



# **Leeds City Region Deal**

## **Quick guide**

# The Leeds City Region Deal

The city deal provides a transfer of powers and funding from national to local government. It gives local government greater control over spending and decision making so that we can take decisions in line with our key priorities for growth in the city region.

## **The city deal will help to:**

1. Create thousands of new apprenticeships, jobs and opportunities for the young.
2. Ensure faster, reliable transport connections.
3. Increase investment to modernise our infrastructure.
4. Boost exports and attract more international companies to the city region.

The areas which we have focussed on in this first city deal are skills, transport, investment funds, trade and inward investment as well as new robust governance arrangements to help with the efficient delivery of our objectives.

## **Skills and employment**

Through the Deal we will help create more jobs and opportunities for young people and work closely with our partners and the private sector to target future investment in skills.

### **In particular**

- 1) We will develop a 14-24 Apprenticeship Academy (Leeds), working with businesses to offer young people more employment opportunities (2013 start).
- 2) We will set up Apprenticeship Training Agencies (starting with Leeds and Bradford) to help small and medium companies take more apprentices, which will result in up to 2,500 apprentice opportunities by 2015.
- 3) We will develop an 'Apprenticeship Hub' network to encourage 7,500 new employers to take on apprentices, aiming to generate 15,000 new apprenticeships in the next four years.
- 4) We will seek to shape and influence skills investment by businesses, individuals and government more towards our own city region priorities and key growth sectors.

## **Transport**

Through the Deal we will increase prosperity and create jobs by investing in the local public transport and highways network. This investment will bring about faster, frequent and more reliable journeys for commuters and business.

### **In particular we will:**

- 1) Put in place a £1bn local fund to invest in transport over the next decade. This will have the potential to create 20,000 jobs in the medium term and a 2% uplift in growth.
- 2) Work with others across the north, including Greater Manchester, to take on responsibility for running the northern rail franchise. This will accelerate the improvement of rail services within the city region and across the north.

### **Investment funds**

Through the Deal we will boost the growth of businesses and our economy by modernising our infrastructure.

#### **In particular**

- 1) We will develop a £400m Investment Fund for the city region over the next 10 years. This will bring together a variety of funds from local sources and from national Government.
- 2) The Fund will be invested in key projects according to their contribution to the economy so that we maximise growth, create jobs and contribute to carbon reduction.

### **Trade and inward investment**

Through the Deal we will become a more outward-looking economy with a substantial trade surplus by encouraging more businesses to export, grow trade outside Europe and increase the city region's share of new foreign investment.

#### **In particular**

1. We will overturn the city region's trade deficit by 2015, which could bring 7,400 jobs by 2018 and add 1% each year to our economic growth rate.
2. Double the value of exports to the 'BRICS' and increase the number of businesses exporting by 50%.
3. Bring together a network of partners (LEP, universities, industry organisations, Chambers, UKTI, HMRC and UK Export Finance) to deliver on agreed trade and investment priorities.

### **Governance**

There will be a new West Yorkshire Combined Authority with wider city region partners to provide strong governance on transport. This will allow for effective prioritisation of relevant schemes and streamlined decision-making.

#### **Other**

### **Digital infrastructure**

1. Leeds and Bradford ultra-fast broadband access (speeds of 100mb+) to 88,000 homes, and over 16,000 businesses with the intention to roll this out to the rest of the Leeds City Region (2015).
2. Full wireless coverage in Leeds and Bradford city centres by the end of 2012, as a prelude to rolling out to other cities and towns (2013)

## Leeds City Region Deal – Deliverables

The Leeds City Region deal is going to help us deliver our economic plan and achieve our key targets of 60,000 new jobs by 2016.

Some of the deliverables have been outlined below:

<p><b>Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 14-24 Apprenticeship Academy to be established in 2013, supporting 300 young people each year into careers in growth sectors</li> <li>• At least 2,500 extra apprentice opportunities through the Apprenticeship Hubs (ATAs) by 2015</li> <li>• The Hubs and our other campaigns will encourage 7,500 additional companies to create at least 15,000 new apprenticeships by 2016</li> <li>• Devolved £5.7m to provide Youth Contract support to 16-17 year old not in employment, education or training in Leeds, Bradford and Wakefield</li> <li>• Local authority investment of £3m of 'IAG' (information, advice &amp; guidance) for vulnerable young people</li> <li>• 3,000 businesses to benefit from £31m* investment in sectors with long term growth prospects</li> </ul> <p>* part of this funding pending further discussions</p>	<p><b>Transport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a 10-year £1bn 'West Yorkshire-Plus' Transport Fund, matching devolved DfT budgets with local funding</li> <li>• potential of producing a 2% uplift in GVA and 20,000 extra jobs in the medium term</li> <li>• collaboration with other transport authorities across the North and the devolution of the northern rail franchise should ensure we accelerate and maximise the benefits of the Northern Hub and other improvements to Transpennine connectivity, delivering economic benefit of £4bn and up to 30,000 jobs</li> </ul>
<p><b>Investment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a city region Investment Fund of £400m over the next 10 years, pooling local funding sources and matched by Government through the devolution of existing and future capital spending</li> <li>• projects will be rigorously appraised and chosen on the basis that they maximise growth, create jobs and contribute to carbon reduction</li> </ul>	<p><b>Trade and investment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transform the city region's trade deficit of over £1bn per year to a surplus of £600m by 2015 and £1.7bn by 2018</li> <li>• We aim to double our exports to the 'BRICS', currently around £1bn annually, and increase the number of city region companies exporting by 50%</li> <li>• We will work in partnership with UKTI to deliver major trade and investment projects, and aim to increase our share of inward investment to a level in line with our share of the overall economy</li> <li>• These targets would raise LCR GVA by over 1% annually from 2015 and create at least 7,000 jobs by 2018</li> </ul>
<p><b>Digital infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leeds and Bradford ultra-fast broadband access (speeds of 100mb+) to 88,000 homes, 16,000 businesses</li> <li>• Full wireless coverage in Leeds and Bradford city centres by the end of 2012, rolling out to other towns and cities (end 2013)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Streamlined governance including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West Yorkshire Combined Authority with wider city region membership to provide strong governance for the effective prioritisation of investment.</li> </ul>