**CHESHIRE AND WARRINGTON - EMPLOYERS SKILLS AND EDUCATION BOARD MEETING ON 19 MAY 2021**

Meeting to be held via Microsoft Team - details on calendar invite.

**The main purpose of the meeting is:**

* Members to review key developments since the 21 April
* Members to receive feedback from meetings/activities of key groups held since last meeting
* To provide a steer on proposed work to establish a better understanding of the demand for technical skills across Cheshire and Warrington
* To review the action plan in the Skills Report and start to focus on key aspects of the plan to ensure direction of travel and outcomes are clear
* To review progress of the Local Growth Fund projects
* To advice on how best to assess the added value of the Opportunities Portal

**Meetings/Key Events that have taken place since the last Employers’ Skills and Education Board meeting:**

* Further announcement on Covid restrictions on 10 May
* Skills Accelerator announcements by Government and various meetings to follow up the announcement and develop the Skills Development Fund and the Local Skills Improvement Plan
* LEP Board meeting on 21 April
* Meeting of Data and Labour Market Steering Group on 26 April to review the draft Low Carbon report
* Performance and Investment Committee on 28 April where they considered the proposed extension of the Opportunities Portal and the programme of job fairs for 2021/22
* Accelerate Board meeting on 29 April
* Quarterly review meeting with the National Career Service on 12 May
* Three Workforce Recovery Group meetings held since 21 April
* Into Work Board meeting on 17 May
* Employers’ Skills and Education Board consultation on the Covid Recovery Plan on 18th May
* Digital Skills Partnership Board meeting on 18th May
* Pledge Management Board on 19 May

**AGENDA**

**13.30 hrs Welcome, and declarations of interest -** list of attendees and apologies (**Annex A)**.

**13.35 hrs Members to share information on key developments since the last meeting** on 21 April.

**13.50 hrs Feedback from key meetings/activities since last Employers’ Skills and Education Board:**

* **LEP Board meetings** (Nicola Dunbar) 5 minutes
* **Accelerate** (Kurt Allman) 5 minutes
* **Digital Skills Partnership (DSP) Board (**Nicola Dunbar) 5 minutes
* **Institute of Technology** (Dhesi) – 5 minutes
* **Skills Accelerator** (Dhesi and Paul Colman) – 15 minutes
* **T-level funding** (Dhesi) – 5 minutes

**14.30 hrs Technical Skills** (10 minutes)

For Members to provide a steer on proposed work to establish a better understanding of the demand for technical skills across Cheshire and Warrington – in particular, to support the development of the Institute of Technology and the Skills Accelerator.

**14.40 hrs Skills Report and Associated Skills Action Plan – Kath Mackay and Pat Jackson**

To review the action plan on pages 12, 13 and 14 the Skills Report and start to focus on key

aspects of the action plan to ensure direction of travel and outcomes are clear. Initial focus to be the Pledge actions – Trevor Langston to lead. (15 minutes)

To assist discussion, we have produced a separate action plan and added text to provide more detail and illustrate progress to date.

**14.55 hrs** **Jobs Opportunities Portal** (Sarah Williams) (10 minutes)

To update Members on the outcome of the Performance and Investment Committee meeting on 28 April and for Members to advise on how best to assess the added value of the Opportunities Portal.

**15.05 hrs Local Growth Fund update (outputs) -** Sarah Williams and then Board Members who are project sponsors.

**15.20 hrs Note of last meeting on 21 April and Action list** (5 minutes)

**15.25 hrs Any Other Business –** Kath Mackay

* **Items for future meetings and date of next meeting** (16 June 2021)

**EMPLOYERS SKILLS AND EDUCATION BOARD MEETING ON 19 MAY 20210 Annex A**

The following members of the Employers’ Skills and Education Board are expected to attend the meeting:

* \*Kath Mackay - Chair
* \*Nicola Dunbar (Deputy Chair)
* Sarah Hopkinson (Engie)
* Kurt Allman (University of Chester)
* \*Eleanor Blackburn (Warrington Borough Council)
* \*Bill Carr (Carpe Diem)
* Paul Colman (South Cheshire Chamber)
* Dhesi (Cheshire College South and West – representing the training providers)
* Kim Hardman (Astra Zeneca)
* Maggie Chen
* Louise Higgins (United Utilities James Richards (Network Rail)
* \*Clare Latham (Cheshire West and Chester)
* Nicola Johnson (Bentley Motors)
* \*Lucy Liang (AUE Ltd)
* Paul Kelly (BAE Systems)
* Pat Jackson (LEP)

\*With voting rights

**Not yet responded**

* \*Phil Atkinson (Daresbury)
* Nicola Merriman (National Skills Academy Nuclear)
* \*Cllr James Nicholas (Cheshire East Council)
* Martin Wood (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) – observer

**Apologies**

* Philip Cox (LEP)

**Also attending**

* Trevor Langston, Sarah Williams and David Brennan for specific agenda items

**Papers copied to**:

* Trevor Brocklebank (Deputy Chair of LEP)
* Jamie Zucker (DfE)
* Clare Cassidy (DfE)
* Mike McLouglin (DfE)
* Peter Skates (Cheshire East Council)
* Maud Duthie (University of Chester)
* Chris Koral (University of Chester)
* Nicola Said (LEP)
* Joe Manning (LEP)
* Andy Devaney (LEP)
* Sarah Williams (LEP)
* Trevor Langston (LEP)