



Inclusive growth for Luton - The role of a commissioner

Introduction

Last year the RSA's Inclusive Growth Commission published its final report recommending that 'place-based industrial strategies' be established to deliver inclusive growth in local areas. The report also recommended the need for 'integrated economic and social policy' to drive inclusive growth through business and community led productivity, skills and quality jobs.

The Luton Inclusive Growth Commission will be Luton's response to the RSA's recommendations, with the commission asked to identify the key enablers of inclusive growth for Luton, and deliver a series of recommendations to inform the development of a future inclusive growth strategy for the town.

The commission will be supported by the council and provided with a range of evidence to provide an understanding of the Luton context which includes Luton's young and exceptionally diverse population, its excellent location as the international gateway to England's economic heartland and the growth associated with the Luton Investment Framework and London Luton Airport. The overall aim of the commission is to support the continuation of this growth while ensuring that the benefits of this can be shared by all in Luton.

The commission will run in two phases. Phase one has now been completed which involved a range of independent experts who were asked to review extensive data to identify the key enablers and barriers to inclusive growth in Luton from jobs and skills to social and physical infrastructure. The second phase is now to appoint the commissioners who will lead an extensive piece of work engaging with key stakeholders including community and institutional anchors locally, education and health providers as well as major employers in the town. The commission will then consider and make recommendations to drive the enablers of inclusive growth in Luton, providing the basis for a future inclusive growth strategy.

We are currently recruiting for up to eight commissioners to lead this piece of work under the leadership of the Chair Professor Sir Les Ebdon.

Terms of reference for the Commissioner

It is expected that the Commission will meet as required (up to six occasions) to review evidence and make recommendations – with final recommendations being presented to the Luton Investment Framework Board in the spring of 2019.

A multi-faceted approach will inform the Commission, including:

- a desktop review of data and research from local, national and international sources
- analysis and learning from other commissions and inclusive growth strategies
- public and stakeholder engagement through surveys, workshops and written submissions.



The key objective will be to identify key drivers of inclusive growth in Luton. This may include developing some key lines of enquiry around the barriers such as population dynamics e.g. a growing young population, business support, housing (supply & affordability), skills & productivity, education & attainment, low pay, economic activity, transport & infrastructure and health and social inequalities.

The Commissioners will also want to consider the impact of Brexit on Luton and the wider economy.

The role of a commissioner:

- Be able to commit to up to 2 days per month on the commission work.
- Be able to provide expertise, insight and knowledge in at least one of the below fields:
 - Business and economy
 - Skills and education
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Voluntary and the community
 - Housing and Infrastructure
 - Welfare (anti-poverty, welfare reform etc.)
- This is an unpaid position but reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

If you are interested in applying to be one of the commissioners please could you attach your CV and two page covering letter detailing why you would like to be part of the commission and highlighting your key areas of knowledge and expertise that you feel could add value to this exciting piece of work for Luton.

Please could you send all applications through by close of play on Friday 2nd November. We will not be able to accept applications after the closing date.

It is intended that interviews will take place from 5th November and appointments made by mid-November with the commission meeting in early December.

Applications are to be sent by email to inclusivegrowthcommission@luton.gov.uk

For any further information please call Nicola Monk on 01582 546073 or email Nicola.Monk@luton.gov.uk who will arrange a scheduled follow up discussion with the Chair of the Commission.