

**INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY- UPDATE**

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF STRATEGY AND POLICY – NORTH EAST  
LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To receive a report from Richard Baker (Head of Strategy at the Policy North East Local Enterprise Partnership) on the Government's Industrial Strategy, the North East Local Industrial Strategy and their implications for the economy of the city.

**2. Background**

*Government Industrial Strategy*

- 2.1 The Government's Industrial Strategy was published in 2017 and was intended to boost the UK's relatively low rate of productivity by supporting businesses to create jobs and increase the earning power of people in the UK with investment in schools, industries and infrastructure.
- 2.2 The first aspect of the Industrial Strategy includes a series of policies that impact on all sectors of the economy:-
- Ideas (R&D, innovation)
  - People (skills and education)
  - Infrastructure (broadband, energy, transport)
  - Business environment (support for specific sectors and SMEs)
  - Places (Local Industrial Strategies)
- 2.3 The second aspect of the strategy includes a series of specific partnerships with individual sectors and government. The sectors include aerospace; artificial intelligence; automotive; construction; creative industries; life sciences, nuclear; offshore wind, rail and tourism.
- 2.4 The final aspect of the strategy is a series of challenges facing the economy including:-
- AI and the data revolution (how to embed and maximise the advantages of AI and data)
  - Clean growth (low carbon technologies across the economy)
  - Mobility (low carbon transport, automation, infrastructure)
  - Aging society (healthcare and labour market challenges)

### *North East Local Economic Partnership (NELEP)*

- 2.5 The NELEP is a public, private and education sector partnership responsible for promoting economic growth in the local authority areas of Sunderland, County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland and South Tyneside.
- 2.6 The NELEP works with partners to deliver the Strategic Economic Plan which is the principle strategic document for the North East. This is supported by an investment programme valued at over £760m over the period 2015-21. The focus areas for the NELEP are Business Growth; Innovation; Skills and Employment; Transport Connectivity and Investment and Infrastructure.
- 2.7 The NELEP has recently developed the North East Local Industrial Strategy. This is an evidenced based delivery plan extending to 2030 that is aligned to the UK's Industrial Strategy. The Local Industrial Strategy works with the Strategic Economic Plan to showcase the north east's particular economic assets and industrial strengths which can be developed in order to improve local productivity.

### **3 Current Position**

- 3.1 Richard Baker (Head of Strategy at the Policy North East Local Enterprise Partnership) will be in attendance to discuss the Government's Industrial Strategy, the Local Industrial Strategy and their implications for the economy of the city.
- 3.2 Further information provided by the LEP on the development of the Industrial Strategy is attached for information. [Industrial Strategy - Amend.pptx](#)

### **4. Recommendation**

- 4.1 The Committee is recommended to consider and comment on the issues raised during the discussion.

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