

Local authorities have responsibility for preparing investment plans which will contain details of projects and programmes requesting support through this fund. Current EU skills related funding will conclude in March 2023 resulting in a one-year gap between current projects ending and new funding being available to start new initiatives under UKSPF.

Separate investment plans have been developed by each HEY LEP Local Authority local authorities.

Both Hull CC and East Riding of Yorkshire Council have formed Shadow Partnership Boards to oversee the creation of Investment Plans and subsequent delivery. HEY LEP are represented both as an organisation and as a mechanism for capturing private sector views via a member of the Business Support Board attending the Shadow Partnership Board. The LEP are committed to contributing their skills and knowledge to ensure the UKSPF programmes in both Local Authority areas are a success.

3.4. Employment & Skills Strategy

A new Employment & Skills Strategy is to be developed. This document will provide the focus for the delivery of Priority 3 - Skilled and Inclusive Economy of the LEP's Economic Growth & Workforce Wellbeing Strategy and will be aligned to its aims and objectives.

It will also align with the current Local Skills Report published in 2022 and will support the delivery of the aims and objectives set out in the document.

The Employment and Skills Board will provide the oversight and direction for its delivery.

3.5. Key Actions 2023/24

The key actions for the 2023/24 financial year include:

Key Actions	When Complete
Contribution to UKSPF Shadow Partnership Board	Ongoing
Employment & Skills Strategy	July 2022

4. Delivery

Strategic Objective: Deliver a range of high quality, high performing programmes which have a significant impact on the people and economy of Hull and East Yorkshire

The HEY LEP is responsible for the direct delivery of a number of Government funded programmes. The following section provides an overview of the range of programmes the HEY LEP will be delivering in 2023/24.

4.1. Local Growth Fund

The Local Growth Fund ended on 31 March 2021, with the significant majority of these projects being financially and physically complete at this time. A small number of projects that experienced delivery slippage have now completed. In addition, there is an ongoing requirement to monitor and report output delivery for the programme. Full benefit realisation for many schemes will come in future years.

2022/23 saw the commission of an evaluation, which focused on evaluating the value for money of the HEY LEP's capital delivery programmes. The evaluation identified that the capital programmes had:

- Strong strategic alignment.
- High levels of strategic added value.
- Good programme and project governance aligning with best practice guidance.
- Strong forecast output delivery
- Overall medium value for money based on CBA with relatively good performance compared with cost effectiveness benchmarks.

As we look forward to 2023/24, the HEY LEP will continue to be responsible for monitoring legacy Humber LEP projects in Hull and East Yorkshire. The responsibility for these projects will remain with the accountable body and HEY LEP team until financial and physical completion. Responsibility for ongoing monitoring for some projects that have achieved full spend in North and North East Lincolnshire have passed to GLLEP for monitoring of outstanding outputs.

Projects that continue to be monitored by the HEY LEP

Note: The following table includes both those projects that are financially complete with ongoing monitoring requirements as well as those that are still financially incomplete.

Project	Sponsor	Allocation	Physical Completion
Hessle Foreshore Tidal Defence Scheme	ERYC	£2m	31 March 2022
Holderness Drain FAS	ERYC	£2.14m	7 July 2023
Stoneferry Road Integrated Transport Project	HCC	£7.5m	16 September 2022
Development of Priory Park	HCC	£1.44m	31 May 2025
Humber High Street Challenge Fund	HCC	£2.24m	30 November 2022
Brough Relief Road	ERYC	£3.26m	4 March 2022
Engineering Future Growth	East Riding College	£0.469m	16 September 2021
Humber Energy Academy	North Lindsey College	£0.3m	31 March 2021
Phase 3 @theDock	Wykeland LLP	£1.294m	18 December 2020
Anlaby and East Ella FAS	ERYC	£5.1m	31 March 2021
Cottingham and Orchard Park FAS	ERYC	£5m	31 March 2021
Delivering Housing Growth in Hull (2)	HCC	£4m	31 March 2029
Unlocking City Centre Development	HCC	£2.5m	31 October 2023
Central Cleethorpes Regen Prog.	HCC	£1m	31 March 2026
HETA	HETA	£1.3m	31 August 2018

North and North East Lincolnshire projects that are now being monitored by GLLEP:

Project	Sponsor	Allocation	
Grimsby T.C. Unlocking the Potential	NELC	£3.4m	25 October 2021
Environmental Logistics Learning Hub (Modal)	NELC	£2.05m	30 th June 2017
Lincolnshire Lakes	NL	£13.3m	31 st August 2019
Stallingborough Strategic Employment Site (Phase 1A)	NEL	£1m	31 st December 2020
Stallingborough Strategic employment Site (Phase 1B)	NEL	£1.6m	31 st December 2020
National Skills Centre for Process & Renewable Industries	NEL	£196K	5 th October 2020
Constructing Future Growth	NEL	£1.358m	31 st March 2021

4.2. Getting Building Fund

In July 2020, the Minister for Regional Growth and Local Government confirmed an allocation of **£13.4m** for the HEY LEP and acceptance of the submitted programme to be delivered by 31 March 2022.

All schemes within the programme continue to deliver against contracted outputs; all projects with the exception of Delivering Housing Growth (3) will be both financially and physically complete by the end of 2022/23.

The projects in delivery are as follows:

Project	Summary	Allocation	Physical Completion
Growing Hull and East Yorkshire	Business grant programme building on the established and successful Growing the Humber business investment programme. The scheme provides capital grants to stimulate growth in SME businesses.	£1.7m	31 March 2022
Hull and East Yorkshire Highways Resilience Programme	Second phase of a programme that was previously funded through the York, North Yorkshire & East Riding LEP Growth Deal as a DfT retained scheme which has been expanded to cover neighbouring Hull.	£2m	30 November 2021
RaisE Business centre and Innovation Hub	RaisE Business Centre and Innovation Hub will be adjacent to the Siemens Mobility train factory on the Goole 36 Enterprise Zone. It will provide high-tech managed workspace and R&D facilities in manufacturing, engineering, and rail supply chains, and is being developed in partnership with Siemens Mobility and the UK Rail Innovation Network (University of Birmingham).	£1m	28 February 2022
Delivering Housing Growth Programme – Ings and Wawne 3	Extension of the existing, successful Delivering Housing Growth in Hull programme, previously part-funded through LGF. Investment will deliver new spine roads, electricity supplies and drainage to accelerate delivery on two key housing sites.	£4.8m	31 March 2029
Hull and East Yorkshire Cycle Route Delivery Programme	Programme of cycle infrastructure upgrade and provision of new cycle facilities where there are gaps in the network across the City of Hull and adjoining urban areas of East Riding of Yorkshire.	£2.7m	31 April 2023
Managed Workspace Programme B – Bespoke and Boulevard	A package of new and improved managed workspace offers to meet demand and stimulate economic recovery in Hull.	£0.5m	22 August 2022

Programme Management	Resource to ensure the robust management and administration of the programme. The programme is managed and monitored by the LEP's experienced Investment Programme Team, with support from officers of the Accountable Body	£0.2m	31 March 2022
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4.3. Growth Hub

The HEY Growth Hub provides quick and easy access to local and national resources along with information to support business to start, sustain and grow. It supports businesses, from start-ups pre-start to established firms, to quickly access information, advice, guidance and signposting to help access with grants & funding, exporting advice, innovation support, scale up support, digitalisation support and general business growth support. Free impartial help and advice is available through a network of Growth Hub Business Advisors across Hull and East Yorkshire who that provides specialised one to one support to businesses, predominantly on an “account managed” basis.

The Growth Hub is responsible for the delivery of a suite of business support services number of activities using funding from both BEIS and the European Regional Development Fund, during 2022/23. However June 2023 will mark the closure of the Growth Hub's three ERDF projects operated as the #GrowMySME Programme. To enable ongoing provision of equivalent support, continuation funding will be required from such sources as the UKSPF as well as prospective devolved funding for Hull & East Yorkshire. Furthermore, additional financial resource is needed to ensure that support services for pre-start individuals are made available by the Growth Hub - something that was pared back due to the cut in the core BEIS funding for Growth Hubs in 2022/23. Resource to reintroduce a gateway & triage service as well restoring the Workforce Development Business Advisor post from 0.4 FTE TO 1 FTE is also desirable.

Furthermore, HEY Growth Hub will continue to work as a delivery partner for the BEIS funded Made Smarter Programme in Yorkshire & The Humber in 2023/24. The recruitment of 1 FTE Digital Transformation Specialist will allow the Growth Hub to offer manufacturing SMEs advanced support to explore, adopt and implement digital technology throughout their businesses

Programme	Activity	Investment
Core Growth Hub Provision	Core Growth Hub services including Programme Management, Business Advisor team and marketing and communications activities.	£215,375 (assumed based on 22/23 allocation)
#GrowMySME – Business Growth Scheme	Programme of business support including grant support, workshops and masterclasses, supply chain and sector development and advisor support across the whole of the Humber geography.	£ 1,000,213.52 (£1,655,438.47 including match funding)

Made Smarter	Recruitment of Made Smarter Digital Transformation Specialist to market programme across Hull & East Yorkshire and to manage a caseload of manufacturing SMEs and facilitate their access to various part of the programme	£58,480
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4.4. Skills Advisory Panel/ the Employment and Skills Board & Development of Local Skills Improvement Plans

Skills Advisory Panels (SAP) are a requirement of the Department for Education (DfE). All LEPs and Mayoral Combined Authorities (MCAs) have a SAP. SAPs are local partnerships that work to identify and address local skills priorities by strengthening the link between employers and skills providers including colleges, independent training providers and universities. For HEY LEP the Employment and Skills Board (ESB) fulfils the responsibility of the SAP and will continue to do so in 2022/23.

All SAPs have produced a local skills report which brings together local skills needs, strategies and plans into one document. The reports include an annex of core skills-related data and highlight ways local partners can support the skills agenda. HEY LEP published a refreshed local skills report in February 2022.

The Department for Education has confirmed Skills Advisory Panel funding for 2022/23 of £55,000 will be used to fund further high-quality skills analysis work in this financial year.

This year the LEP will work closely with the Hull and Humber Chamber of Commerce who have been confirmed as the Employer Representative Body leading the Local Skills Improvement Plan in Hull and East Yorkshire.

4.5. Careers and Enterprise Company

The Careers & Enterprise Company (CEC) has been established to help young people achieve their best possible futures. At a local level, the project is delivered through the established Enterprise Coordinator and Enterprise Adviser model to motivate young people and help them to make informed choices about their next best steps. The programme works in partnership with LEPs, local authorities, schools, colleges and employers.

From 01 September 2021, the HEY LEP formed a Careers Hub to work with the 36 schools from across Hull and East Yorkshire who were previously engaged with the Humber CEC contract. In line with the expectations of the Skills for Jobs White Paper, the ESB has expressed an aspiration for the Careers Hub to encompass all schools in the HEY region. It is anticipated that private investment will allow all 51 schools and colleges in the region to be welcomed into the HEY Careers Hub before August 2023 .

An all-inclusive Careers Hub model requires one Strategic Hub Lead (fully funded by CEC,) and three Enterprise Coordinators. A local partnership match contribution of £78.9K is needed – this will secure a Careers hub grant offer, full coverage and access to additional funding opportunities. This funding will come from the two Local Authorities, the HOP Uni-Connect partnership and private investment opportunities.

The Careers Hub has also recently secured funding for a nationally evaluated parental engagement project aimed at engaging parents better with LMI to support young people's careers decisions. This is being delivered in conjunction with the Leicester and Leicestershire LEP/Careers Hub. There is a planned focus on encouraging more teachers to experience the world of work in this year alongside encouraging student voice within the careers planning and delivery.

A Headteacher's Summer Conference is planned for the summer 2023 term which will bring together key stakeholders, Principals, governors, Careers Leaders and Careers advisers along with local and national employers to review the work of the Careers Hub and look forward to the next year and review the expansion plans and delivery to provide full schools coverage..

4.6. Growing Places Fund

The Business Loan Fund provided loans for capital projects utilising the legacy funding from the former Humber LEP's £8.2m Growing Places Fund allocation that is now part of an evergreen fund.

In January 2022, following a Strategic Review of the Business Loan Fund, the HEY LEP Board approved the decision to commit £3.25m from the HEY LEP's Growing Places Fund to create a new 3-year business support programme. Launched on 01 April 2022, the scheme provides capital grants and loans to SME businesses in Hull and East Yorkshire to support and incentivise business growth, investment and job creation.

Grants of between £5,000 and £250,000 and/or loans of between £75,000 and typically up to £250,000 will be available to eligible organisations that are able to demonstrate viability and that may in turn contribute to the wider clean growth and carbon reduction targets of Hull and East Yorkshire.

So far to date £336K has been awarded to 15 companies based in Hull & East Yorkshire. In return for the committed funds the following outputs are expected to be delivered within the next 12 months;

- 43 New Jobs
- 19 Safeguarded Jobs
- 758m² of New/Refurbished Commercial Floorspace

4.7. Foreign Direct Investment Key Account Management

The Key Account programme in Hull and East Yorkshire is funded by the Department for International Trade (DIT) as part of the Northern Powerhouse levelling up agenda. This has enabled a local service to be developed to engage with foreign owned businesses in the LEP area which are not currently account managed by DIT or the local authority partners. The service identifies and supports expansion plans which add to the economy and create local jobs.

The Key Account programme will engage with circa 30 foreign owned companies and secure at least one business investment project. In addition, the officer will feedback to DIT on any local

economic issues or challenges faced by foreign businesses operating in the region. A contract is currently in place until the end of March 2023. The LEP are hopeful that this programme will continue after this date with support from DIT.

4.8. Export Support

The Export Partnerships Manager role will continue to be embedded within HEY LEP, through 2023-24, working on an informal secondment basis in agreement with the Department for International Trade (DIT) which funds the role.

A key strategic objective of the role through 2023-24 will be to secure external funding (most notably UKSPF) to support a range of targeted export interventions, which will commence from April 2023 onwards, subject to any export full business case proposal being approved by the relevant local authority. Such proposals may include a regional trade mission programme and a project focusing on international trade and digitalisation.

HEY LEP will continue to work closely and engage with key export partners and stakeholders across the region in order to develop targeted export support offerings which align with the wider DIT provision. It will also look to identify international in-market stakeholders that also align with HEY LEP's regional sector strengths.

As the Humber Freeport comes into being, HEY LEP will feed into appropriate mechanisms around export and look to create a two-way info-flow between regional and national DIT networks.

The Export Communications Strategy will continue to produce a range of export-related content and awareness-raising activities, which will help to raise further the exporting profile of Hull and East Yorkshire at a regional, national and international level.

4.9. Inward Investment

The Inward Investment function of the HEY LEP will continue to work proactively with DIT promoting the region for inward investment. That promotion has been further strengthened by the production and subsequent promotion of a High-Performance Offer (HPO) for the Offshore Wind Deepwater Ports Hub.

The HPO provides details on the opportunities for overseas investment in OffshoreWind infrastructure within both the Humber and the Tees Valley areas and will continue to be promoted throughout 2023/24.

4.10. Local Digital Skills Partnership

Funding from DCMS to was finalised at the end of October 2022. The resource secured a further year of activity for the Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership for 2022-23, including staff costs to enable the role of Humber LDSP Manager / Regional Coordinator,. Government funding is dependent on the delivery of a set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) attached to an action plan for 2022-23, which is contained within a Memorandum of Understanding. Contracted activity includes the development of a regional Digital Strategy for the HEY LEP area which will be

completed by April 2023, and will be aligned with DCMS's "[Regional Digital Ecosystems](#)" report and the government's updated [Digital Strategy](#) (2021-24). Other objectives include the commissioning of an updated [Humber Digital Skills Analysis](#) report and a commitment to undertake a regional employer survey, which will include intelligence gathering from the business community on local digital skills needs.

Work continues with the Humber LDSP's three thematics:

- Careers – work to complete a set of digital and tech themed careers videos is ongoing with some content already available on the HEY LEP's YouTube Channel, via the [Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership's dedicated playlist](#). This work is complemented by the HEY LEP's Careers Hub team who continue to promote local careers opportunities in the digital and tech sectors. The LEP is planning a digital and tech parents and pupils engagement event for early 2023, reflecting on the success of a similar event that took place in March 2022.
- Education and Training Provision – work is planned to gather updated intelligence on the local digital skills offer, ensuring critical gaps are addressed and new provision recommended where demand is identified. The government's Digital and Technical Skills Bootcamp programme continues implementation in the HEY LEP area with several key training initiatives well underway. A campaign to promote the HEY LEP Growth Hub's free to use online [Digital Capabilities Assessment Tool](#) (DCAT) is underway. The tool provides bespoke critical insights for SMEs that complete the free assessment and offers signposting and support for those wishing to undergo digital transformation and increased digital maturity.
- Engagement – continue to attract and engage regional stakeholders and local employers by raising the profile of the digital and tech economy in the Humber and add to the area's reputation as one of the fastest growing digital clusters in the country. The Humber LDSP is also working with the LGA, local authorities and other regional partners to develop a [Digital Pathfinder project](#), which is due for completion by April 2023 with an expected national roll out to other local authorities planned later in the year.

4.11. Energy Hub

HEY LEP is one of six regional LEP constituent partners in the North East and Yorkshire Energy Hub which is led by Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA) and brings together local authorities, businesses, organisations, and communities to help achieve our local energy goals.

The purpose of the Energy Hub is to develop and deliver an Energy Strategy across the region, support and accelerate the development of local and regional, low and zero carbon energy projects across 31 Local Authority boundaries, bring forward business cases that can attract investment in energy infrastructure, share best practice across a national programme, and develop a pipeline of innovative projects to support the regions clean growth agenda.

In 2023/24, the externally funded North East and Yorkshire Net Zero Hub Lead Officer will continue supporting the Local Authorities' decarbonisation pathways planning with the following:

- Seek further funding support to trial industrial symbiosis across the HEY LEP geography building on the findings of a study on Industrial symbiosis and the circular economy conducted during 22/23.

- The acceleration of decarbonisation plans and actions by providing additional local capacity, access to technical expertise and highlighting funding streams suitable for deployment projects.
- Investigate and facilitate opportunities for Net Zero collaboration between industry, local government, public services and the community.

4.12. Humber Industrial Cluster Plan (HICP)

The Humber Industrial Cluster has been identified as the largest centre of industrial carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in the UK, which, together with supporting energy production across the region, represents over 7% of the UK's total CO₂ emissions. In order to realise the UK Government's Net Zero ambition, UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) launched the Industrial Decarbonisation Challenge with £171M of funding to "support the development of low-carbon technologies that will increase the competitiveness of industry and contribute to the UK's drive for clean growth".

The former Humber LEP and CATCH joined forces to lead a Humber-wide response to the Challenge in Phase 1 to scope the potential for decarbonisation of Humber Industry. This was well-received by Innovate UK and a successful bid led to participation in Phase 2 of the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund. Phase 2 of the Humber Industrial Cluster Plan (HICP) secured £1.7M of UKRI Innovate UK funding and £0.9M of private sector funding to advance the development of a roadmap to decarbonise Humber Industry. Leadership of the HICP is the responsibility of the HEY LEP, ably supported by CATCH.

The Humber Industrial Cluster Plan (HICP) will provide an evidence-based framework for identifying, understanding, prioritising and delivering the measures that will enable the Humber Industrial Cluster to achieve net zero by 2040, whilst maximising strategic opportunities to drive the green recovery.

The HICP will enable a phased approach to be taken to support decarbonisation – prioritising the implementation of near-term deliverable investments that will significantly reduce the Humber's emissions by 2030, mapping out how CCS, hydrogen production, infrastructure and other appropriate technologies can be scaled up over time, and identifying the full range of potential interventions required to achieve net zero by 2040 – and importantly, *how* these can be brought to life in the Humber

The HICP will also outline at a high level the potential for the Humber's industrial decarbonisation to support wider cross-economy decarbonisation, in the UK's largest ports complex, road/rail transport and decarbonisation of the gas supply (25% of the UK's supply passes through the Humber). Linked opportunities and implications for renewable energy, especially bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS) and offshore wind (both of which the Humber leads on and are integral to decarbonising industry), will also be identified.

The principal output of the HICP at conclusion in March 2023, will be a unique Cluster Plan which provides a detailed roadmap of the route to decarbonise a significant percentage of Humber Industry by 2040. It will identify likely technologies needed, industrial emitters who need to take action, and key barriers to delivery, such as supply chain/skills issues, and regulatory and public acceptance aspects in bringing decarbonisation to life. It will also estimate likely economic impact through inward investment and job development opportunities.

Key Actions	When Complete
Development and further alignment of HEY LEP Export Plan with DIT National Export Strategy	Ongoing throughout 2023/24
Delivery of Export Programme including externally funded activity	Ongoing throughout 2023/24
Seek further funding support to trial industrial symbiosis across the HEY LEP geography building on the findings of a study on Industrial symbiosis and the circular economy conducted during 22/23.	March 2024
Growing Places Capital Investment Programme delivery	Ongoing throughout 2023/24
Delivery of Inward Investment Service for HEY LEP region	Ongoing throughout 2023/24
BEIS Mid-Year Annual Performance Review	Q3 2023/24
Launch and dissemination of findings of Humber Industrial Cluster Plan (public)	Q1 2023/24
BEIS Annual Performance Review	Q4 2024
LGF: All projects are physically complete and will deliver the following outputs in year: • 122 Jobs created • 31 Apprenticeships created • 239 New housing units • 351 New learners assisted / qualifications achieved • 5117m² Commercial Floorspace Created • 40 Houses with new/improved Broadband •	31 March 2024
GBF will achieve full spend of £13.4m (covering freedoms and flexibilities already used to date) and deliver the following outputs in year: • 93 Jobs Created • 115 Construction Jobs Created • 8 New Apprenticeships • 2822m² Commercial Space Unlocked • 5 Businesses Assisted • 129 Houses Unlocked	31 March 2024
Growing Places Fund will deliver the following outputs in year: • 43 New Jobs • 19 Safeguarded Jobs • 758m² of New/Refurbished Commercial Floorspace	31 March 2024

Depending on ongoing funding support the FDI Key Account Programme will engage with 30 foreign owned companies and secure three investment projects	31 March 2024

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5. Other Programmes

SO4: Contribute to and influence a range of partnerships, programmes and activities which support the inclusive growth and development of the Hull and East Yorkshire area

5.1. European Structural and Investment Funds

The Humber ESIF Programme is now in its final year of delivery, with all projects and programmes due to complete by the end of December 2023. Despite the changes to the LEP geography, the ESIF Programme will continue to be delivered at the Humber level until the programme closure.

Details of the projects and programmes that are being delivered in 2023/24 can be found in the Programme GANTT Chart attached at Appendix 1.

5.2. Humber Freeport

In the budget of 3 March 2021, it was announced that the Humber Freeport was successful in being designated by UK Government (subject to business case) as one of only eight in the UK.

The successful Outline Business Case Bid for Freeport Status for the Humber comprised:

- Three Tax Sites comprising 596.1 ha of land. These three tax sites were Goole – 198.8 ha, East Hull (comprising ABP's Humber International Enterprise Park site, Yorkshire Energy Park and elements of Saltend Chemicals Park owned by PX group) – 198.1 ha and the Able Marine Energy Park located in North Lincolnshire – 199.2ha
- Two Seed Capital Sites – one in Hull and one in North East Lincolnshire
- 36 Customs Sites mainly around port estate in Goole, Hull, Grimsby and Immingham.

The HEY LEP played a proactive role in the development of the Full Business Case Bid to government which was submitted in early 2022.

In 2023/24, HEY LEP as key partner in the Humber Freeport Board will continue to support the Freeport Organisation in achieving freeport status, especially in areas such as skills.

5.3. Goole Town Deal

Launched in November 2019, the government's Town Fund is aimed at addressing growth constraints, rebalancing the economy and driving the renewal of towns. Goole submitted a confident, ambitious Town Investment Plan and received confirmation from government in June 2020 of a deal worth £25 million.

The Goole Town Deal is led by a Board that is responsible for ensuring that the strategic vision for the town is clear, to deliver long term economic and productivity growth for Goole through targeted

investment which supports the Towns Fund objectives. The Board has developed and submitted a successful, evidenced-based Town Investment Plan; agreed a deliverable programme of interventions; and continues to work on developing the remaining business cases for each of the ten interventions outlined in the Goole Town Investment Plan. The Chief Operating Officer of the HEY LEP is a member of the Goole Town Deal Board and the LEP will continue to support the development and delivery of this key investment programme.

Key Actions	When Complete
Continued support to the Goole Towns Fund	Ongoing
Successful delivery and closedown of ESIF programme	December 2023

6. Marketing, Communications and Events

In 2023/24, we will continue to build the HEY LEP brand which was established in April 2021 as part of the new LEP. The new brand has given the organisation a strong brand identity and forms a strong visual connection for businesses and individuals using the 'HEY' title. A full set of branding guidelines are available for stakeholders and partners.

We will continue to develop the HEY LEP [website](#) and will continue to feature new content specifically relating to the HEY LEP's activities and priorities. Due to the national reductions to LEPs core funding we will be continuing to deliver this activity by use of additional support from our accountable body on a part time basis.

HEY LEP will also continue to support partners in their activity to market and promote the HEY LEP region.

Key Marketing and Communications Actions for the period of this delivery plan are:

Key Actions	When
Launch Growth Hub Programme for 2023/24	Q1 2023/24
HEY Export Programme Launch	Q4 2022/23
Participation in Humber Business Week 2023 and continued involvement in the Steering Group	Q2 2023/24
Humber Industrial Cluster Plan Launch and dissemination events	Q1 and Q2 2023/24
Humber LEP AGM and associated communications	July 2023
Digital Skills Strategy Workshop setting priorities for 23/24	Q4 22/23
HEY LEP Skills Network	Q4 22/23 and then held quarterly

Appendix 1 – Programme GANTT Chart

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