

# North Yorkshire Council

## Executive Member Meeting

9.30am on Wednesday 9 August 2023

### Approval for Grant Application – UKRI Arts and Humanities Research Council : Convergent Screen Technologies and Performance in Realtime (CoSTAR)

#### Report of the Corporate Director Community Development

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To recommend that the Executive Member for Open to Business following consultation with the Corporate Director of Community Development, the Corporate Director - Resources and the Assistant Chief Executive ( Legal and Democratic Services) authorises the participation of York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership in an application led by University of York, to UKRI Arts and Humanities Research Council.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Approval is requested to enable York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership to participate in an application led by University of York, as a core partner, to support a bid to UKRI Arts & Humanities Research Council to support high-technology growth of the Creative Industries Sector in the York & North Yorkshire region between 2023 and 2029 valued at over £6m over that period.

#### 3.0 CURRENT ISSUE

- 3.1 An application is being led by University of York to host an Insight and Foresight Unit (IFU) to access a grant of £6 million, over 6 years, to drive innovation and creativity in the UK's screen and performance industries. The IFU will facilitate collection and analysis of data and communication of insight and foresight relating to Convergent Screen Technologies And Performance in Realtime (CoSTAR) and the wider industry and research community engaged in the application of creative technologies to advanced media production and performance.
- 3.2 York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership has been invited to be a Core Partner for the bid which also includes Wakefield Council and Wakefield Production Park (where some of the facilities will be based), Screen Yorkshire and Vodafone.
- 3.3 The role of the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership as a Core Partner will be to support commercialisation of the business opportunities presented by the programme, specifically in the York and North Yorkshire areas. The opportunity to develop high growth supply chain activities and related skills development across the area. Creative Industries (and Data & Digital) is one of the high growth potential sectors currently being prioritised by the YNY LEP, with support via the North Yorkshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

#### 4.0 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- 4.1 The York and North Yorkshire Growth Hub business support services which will be enabled by the grant from DBT will contribute towards :

## **Economy**

- economically sustainable growth that enables people and places to prosper
- new and existing businesses can thrive and grow
- North Yorkshire has a high profile, is influential nationally and receives its fair share of resources

## **5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 The alternative would be to decline the invitation to be a core partner in the programme. The preferred option is to partner with the University as proposed, supported by the YNY LEP strategy to focus on six priority business sectors that have the potential for high economic growth across the York and North Yorkshire area, one of which is Creative Industries. Work was undertaken last year to analyse the local economy which has informed an evidence based approach to maximise the existing assets and attributes of the region, and their potential to be developed. The innovative technologies and scope for commercialisation into businesses operating in the area which are proposed by the application provide opportunity to deliver the high growth potential that has been identified.

## **6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The role of a Core Partner in the bid will not result in any funding from the University of York grant application. The arrangement will be that resources are made available by YNY LEP to support the commercialisations aspects of the programme by supporting businesses that are involved in the programme to develop, grow and invest in the area. The development of local supply chains and business opportunities are also expected to form part of the Core Partner support provided by YNY LEP.

- 6.2 The YNY LEP resources to be made available to support the programme are currently expected to be :

- Match funding in-kind of the YNY LEP Creative Industries Sector Development Manager at estimated costs of one full time equivalent per annum approx. £55,000 with the proportion of input to the project increasing annually over the six years duration; and
- aligned co-investment over the next six years to support local creative industries clusters in York and North Yorkshire, including skills strategies and action plans, training programmes, additional business support and access to targeted funding estimated at least approx. £45,000 per annum.

- 6.3 It is expected that the scope and scale of Core Partner support will change during the lifetime of the programme.

## **7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The University of York will produce a Service Level Agreement for Core Partners to support their application, details of which have not yet been received. Therefore, the approval requested to be a Core Partner in the application will be subject to review of the associated Terms and Conditions, and will only continue if they are considered acceptable.

## **8.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed (Appendix A). No equalities implications have been identified.

## **9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 A Climate Change Impact Assessment has been completed (Appendix B) and no climate change implications have been identified.

## **10.0 RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The University of York will produce a Service Level Agreement for Core Partners to their application, details of which have not yet been received. Therefore, the approval to be a Core Partner in the application will be subject to review of the associated Terms and Conditions and will only continue if they are considered acceptable. Risks will be assessed at the same time, to inform whether to proceed with the proposed Core Partner engagement.

## **11.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

11.1 It is recommended that approval is given for YNY LEP to be a Core Partner to the University of York, to support a bid to UKRI Arts & Humanities Research Council to support high-technology growth of the Creative Industries Sector in the York & North Yorkshire region between 2023 and 2029 valued at over £6m over that period.

11.2 This is based on the significant economic potential that the programme of activity will offer, which supports one of the priority high growth potential sectors of the York and North Yorkshire local economy.

## **12.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

12.1 That the Executive Member for Open to Business following consultation with the Corporate Director of Community Development, the Corporate Director - Resources and the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) authorises the participation of York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership in an application led by University of York, to UKRI Arts and Humanities Research Council.

### **APPENDICES:**

Appendix A – Equalities Impact Assessment  
Appendix B – Climate Change Impact Assessment

### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:**

[UK's creative industries benefit from significant funding boost – UKRI](#)

Nic Harne  
Corporate Director – Community Development  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
27 July 2023

Report Author – Liz Philpot, Head of Delivery  
Presenter of Report – Liz Philpot, Head of Delivery

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

## APPENDIX A

<b>Initial equality impact assessment screening form</b>	
<b>This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.</b>	
<b>Directorate</b>	Community Development Directorate
<b>Service area</b>	The York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (YNY LEP)
<b>Proposal being screened</b>	Recommendation of proposal for York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership core partner in University of York led funding application
<b>Officer(s) carrying out screening</b>	Liz Philpot/Paul Clark
<b>What are you proposing to do?</b>	<p>This screening concerns the YNY LEP proposed to be a Core Partner, led by University of York for application for UK Research &amp; Innovation (UKRI) Arts &amp; Humanities Research Council (AHRC) for CoStar Funding (Autumn 2023 to March 2029).</p> <p>The programmes will involve YNY LEP offering a range of support for businesses engaged on the CoStar programme, to improve prospects of business growth through access to bespoke local support programmes.</p> <p>Delivery will be facilitated via :</p> <p><b>YNY LEP Growth Hub</b> – the Government funded local business support service (provide free of charge);</p> <p><b>YNY LEP Trade &amp; Investment Service</b> – provision of targeted support for commercialisation of business opportunities linked to high-technology research and innovation in creative industries sector</p>
<b>Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?</b>	<p>This will support priorities identified in the YNY LEP published <a href="#">‘Covid-19 A Plan to Reshape our Economy plan</a> published in October 2020; also the YNY LEP Plan for Growth and research published March 2022 on Sector Analysis of the York and North Yorkshire local economy.</p> <p>Desired outcomes for the programme :</p> <p><b>YNY LEP Trade &amp; Investment Service</b> – opportunity for high growth potential within the Creative Industries Sector of the local economy with fully inclusive approach to engaging businesses and individuals in programme activity <a href="http://ynylep.com">Invest in York &amp; North Yorkshire (ynylep.com)</a></p>
<b>Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources?</b> Please give details.	N/A
<p><b>Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC’s additional agreed characteristics</b></p> <p>As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics?</li> <li>• Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important?</li> <li>• Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to?</li> </ul> <p>All programmes will promote equality and diversity through the support provided and offer appropriate, timely and impartial information, advice and guidance. In delivering the programmes, a range of</p>	

measures will be put in place that will prevent any unlawful discrimination relating to discrimination (whether in race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, age or otherwise) in employment.			
If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your <a href="#">Equality rep</a> for advice if you are in any doubt.			
Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don't know/No info available
	No	No	
Age		✓	
Disability		✓	
Sex		✓	
Race		✓	
Sexual orientation		✓	
Gender reassignment		✓	
Religion or belief		✓	
Pregnancy or maternity		✓	
Marriage or civil partnership		✓	
<b>NYCC additional characteristics</b>			
People in rural areas		✓	
People on a low income		✓	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)			N/A
<b>Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts</b> (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	NO		
<b>Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate?</b> (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). <b>Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics?</b> Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	All the programmes may be delivered in partnership with a range of external delivery partners. These organisations will ensure that all activities will be fully accessible and inclusive to all learners thus ensuring equal access to support, in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and NYCC Equality and Diversity policies.		
<b>Decision (Please tick one option)</b>	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	✓	Continue to full EIA:
<b>Reason for decision</b>	<p>There are no equality impacts as all activities will be fully accessible and inclusive to all relevant target groups ensuring equal access to support, in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and NYCC Equality and Diversity policies.</p> <p>The Local Enterprise Partnership operates in accordance with the National Local Growth Assurance Framework, and its own Local Assurance Framework, which contains a Diversity Statement setting out its commitments to fairness and inclusivity in its procurement and partnership arrangements.</p> <p>Screening exercises will continue throughout the project and where necessary and proportionate, an Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken.</p>		
<b>Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)</b>	James Farrar		
<b>Date</b>	21 June 2023		

# APPENDIX B

## Initial Climate Change Impact Assessment (Form created August 2021)

The intention of this document is to help the council to gain an initial understanding of the impact of a project or decision on the environment. This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. Dependent on this initial assessment you may need to go on to complete a full Climate Change Impact Assessment. The final document will be published as part of the decision-making process.

If you have any additional queries, which are not covered by the guidance please email [climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk)

<b>Title of proposal</b>	Recommendation for approval for York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership to be a Core Partner in University of York grant application
<b>Brief description of proposal</b>	<p>This Climate Change Impact Assessment concerns the YNY LEP being a Core Partner in the University of York application to UKRI Arts &amp; Humanities Research Council (AHRC) for CoStar Funding in the project to run Autumn 2023 to March 2029.</p> <p>The programme will require YNY LEP to offer a range of specialist business support to improve prospects of business growth through access to bespoke local support programmes.</p>
<b>Directorate</b>	Community Development Directorate
<b>Service area</b>	York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership
<b>Lead officer</b>	Liz Philpot, Head of Delivery
<b>Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment</b>	Paul Clark, Governance and Assurance Manager

The chart below contains the main environmental factors to consider in your initial assessment – choose the appropriate option from the drop-down list for each one.

Remember to think about the following;

- Travel
- Construction
- Data storage
- Use of buildings
- Change of land use
- Opportunities for recycling and reuse

<b>Environmental factor to consider</b>	<b>For the council</b>	<b>For the county</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Greenhouse gas emissions	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions
Waste	No effect on waste	No effect on waste	No effect on waste
Water use	No effect on water usage	No effect on water usage	No effect on water usage
Pollution (air, land, water, noise, light)	No effect on pollution	No effect on pollution	No effect on pollution
Resilience to adverse weather/climate events (flooding, drought etc)	No effect on resilience	No effect on resilience	No effect on resilience
Ecological effects (biodiversity, loss of habitat etc)	No effect on ecology	No effect on ecology	No effect on ecology
Heritage and landscape	No effect on heritage and landscape	No effect on heritage and landscape	No effect on heritage and landscape

If any of these factors are likely to result in a negative or positive environmental impact then a full climate change impact assessment will be required. It is important that we capture information about both positive and negative impacts to aid the council in calculating its carbon footprint and environmental impact.

<b>Decision (Please tick one option)</b>	Full CCIA not relevant or proportionate:	✓	Continue to full CCIA:	(Not required)
<b>Reason for decision</b>	All environmental factors are considered to be neutral			
<b>Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)</b>	James Farrar			
<b>Date</b>	21 June 2023			