**CHESHIRE AND WARRINGTON - EMPLOYERS SKILLS AND EDUCATION BOARD MEETING ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**The meeting will be held between 13.30 and 15.30 hrs via** Microsoft Team - details on calendar invite.

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

* Members to review key developments since the 14 July including changes in the labour market as a result of Covid and Brexit
* To provide a steer on whether the skills and education plan should be modified to reflect changes in the labour market
* Members to receive feedback and respond to any issues raised following meetings/activities of key groups held since last Board meeting

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

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| 16 July | LEP Board meeting |
| 19 July | Meeting with Medicines Catapult (Alderley Park) to explore areas of shared interest |
| 20 July, 3 August and 17 August | Workforce Recovery Group meetings – very focused on the changing nature of the labour market |
| 21 July | RESTART programme contractor meeting with local partners across the North West |
| 25 July | LEPs network discussion with DfE about skills reforms and Skills White Paper |
| 27 July | 19th meeting of Data and Labour Market Steering Group (low carbon report, impact of Covid on the labour market and initial work on skills progression opportunities in key sectors |
| 2 August | Quarterly review of the National Career Service delivery in Cheshire and Warrington |
| 2 August | Care sector meeting to share good practice and other actions to address skills shortages |
| 9 August and 6 Sept | Into Work Board meeting to review support available to longer-term unemployed people with barriers to employment |
| 11 August | Interviews for Enterprise Coordinator |
| 18 August | Pledge Board meeting |
| 24 August | Cabinet Office visit to Ellesmere Port |
| 25 August | LEP Digital Connectivity Board (chaired by Nicola Dunbar) |
| 6 Sept | Preparation of LEP response to National Skills Fund |
| 7 Sept | Workshop with Local Growth Fund projects (collaboration, inspiring young people, best practice, digital inclusion |
| 8 Sept | Scrutiny Committee |
| 9 Sept | All Party Parliamentary Group meeting on skills |
| 10 Sept | Inclusive Economy Working Group |

**AGENDA**

**13.30 hrs Welcome, declarations of interest, introductions with members sharing information on any key developments since the last meeting** on 14 July

**List of attendees and apologies (Annex A).**

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

* **LEP Board and Scrutiny Committee meetings** (Kath Mackay and Nicola Dunbar) 5 minutes
* **Accelerate** (Kurt Allman and Phil Atkinson) 5 minutes
* **Digital Skills Partnership (DSP) and Digital Connectivity Board** (Nicola Dunbar) 5 minutes
* **Institute of Technology and Skills Accelerator** (Dhesi) 5 minutes
* **Data and Labour Market Steering Group** (Pat Jackson) 5 minutes
* **Local Growth Fund** – (Sarah Williams) 5 minutes

**14.15 hrs The Changing Nature of the Labour Market – to include latest Covid report and work of the Workforce Recovery Group**

A summary of the evidence drawn from all our data and labour market intelligence is attached at Annex B.

Members are invited to share their views on the changing nature of the labour market and to suggest any changes needed to the Skills Action Plan

**14.40 hrs Skills Action Plan**

Members to review the latest update of the Skills Action Plan and provide a steer on whether the plan should be modified to reflect changes in the labour market and/or include additional activities that are led by other partners

Also consider need to update road map

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

To update Members on the key developments

**15.10 hrs Pledge – key issues to raise with Board members (Trevor Langston)**

**15.25 hrs Note of last meeting on 14 July and Action list** (5 minutes)

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

* **Prep for next LEP Board meeting on 20 October**
* **Items for future meetings and date of next meeting** (20 October 2021)

**EMPLOYERS SKILLS AND EDUCATION BOARD MEETING ON 14 JULY 2021 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)
* Kurt Allman (University of Chester)
* \*Eleanor Blackburn (Warrington Borough Council)
* \*Bill Carr (Carpe Diem)
* \*Phil Atkinson (Daresbury)
* 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)
* \*Clare Latham (Cheshire West and Chester)
* \*Lucy Liang (AUE Ltd) – has stepped down on an interim basis
* Paul Kelly (BAE Systems)
* Pat Jackson (LEP) \*With voting rights

**Apologies**

* Nicola Johnson (Bentley Motors)
* Sarah Hopkinson (Engie)

**Not yet responded**

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

**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)