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Elsewhere, Leeds-born Jeff Long heads up SME support network Business Doctors and admits he hasn't strayed too far from the city for work.

“I have seen Leeds develop and grow into an amazing place for both business and leisure. Working as a Business Doctor in Leeds, helping SMEs with everything from finding funding to planning and achieving growth, I knew that I was plugged into an extremely vibrant and ambitious business community,” he said.

“We all benefit from being concentrated in a relatively small geographic area and are backed by a huge amount of local and regional support.”

Long believes that the Leeds City LEP is one of the most pro-business LEPs in the country, offering advice and support for growth businesses from countless sectors, and for that reason he believes any business in Leeds is in the ideal place for scale.

“We also have three quality universities, all actively engaged with the local business community and, as a major centre for creative, digital, legal and financial services,

businesses have local access to everything they need,” he detailed.

“Being a relatively small city in terms of geography, there is a very close business community, which is very easy to connect with.”

Referencing Shepherd’s efforts, he continued: “There are tremendous networking opportunities, underpinned by groups such as The Yorkshire Mafia, who organise some incredible events and have really galvanised the local and regional business community.

“The presence in the city of an Entrepreneurial Spark incubator has also brought some really talented and creative individuals into the heart of the city.”

He said it would be “naïve” to think Leeds can offer things London can’t but added that the potential for quality of life is better.

“One of the great things I find is the ease of access to all parts of the city region. This makes doing business so much easier,” Long offered.

“Transport links are generally good and we have some of the most amazing countryside within a ten to 15-minute drive of the city centre, which leads to perhaps a quality of life that outshines the capital.

“If anything, I would say that one things Leeds could do better is shout a great deal louder about what a great place it is to do business.”