



**Minutes of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership  
Performance and Investment Committee Meeting  
held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 at 1.30 via Teams**

**In attendance:** Chris Hindley (Chairman), Ian Traynor, Catherine Walker, Joe Toward, Stewart Brown, Peter Skates, Rachel Laver.

**Apologies:** Nichola Newton, Ian Brooks, Alex Thompson, Loren Jones.

**Presentations on:** Jobs Portal – Pat Jackson and Sarah Williams  
Strategy Update – Melissa Crellin

Item No.	Item	To be Actioned by	By When
1.	<p><b>Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies from PS, NN, LJ and IB</p> <p>Due to the Corona Virus meeting held via Teams</p>		
2	<p><b>Conflicts of Interest</b></p> <p>CH asked for any conflicts to be declared.</p> <p>Declarations of interest: None declared</p>		
3	<p><b>Minutes and actions from the last meeting:</b></p> <p>Actions from the last meeting:</p> <p>RL shared a list of schools engaged through the skills programmes. 40/115 had been engaged with at least one of the skills projects. <b>RL to circulate the spreadsheet with the breakdown.</b> 82/86 eligible schools engaged through the Pledge programme.</p> <p>RL presented the breakdown of key outputs achieved v contracted to the end of October. The “underperformance” of the skills outputs was due to the difficulties caused by the pandemic. The WVR learning hubs scheme in the libraries were closed during the pandemic, but are due to reopen in October. Outputs will need to continue to be monitored as a majority were expected to be achieved after the end of financial end of the programme. RL to circulate the updated spreadsheet showing the breakdown.</p> <p>RL had received an update from Smartgrid, put presentation back to November to give them opportunity to make more progress and give a more meaningful update. IB to send out invite.</p>	<p>RL</p> <p>RL</p> <p>IB</p>	<p>Sept</p> <p>Sept</p> <p>Oct</p>

	<p>Reaseheath were invited to present at the meeting but due to a diary clash will now present at the October meeting</p> <p>Draft brief for end of term evaluation written. Will need to be reviewed at Jan/Feb meeting.</p> <p>Minutes approved.</p>	IB	Jan 22
4	<p><b>Jobs Portal</b></p> <p>SW and PJ gave an update on progress with the site. Now first in search of Cheshire and Warrington Jobs. Going to continue Search Engine Optimisation to promote content of new pages.</p> <p>New pages to be created that meet Frequently Asked Questions.</p> <p>506 Followers</p> <p>Increase in people seeking part time jobs.</p> <p>CW suggested that the link on LEP website to the portal is made more prominent. SW to action.</p> <p>DWP to pilot funding of new technology to help people access jobs. PJ to continue to pursue.</p> <p>Uncertainty about funding of portal but need to look at long term unemployed issues and hard to fill vacancies and what can be done to support these.</p> <p>Difficult to continue current level of support for the site as it's quite labour intensive.</p> <p>One of the main drivers of the portal is to help get people confident enough to apply for a post rather than duplicate other jobs advert sites.</p> <p>IB had sent RL comments about the feasibility of the site post March 22, after which time the LEP couldn't continue to support it. PJ felt LAs/DWP may pick up the costs of the site. This is to be reviewed throughout the year.</p>	SW	Oct
5	<p><b>Strategy Update</b></p> <p>MC gave an overview of the recovery plan and strategy update.</p> <p>Low carbon, business support and life science priorities moving forward.</p> <p>Peer Networks established</p> <p>White paper due end of October covers devolution and economic development. It is expected to set out role of LEPs.</p> <p>LEPs may be commissioned to do a Local Plan for Growth.</p> <p>Andy Devaney to be asked to a presentation of what's been achieved this year. IB to invite to November meeting.</p>	IB	Oct

	PS reported that CEC has got a tourism recovery plan which will evolve into a 3 yr plan. Need to ensure a co-ordinated joined up approach.		
6	<p><b>Programmes Update</b></p> <p>RL ran through the programme updates. Members please to see the pictures of the projects to see how they are progressing.</p> <p>Poynton Relief road progressing well on site. Ellesmere Port One Public Estate on programme.</p> <p>NW Crewe scheme land issues resolved but project not yet in construction. Land issues with Warrington West cycle accessibility now resolved with Network Rail so due to start on site this month.</p> <p>Discussion about which projects to invite in to present on progress. Projects selected:  AMET, WVR  Net Zero Cheshire, EA Technology  Aircom, Westwood</p> <p>IB to schedule in for future meetings.</p> <p>Risks reviewed. No comments.</p>	IB	Oct
7	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>CH thanked RL for all her efforts in delivering the programmes and supporting the P&amp;I committee and wished her luck in her new role. RL thanked the committee for their support and input which had helped make delivery of programmes a success.</p>		