

# Annual General Meeting Feedback Report 2016

This report summarises your feedback from the "Future of Economic Growth" AGM on 8th July 2016.

In all 102 participants attended the day, including speakers, hosts and organisers.



**94%**  
found speakers'  
presentations interesting



**89%**  
found the venue  
'very good' or better



**73%**  
gained insight  
into the LEP's work

## Highlights

"Accessible location, table and chair layout encouraged conversation and gave a good viewpoint to the screen and presenters."

"I thought that Barry Dodd showed strong & thoughtful leadership."

"All very useful - insightful and quick-moving. Length for each speaker was exactly right."

## Next Time

"More inspirational business stories showcasing success stories such as the Bishy Road."

"The 10:30 start with a 1/2pm finish is effectively a whole working day, particularly for those of us that have a long journey to Harrogate. An earlier start would suit me."

"It was an AGM but nothing to vote on."



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@WYCColleges: "The importance of skills highlighted @bizinspiredgrow and the importance of optimism."

@bizinspiredgrow: "Natalie Cramp from @CareerEnt 'What do we want young people to be when they leave school?'"  
[#YorkshireGrowth](https://twitter.com/YorkshireGrowth)

@suegrad7: "@nybechair asking a question at the @bizinspiredgrow AGM. Good to hear our LEP are leading the way and positive about the future."

## Annual General Meeting

# ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS

**Q: Can you provide information on your plans to work across LEP's, particularly with Leeds City Region and how the Northern Powerhouse might play out in Yorkshire?**

A: As the largest LEP geographically, collaboration across LEPs is crucial and central to our work. In our area we have a mix of unitary and two tier local government organisations, overlapping areas with both Humber and Leeds City Region LEPs, plus local authority devolution discussions taking place which reflect this complicated geography.

Our approach is non-political focussing on delivering shared outcomes, and supporting capacity where it is best placed to deliver.

Operationally, the four Yorkshire & Humber LEP Chairs and Chief Officers meet formally on a bi-monthly basis to ensure strategic alignment and to strengthen our joint input into wider geographical issues such as the Northern Powerhouse. At a project level we have developed formal joint working with both Humber and Leeds City Region.

Where we have joint investment opportunities, we develop formal arrangements, sharing due diligence and project teams to deliver a joint outcome. Examples include:

- **Yorkshire Wide:** Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund
- **Yorkshire & Lincolnshire wide:** Manufacturing Supply Chain Programme
- **Humber LEP:** Careers advice in schools  
Leeds City region: Investment in bioeconomy
- **Leeds City Region & HCA:** Housing & Employment Land at Olympia Park, Selby
- **Leeds City Region:** Joint Inward Investment Proposal securing 400 jobs in Sherburn in Elmet from L&G Homes

We are fully supportive of the Northern Powerhouse, and our [Chairman's blog](#) in April this year outlined the importance of urban and rural areas working together to create a truly competitive Northern Powerhouse. The transformational transport plans for HS2 and HS3 connecting Liverpool to Hull are welcomed and the rail improvements negotiated as part of the Northern Rail and Transpennine franchise negotiations were a great example of the North coming together to secure a better outcome.

**Q: As they are where the growth is, what are the LEP's plans to engage with SME's going forward?**

A: As 99% of our businesses are small and micro, our Growth Hub is focused on helping those businesses to achieve their potential by making it simple for them to find the information they need and signposting them towards people who can help.

Once those businesses are ready to really grow, we then work with external partners to make sure that they have access to local programmes that can support their needs e.g. Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund and Skills Support for the Workforce.

Strategically, part of our work involves helping ensure that investment is made into local assets to make it easier to do business in the region e.g. investment in local infrastructure and the agrifood academy.

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# ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS

**Q: When will the refreshed SEP be available online?**

A: Our updated Strategic Economic Plan has been published and it is [online here](#).



**Q: Why was it called an AGM when there was nothing to vote on?**

A: It wasn't an AGM in the traditional sense as whilst we work in partnership with many organisations, we are not a general membership organization and voting deci-

**Q: Are we likely to see a shift to prioritizing creative industries again in the future?**

A: We do support creative industries: funding will be available through the new Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund, we chair the Yorkshire Digital Catapult Centre, How's Business helps many creative businesses, we're sponsoring Venturefest and we're working with Screen Yorkshire and York's UNESCO City of Media Arts. However, we prioritised the bio-economy, as this is a sector with massive economic potential that needs public sector support to address current market failures.

**Q: I have a good understanding of the LEP which is enhanced because my staff are seconded to it. It would have been useful to stress who any new members to the board are and the backgrounds/ portfolios they are concentrating on.**

A: Our new Board member this year is Richard Shaw.

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