

CHESHIRE AND WARRINGTON - EMPLOYERS SKILLS AND EDUCATION BOARD MEETING ON 18 NOVEMBER 2020 from 13.30 hrs to 15.30 hrs

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

The main purpose of the meeting is to:

- Receive feedback from meetings/activities of key groups held since last meeting on 14 October
- Consider the latest proposals for an Institute of Technology in Cheshire and Warrington and identify any employers who might want to be at the heart of the Governance structure
- Review progress of Local Growth Fund investments to date – including spend and delivery of outputs and proposed allocation of remaining funds
- Review issues identified by our data and labour market work and consider how these should be reflected in our skills and education priorities for future action
- Note:
 - Response to Covid and the work of the Workforce Recovery Group – in particular Kickstart and the online jobs, training opportunities portal and the meeting with Housing Association to consider the scope to flex support programmes for newly unemployed
 - the forthcoming invitation to bid for European Social Fund bids

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

- Five Workforce Recovery Group meetings held since 14 October
- Performance review meeting with National Career Service on 21 October
- Meeting of Data and Labour Market Steering Group on 28 October to approve the latest report on Employer Demand
- Meetings of College Principals and the University of Chester on 5 and 13 November to consider the Institute of Technology bid
- Meetings of Northwich and Winsford, Macclesfield and Warrington local Pledge Boards and Careers Expos for Northwich and Winsford, Ellesmere Port and Chester and Mid-Cheshire East
- Meeting with Crewe Town Investment Fund on 10 November to identify skills investment priorities
- Accelerate Governing Board co-chaired by Phil Atkinson and Kurt Allman on 12 November
- Focus groups with young people in Ellesmere Port and Crewe on 19, 20 and 22 October

AGENDA

- 13.30 hrs** **Welcome, introductions and declarations of interest** - current list of attendees and apologies for Employers' Skills and Education Board meeting on 18 November is at **Annex A**.
- Welcome Rachel Kay who is attending the meeting representing the training providers (Dhesi is unable to attend)
- 13.35 hrs** **Note of last meeting on 14 October 2020** (Chair - 5 minutes)
- 13.40 hrs** **Action list and any matters arising that are not on agenda** – (Chair - 5 minutes)
- 13.45 hrs** **Feedback from key meetings/activities held since last Employers' Skills and Education Board meeting:**
- **LEP Board meetings** (Clare Hayward) 5 minutes
 - **Response to Covid - Workforce Recovery Group (Philip Cox/Pat Jackson)** - to note, changing nature of the challenge, Kickstart and the online jobs, training opportunities

portal and the meeting with Housing Association to consider the scope to flex support programmes for newly unemployed – 10 minutes

- **Pledge Meetings and Expos** (James Richards) – 5 minutes
- **Digital Skills Partnership Board work on case studies and marketing** (Nicola Dunbar) – 5 minutes
- **Accelerate Board** (Phil Atkinson and Kurt Allman) – 5 minutes
- **Data and Labour Market Steering Group** and response to questionnaire (Pat Jackson) – 5 minutes

- 14.20 hrs** **Institute of Technology – Rachel Kay and Pete Ryder** (15 minutes)
Consider the latest proposals for an Institute of Technology (to be focused on digital and sustainability) in Cheshire and Warrington and identify any employers who might want to be at the heart of the Governance structure - background paper at Annex C
- 14.35 hrs** **Local Growth Fund Investments – Pat Jackson and Sarah Williams** (15 minutes)
To review progress on investments already contracted including feedback from sponsors and agree final allocation of funding –
- 14.50 hrs** **Key Issues from Data and Labour Market Reports and Future Priorities for Action** (David Brennan) 30 minutes
- 15.20 hrs** **Any Other Business – Clare Hayward**
- To note the agreement for a further bidding round for European Social Funding
 - Items for future meetings
 - Date and venue of next meeting (18 November 2020 – probably via Microsoft Team)

Close meeting no later than 15.30hrs

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

- *Clare Hayward - Chair
 - *Phil Atkinson (Daresbury)
 - *Nicola Dunbar (Deputy Chair)
 - Nicola Johnson (Bentley Motors)
 - Paul Colman (South Cheshire Chamber)
 - Rachel Kay (Cheshire College South and West – representing the training providers)
 - James Richards (Network Rail)
 - Kurt Allman (University of Chester)
 - *Cllr James Nicholas (Cheshire East Council)
 - *Stephen Fitzsimons (Warrington Borough Council)
 - Kim Hardman (Astra Zeneca)
 - Louise Higgins (United Utilities)
 - Philip Cox (LEP)
 - Pat Jackson (LEP)
- *With voting rights

Not yet responded

- *Bill Carr (Carpe Diem)
- Maggie Chen
- *Clare Latham (Cheshire West and Chester)
- Nicola Merriman (National Skills Academy Nuclear)
- Martin Wood (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) – observer

Also attending

- David Brennan, Pete Ryder and Sarah Williams for specific agenda items

Apologies

- Sarah Hopkinson (Engie)
- Kath Mackay (Alderley Park)
- Jasbir Dhesi

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)