Lancaster District Strategic Partnership – Terms of Reference

Who we are

The Lancaster District Strategic Partnership consists of local stakeholders from the public, private, third and education sectors. Founding members of the 'LDSP' are represented by organisational leads and strategic decision makers. Through the partnership, member organisations will work together to improve the Lancaster District aligned to agreed strategic priorities.

The partnership has a defined geographical focus. Members of the partnership are all located in or have a strategic presence in the Lancaster District. All strategic development and operational delivery of workstreams will aim to improve the entire district. The formation of the partnership will also enable cross boundary working to:

- add value to strategic programmes that have a larger geographical focus
- share learning and best practice with stakeholders and partnerships that are outside of the Lancaster District



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Vision and Ambition

As Lancaster District and regional organisations, we are stronger together. A coordinated approach to regional challenges and opportunities will deliver solutions that are felt across the district. Sustainable change will have a lasting beneficial impact on our member organisations, residents and communities, and businesses in the Lancaster district. By working together, member organisations can coordinate mutually beneficial city and regional projects via the **Lancaster District Strategic Partnership**.

Founding members of the LDSP agree to work together to improve the Lancaster District aligned to the strategic priorities of:

- The Climate Emergency and Sustainability
- The Local Economy
- Health and Wellbeing
- Communities

Objectives

The partnership will apply a proactive approach to amplify the vision and ambitions detailed in this document. The objectives for the partnership are to:

- Improve the transparency of strategic workstreams that already take place in the district
- Coordinate and facilitate improved ways of working between partners, to add value to existing strategic programmes
- Identify gaps in strategic and operational workstreams in the district
- Prepare, plan, resource and deliver new collaborative workstreams with 'Project Teams'. (This will only take place where there is an identified gap or where new activity adds value to the partnership vision and objectives)
- Mitigate any duplication of efforts between partners

Measurements for Success

Members have shown a willingness to work together to develop collaborative and new ways of delivering effective and efficient services and strategic projects. Outcomes will be defined by the member organisations and supported by the appropriate organisational experts and representatives. As the partnership develops, it is the role of the member organisations to agree metrics and measurements for success for any identified and agreed workstream.

Risk Management

If a new project of work emerges through this partnership, a collective approach to Risk Management will need to be agreed before commencing any course of action.

Financial Context

Partners will work together within collective financial constraints, to deliver strategic objectives. The partnership provides an opportunity to identify new ways of working to maximise how organisations use resources effectively and collaboratively.

Strategic Oversight

Members of the LDSP will provide strategic oversight of the partnership. It is anticipated that members will meet on a quarterly basis. This will enable members to steer the partnership's objectives.

Ways of Working

Regular partner meetings will provide a forum where strategic ideas and views on a particular issue can be exchanged. It is envisaged that a more formal structure will be explored for the partnership. This could enable joint funding bids for strategic projects. As the partnership develops, member organisations may consider collective branding for the partnership along with a website.

Partnership Structure

The structure of the partnership will ensure clarity of roles, accountability and process. The Memorandum of Understanding provides greater detail of the following structure;

- Core Team(s)
- Members
- Project Teams

Review

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed regularly to consider any change experienced by founding members and as the regions challenges and opportunities develop.