

**STOKE-ON-TRENT AND STAFFORDSHIRE**

**LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP**

**EXECUTIVE GROUP MEETING**

**15th February 2018**

**Strategic Economic Plan**

**1. Purpose**

To advise the group on progress on completing the review and to outline some early work in preparation for the development of a Local Industrial Strategy.

**2. Background**

The Strategic Economic Plan was the subject of a discussion at the November Partnership Board and a consultation. The responses have been reviewed and an updated draft together with a summary has now been prepared by the LEP's consultants Regeneris. This will be discussed at a working group on the 13<sup>th</sup> February.

The intention is to circulate the updated documents to the Partnership Board and seek their approval at the March meeting.

The completion of the SEP review will provide a starting point for further development of a Local Industrial Strategy. In preparation it is proposed to earmark funding to develop more detailed evidence about the area's economy. To ensure we are making the most effective use of the work done to date it is planned to undertake this work in a staged way collating the sectoral research and action plans to a consistent standard. The brief for this work is in development and a budget has been identified in the finance report.

**3. Recommendations**

The group is asked to note the report and support the commencement of work on broadening the evidence base.