

### **Strategic Economic Plan Development**

Our Strategic Economic Plan was developed through a series of workshops and programme of research undertaken by consultants Regeneris, by partners, Local Authorities, and in-house. A series of events was held during the development phase which involved a range of business and other partners to discuss the headline issues and identify priorities. In addition, the review was discussed at events held by partners when their views were sought.

This work led to the development of a draft document which was circulated widely with business and partners for comment and input. The Local Authorities also undertook a complementary evidence review which has been published and was similarly the subject of a series of workshops.

In November 2017 the final draft was the subject of a consultation exercise which was promoted extensively through newsletters, representative organisations, direct contact and social media. The responses to this consultation resulted in further amendments before the final document was published in April 2018.

The SEP sets our overall strategy for the area. This is now been taken forwards in the development of the Local Industrial Strategy.

Throughout the year we hold events to test our assumptions, learn and improve in discussion with businesses.