

## CHESHIRE AND WARRINGTON - EMPLOYERS SKILLS AND EDUCATION BOARD MEETING ON 21 APRIL 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 17th March – in particular the impact of lifting some of the Covid restrictions
- Members to receive feedback from meetings/activities of key groups held since last meeting
- To note the final version of the Skills Report and agree next steps
- To review progress of the Local Growth Fund projects
- To seek Members approval for the proposed funding for the Jobs Opportunities Portal and the programme of online jobs fair
- To note the draft Covid Recovery Plan – the subject of a consultation

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

- LEP Board meeting on 17 March
- Lifting of some Covid restrictions on 12 April
- Into Work Board meetings on 22 March and 19 April
- Posting of Skills Report on the LEP website on 12 April 2021
- Meeting of Data and Labour Market Steering Group on 23 March to scope the 'Green' report
- NorthWestWorks4U online jobs fair on 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April
- Four Workforce Recovery Group meetings held since 17 March with agreement of targets for reducing the numbers of unemployed people
- Digital Skills Partnership Board meeting on 23 March and subsequent meeting to identify the demand for digital bootcamps (chaired by Andy Moore from Bentley) on 1 April
- Pledge Management Board on 21 April and meeting with new CEO of the Careers and Enterprise Company on 30 March
- Review meeting with National Careers Service on 20 April
- Launch of consultation on Covid Recovery Plan

## AGENDA

- 13.30 hrs**      **Welcome, and declarations of interest** - list of attendees and apologies (**Annex A**).  
Welcome Kath Mackay as new Chair of Employers' Skills and Education Board and Lucy Liang new Member. Paul Kelly from BAE Systems is also attending the Board meeting for a second time with a view to becoming a Member.
- 13.35 hrs**      **Members to share information on key developments since the last meeting** on 17 March.
- 13.50 hrs**      **Feedback from key meetings/activities since last Employers' Skills and Education Board:**
- **LEP Board meetings** (Nicola Dunbar) 5 minutes
  - **Pledge** (Joe Manning and Trevor Langston) – 10 minutes
  - **Digital Skills Partnership (DSP) Board** (Nicola Dunbar) including evaluation of Digital Skills Partnerships (5 minutes)
  - **Institute of Technology** (Dhesi) – 5 minutes
  - **Chambers meetings** – including Warrington Chamber update (Paul Colman) – 5 minutes
- 14.20 hrs**      **Accelerate**  
Update from Kurt Allman and Phil Atkinson

- 14.35 hrs**      **Jobs Opportunities Portal and Plans for online jobs fair ‘NorthWESTWorks4U’** (Pat Jackson)  
To seek Members’ approval to fund the Job Opportunities Portal for a further 11 months and to fund a programme of online job fairs over the next year.
- 14.50 hrs**      **An update on traineeships and the Level 3 entitlement and the extent of the funding that Cheshire and Warrington will receive –** (Dhesi) 10 minutes
- 15.00 hrs**      **Skills Report and next steps** (Pat Jackson and Board Members)  
For the Board to:
- Note publication of Skills Report on the LEP website
  - Agree next steps – based on the action plan (section 5 of the Report)
- 15.10 hrs**      **Local Growth Fund update (spend and outputs)** - Sarah Williams and then Board Members who are project sponsors.
- 15.20 hrs**      **Note of last meeting on 17 March 2021 and Action list** (5 minutes)
- 15.25 hrs**      **Any Other Business –** Kath Mackay
- **Items for future meetings and date of next meeting** (19 May 2021)
  - **Recovery Plan**

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

- \*Kath Mackay - Chair
- \*Nicola Dunbar (Deputy Chair)
- \*Clare Hayward – Chair of LEP Board
- Sarah Hopkinson (Engie)
- Kurt Allman (University of Chester)
- \*Eleanor Blackburn (Warrington Borough Council)
- \*Bill Carr (Carpe Diem)
- Paul Colman (South Cheshire Chamber)
- Kim Hardman (Astra Zeneca)
- Maggie Chen
- Dhesi (Cheshire College South and West – representing the training providers)
- 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**

- Joe Manning, Trevor Langston and Sarah Williams 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)