**South East LEP Update for OSE Board – August 2019**

1. The following is an update on the main areas of activity of SELEP. At time of writing the draft agenda for the October meeting of the SELEP Strategic Board has not been agreed but an indicative list of what will be discussed is included below.

**Local Industrial Strategy (LIS)**

1. SELEP has awarded a contract to a joint team made up of Dayton Bell and Lichfields to develop the evidence base for the Local Industrial Strategy.
2. Sharon Spicer and Helen Russell (the two Strategy and Intelligence Managers) are currently working on a full stakeholder consultation plan and details of engagement events will be publicised shortly.
3. They are meeting with the SELEP Vice Chairs and LA leaders in September and an invitation to meet with the chairs of Federated Areas has been made.
4. A number of LISs have now been approved by Government and Helen and Sharon are in discussions with those LEPs to better understand the process. There is no indication that the new administration is anything other than supportive of the Local Industrial Strategy programme.

**LEP Review**

1. Both sub-groups have met twice since the last update and discussions regarding the LEP Review are ongoing. At time of writing the decisions for the Strategic Board in October have not been finalised. There is a joint meeting of the two sub-groups on 11 September when that will be agreed and finalised.

**SELEP Strategic Board – 4 October 2019**

1. The main item of business at this meeting will be the LEP Review. The agenda is purposely being kept short and focussed to allow the Board sufficient time to discuss and explore options before decisions are made. Officers and sub-group Board members will be tasked with keeping Federated Board members appraised of the recommendations coming forward.

**Other News**

1. SELEP held a very successful AGM and Annual Conference on 17 July. There were almost 200 delegates present to hear presentations from David Smith, the Economics Editor of the Sunday Times, Lord Henley from BEIS and representatives from the SELEP area. There was also an exhibitor’s hall to allow partner organisations, including OSE, to present and network with attendees. The feedback received so far has been very positive and plans are being made for next year’s conference.