

## YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP.

### Board Recruitment Pack.

**We are seeking to recruit new members to our Main LEP Board, our Skills & Employability Board and our Business Board.**

This pack includes:

- Application timeline and details
  - Why become a Board member for the York and North Yorkshire LEP?
  - A message from our Chair, David. A. Kerfoot MBE DL and Chair-Elect, Helen Simpson OBE
  - Information about Board membership
- 



**Application timeline and details:**

Please apply by sending your CV and a covering letter to [enquiries@businessinspiredgrowth.com](mailto:enquiries@businessinspiredgrowth.com)

**(We will also warmly welcome innovative 'cv' formats, including video/ slide presentations that share your skills set and experience relevant to the roles)**

- **We have positions available for application on each of the following Boards: Main LEP Board/ Skills and Employability Board and Business Board (7 positions in total)**
- **Closing date 14<sup>th</sup> February**
- **Interviews: Week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

## York and North Yorkshire – Greener, Fairer, Stronger.

Businesses in the region are facing a long period of turbulence as the pandemic continues to impact economically, with an ever-changing and unpredictable landscape to navigate. As a LEP we see that considerable and cumulative action at local, regional and national levels will be absolutely crucial to help our businesses retain their viability and meet the constant demands to reshape. By doing so we can protect jobs and start to rebuild on a wide scale.

The pandemic has caused an acceleration in long predicted changes to the economy and we are seeing businesses digitise and work in new ways quickly. We must invest to capitalise on these changes and strengthen our economy. We must also recognise our diversity of places as a strength and develop a place-based approach to the reshaping and transformation of our economy.

Our [Plan to Reshape the Economy](#), brought together through meaningful and effective collaboration, will focus on stimulating growth over the next 18 to 24 months and lay the ground to make the most of whatever comes next. Our partners and all local authorities across the region have worked incredibly hard to shore up our economy through the continuing crisis of the pandemic. Working together, we can come through the economic crisis and drive growth that will make York and North Yorkshire a greener, fairer and stronger place.

We are seeking local business leaders to help us as a LEP provide strong leadership for the region through these challenging times. We particularly want leaders who can represent our key sectors, such as food manufacturing, and those with exemplar practices in developing skilled, high performing and inclusive workforces. In order to ensure all of our boards are representative of the region's business environment, our priority sectors for this recruitment drive are manufacturing, food manufacturing, bioeconomy, Agri-tech, construction and visitor economy or businesses using circular business models.

*Our boards are already well represented in terms of consultative businesses and third sector representation. We will not be taking applications from these businesses at this time.*

Our LEP takes great pride in our grounded, partnership based approach. This is mirrored across our LEP Boards, creating friendly and supportive environments and welcoming new and different opinions. We understand the highest performing organisations bring together a broad range of knowledge, views and experiences to ensure they make the best decisions.

As a member of one of our LEP Boards' you will help lead the strategic direction of the investment agenda at the LEP, shaping future priorities, developing partnerships and securing investment from both public and private sector. There has never been a more important time to provide leadership for our region, ensure that government hears our priorities and secure the investment into York and North Yorkshire to fulfil our potential as a greener, fairer, stronger region.

You will need a minimum commitment of 6 days per year and a passion for working collaboratively in support of our region.

In return we will offer

- The opportunity to build your Board experience
- The ability to influence and shape real change to make our region greener, fairer and stronger
- A supportive environment where your opinions will be welcomed and valued
- The opportunity to develop new skills
- An increased network of senior contacts
- Full development programme and support to your entry onto the Board.



We have seven opportunities for Board recruitment:

2 x Main LEP Board (with at least one from a manufacturing/ food manufacturing back ground)

3 x Skills Board (with at least one space reserved for someone currently managing/ directing a business)

2 x Business Board (both positions reserved for people representing SMEs either as business owners or managing director)

We are committed to a diverse representation within our board and actively seek applications from people from all walks of life.

**To apply, please send your CV with a covering letter to [enquiries@businessinspiredgrowth.com](mailto:enquiries@businessinspiredgrowth.com) specifying your interest to join one or more of our Boards.**

**(we will also warmly welcome innovative 'cv' formats, including video/ slide presentations that share your skills set and experience relevant to the roles)**

**Closing date: 14<sup>th</sup> February. Interviews will be held online week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Successful candidates will be invited to attend their first Board meetings in March/ April 2021**

To request an informal discussion about the role, please email [enquiries@businessinspiredgrowth.com](mailto:enquiries@businessinspiredgrowth.com) and we will do our best to facilitate this for you.

Further information is available in this information pack. You can also visit our website [www.businessinspiredgrowth.com](http://www.businessinspiredgrowth.com) to find out more about our work.



## Message from our Chair, David. A. Kerfoot MBE DL and Chair-Elect, Helen Simpson OBE

Firstly, thank you for showing interest in joining our LEP Board or one of our sub-boards for business and skills.

At our LEP, partnership and co-operation is at the heart of everything we do, therefore we pride ourselves in engaging and working with a broad range of businesses and organisations. Welcoming new and different perspectives is a key part of our role because we understand the positive impact on performance that a diversity of opinions brings.

As a LEP, we have enjoyed 9 years working as a public-private partnership and this work has never been more important. The region and indeed the whole country, faces the biggest economic challenge of our lifetimes. It is crucial that our LEP show strength in leadership regionally, across the North and have our agendas prioritised by central government. Devolution hovers in the distance and there is every opportunity, despite the significant challenges we face, to reshape our economy to be greener, fairer and stronger. Our mission is to ensure that opportunities for good businesses to grow and benefit are realised.

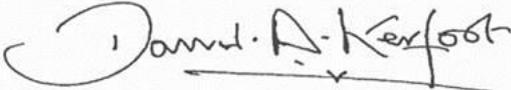
Small businesses make up around 98% of our business base in York and North Yorkshire, an economy that is powered by the compact and connected City of York and a diversity of larger and smaller rural and coastal towns. The rurality of our region offers huge benefits, connections and economic interplay with neighbouring urban powerhouses, giving York and North Yorkshire a compelling and powerful role to play in the levelling up of the North.

Our work is broad and sometimes complex, so you will be working with a great team of officers who are experts in their field and make even the most complicated issues, clear and understandable. The responsibility of our Boards is to ensure that our investment decisions meet our ambitions for York and North Yorkshire to play a powerful role in a levelling up of Northern economies, and in doing so, sees innovative and meaningful collaboration between rural and urban economies.

In recruiting new Board members, we are looking for people who can think strategically across a range of issues and who can advise on and champion key agendas. What is important for every one of our boards is that you can bring your experience and knowledge to support our decision-making and champion our partnership across the region and beyond.

In March, David will retire from his position as Chair of our Main LEP Board and hand this role over to Helen. We are working together over many months to ensure that the LEP enjoys a smooth transition and continues to grow from strength to strength.

If you are a business leader or entrepreneur who is passionate about York and North Yorkshire, we want to work with you and we encourage you to apply.



**David. A. Kerfoot MBE DL**



**Helen Simpson OBE**

## Further Information

- **What do each of the Boards do?**

We are recruiting to three of our boards, our Main LEP Board, our Skills Board and our business board. You can read full terms of references for each of these boards here: <https://www.businessinspiredgrowth.com/publications/board/board-terms-of-references/>

In summary:

**Main LEP Board**- Accountable Board of the YNY LEP. Establishes the overall strategic direction of the YNYLEP within the policy and resources agreed with Government; overseeing the delivery of planned results, ensures that high standards of corporate governance are observed at all times; forms Task & Finish Groups as required, determining clear terms of reference and approval of Annual Business Plan.

**Skills Board**- Providing a strong leadership role on skills in the local area, engaging with employers and providers and providing skills advice and take delegated decisions on behalf of the accountable board of the LEP.

**Business Board**- role is to improve the delivery of business support, advise on policy relating to business, and take delegated decisions on behalf of the accountable board of the LEP.

- **What qualities are you looking for in prospective Board Members?**

We are lucky to have diverse Boards with representations across a broad spectrum of sectors, geographies, demographics, and life experiences. What unites all our Board members is a number of qualities that are essential to fulfil these roles effectively, and we will be looking for in all new Board Members. These include:

- A genuine passion for the people and places of York and North Yorkshire.
- A commitment to our vision to create a greener, fairer and stronger region.
- A willingness to work collaboratively with colleagues from all sectors.
- A desire to share your expertise, knowledge and skills.
- A proactive approach to your own learning and development

- **What are the benefits of Board Membership**

The LEP plays a lead role in identifying the economic priorities for York and North Yorkshire and securing investment from both public and private sector to put its plans into action. As a Board Member of either our main Board or one of our sub-boards you will ensure our investments benefit all of the region and will work closely with senior decision makers both locally and nationally.

This high profile role provides the opportunity to;

- build your Board experience
- ensure decisions affecting the local area consider broader, more diverse perspectives
- champion key causes and opportunities,
- develop new skills and capabilities
- influence business leaders locally and nationally
- better understand how public investment decisions are made and influenced

- drive forward new ideas

We are looking for business leaders who can think strategically, challenge the status quo and who bring a different perspective to existing thinking.

- **What is the time commitment**

All of our Boards currently run bi-monthly meetings 6 times per year. Meetings are scheduled during the working week and typically run for 2.5 hours. Papers are sent in advance.

Additionally:

- You may become involved in supporting specific initiatives or agendas. Involvement, including time commitment will be agreed in advance.
- The LEP Chief Operating Officer or senior officer relating to a sub-board, will meet you, at your convenience, on a quarterly basis to gain your input and support any development needs
- The LEP Chair will undertake a review with you annually, to assess the year and how can improve going forward.

- **Is there any remuneration**

No, this is a voluntary role and Board members do not receive:

- any salary or payment for membership of the Board.
- any travel expenses to attend a Board meeting

Pre-approved transport and accommodation costs related to additional activity on behalf of the LEP outside of the area, for example attending a meeting in London, may be reimbursed.

- **Who else is on the Board?**

All of our Board members are listed within the 'Transparency and Governance' area of our website.

- **What support will I receive?**

In short, we are here to help and are committed to ensuring you are welcomed onto our Boards and supported to get up to speed and familiar with the different agendas as quickly as possible. This may involve 121 conversations with senior officers or fellow board members.

Packages will be developed for individual circumstances but are likely to include;

- A formal induction session including
  - Introductions to the LEP with James Farrar, our Chief Operating Officer or another senior officer.
  - Help and support around complying with the Nolan Principles which provide guidance on public office and the governance associated with investing public money. We will provide guidance on what this means to ensure you avoid the potential pitfalls.
  - An invitation to meet the team to get an insight into their work

- Personal meetings with Main Board or Sub-Board Chairs
- We will also hold a session each year where the whole board meet the whole team for a joint development day.
- Briefings on areas of particular interest or concern.

- **Are you looking for specific skills?**

We are looking for leaders who can help us make the best decisions for the region. Whilst not exclusively, we are in particular seeking to attract one or more of the following skills, experience and attributes

- Increasing diversity on the Board
- Improving place based representation on the Board
- Representation of manufacturing/ food manufacturing
- High performing work practices
- Experience of recruiting from the wider workforce
- Workforce skills development
- Low carbon/ circular business models
- Rural / environmental
- Agriculture
- Coastal
- Culture/Placemaking
- Small / micro business

- **Can you summarise what the LEP Does?**

The 2020 Annual Report summarises our work and is a helpful introduction

Annual Report: [HERE](#)

Reshaping the Economy: [HERE](#)

Draft – Local Industrial Strategy: [HERE](#)

YNYER Labour Market Analysis: [HERE](#)

Devolution information: [HERE](#)

- **We are committed to being open, transparent & accountable**

It is important to remember we will be investing public money and therefore transparency and accountability are essential. We operate under Nolan Principles which provide the 7 principles of Public Life. These are

1. Selflessness

Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.

2. Integrity

Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not

act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

### 3. Objectivity

Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.

### 4. Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

### 5. Openness

Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.

### 6. Honesty

Holders of public office should be truthful.

### 7. Leadership

Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.

For further information on the 7 principles and the work of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, visit the Committee's [website](#).

To support these important principles all Board Members will need to

- Complete a register of interest for them and their spouse, which will be a public document.



LEP Register of  
Interests Form Feb 20

- Declare any conflicts of interest. The Conflict of Interest Procedure can be found [HERE](#)