

LEP - Lancashire Skills and Employment Advisory Panel

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 11th March 2020 at 8.00am
at the Savoy Suite 1 - The Exchange - County Hall, Preston**

Present

Amanda Melton

Mark Allanson
Lindsay Campbell
Ruth England
Dean Langton

Gareth Lindsay
Joanne Pickering
Bev Robinson
Liz Tapner

Observers

Stephen Jones, Head of FE Territorial Team
Carla Passarello, District Manager for Lancashire and Cumbria DWP

In Attendance

Sara Gaskell, Strategic Partnership Manager
Tracy Heyes, Strategic Partnership Manager
Janet Jackson, Strategic Partnership Manager
Lisa Moizer, Lancashire Skills Hub
Holly Tween, Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introductions were made by all in attendance.

Apologies were received from Lis Smith, Lynne Livesey, Neil Conlon, Councillor Briggs and Michele Lawty-Jones.

2. Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2019

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2019 are confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda.

5. Lancashire Skills Hub update

Lisa Moizer, Strategic Coordinator - Skills Hub, updated the panel on the Skills Hub's activity since the last meeting and highlighted the following:

- The Careers and Enterprise Company recently undertook an Annual Review of the Lancashire Enterprise Adviser Network and Careers Hub, which had been very positive
- The Partnership between the Lancashire Teaching Hospitals Technical Team and the Enterprise Adviser Network was recognised nationally at the Health Tech News Awards 2019, and won the NHS Collaborative Award. Saeed Amar, Head of Technical Services at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals and volunteer Enterprise Adviser was thanked in particular, and Shaheen Gul, Enterprise Coordinator
- The Careers and Enterprise Company have received confirmation of funding from the DfE for academic year 2020-21. The announcement of the overall grant and its key strands will follow in April
- The DfE have undertaken progress reviews in the LEP areas in respect of Skills Advisory Panels. Feedback to Lancashire has been positive. Following guidance, the panel agreed to recommend to the LEP Board to amend the Lancashire Skills and Employment Advisory Panel Terms of Reference to explicitly reference employment programmes, as outlined in Appendix A
- The DfE have proposed providing a further £75,000 to support Mayoral Combined Authorities and LEPs to support analytic capacity in 2020/2 and publish an annual Local Skills Report. Further detailed guidance and conditions were awaited
- Social Value had been woven into LEP programmes, and a number of recommendations had now emerged which were to be approved by the Lancashire Leaders Group. An update would be brought to a future meeting once approved
- The Secretary of State for Education Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP had visited Lancashire with the Careers and Enterprise Company, to see the award winning Lancashire Careers Hub in action - visiting BAE with a group of pupils from Shuttleworth College, and had then visited Blackpool and the Fylde College. Members of the SAP Board who took part in the visit described that it was very successful and a useful platform for Lancashire to receive recognition from Government

- 75 organisations had now signed up to the skills pledge

Resolved: that the Lancashire Skills and Employment Advisory Panel

1. Note the update provided
2. Recommend to the LEP Board that the Lancashire Skills and Employment Advisory Panel Terms of Reference be amended to explicitly reference employment programmes, as at Appendix A

6. LEP Growth Strategy and Local Industrial Strategy

The panel received an update on the Growth Strategy, and a framework diagram showing the LEP vision, strategic actions, pillars of growth and key enablers was circulated.

Dean Langton, Lancashire Leaders Lead Chief Executive for Skills & Education, updated the meeting on devolution. It was noted that a Mayoral Combined Authority was needed to receive a significant devolution deal, and may necessarily require discussion around reorganisation of the council structure.

It was noted that Deloitte had been appointed to prepare the Greater Lancashire Plan. A scoping document would be produced and an independent economic panel would be established to provide independent guidance. This plan would form part of the devolution bid.

Stephen Jones from the Further Education Directorate Territorial Team for the Lancashire and Liverpool City Region updated the meeting on their work and in particular highlighted apprenticeship reforms and the apprenticeship service, T levels, and potential future developments. The presentation would be circulated to the panel. Stephen Jones informed the SAP Board members that at present it was too early to provide a future policy discussion and this would be better timed post the budget announcement, a future policy input would be provided at the next SAP Board.

In response to members questions regarding the update Stephen Jones agreed to explore what sub-contracting data can be shared and inform the Skills Hub team.

It was noted that the prospectus was available from the Institutes of Technology and the deadline for Register of Interests was Monday. There was an intention to submit a single application for Lancashire which Blackpool and the Fylde College were leading, and the Skills and Employment Advisory Panel and the LEP would convene a bid writing group to ensure the bid was aligned with the LIS and other strategic plans.

It was noted that the LIS was expected to be published in May/June. Proposals relating to Skills and Employment were around expanding the Career Hub model,

technical education, the skills escalator and digital skills.

Bev Robinson presented an overview of the Auger Review of post 18 education and funding, and outlined some key issues and gave an overview of the recommendations. The presentation would be circulated to the panel.

Amanda Melton presented an update on the College of the Future. A further report was expected in June. The presentation would be circulated to the panel.

Resolved: that the updates are noted.

7. ESIF Update

Sara Gaskell, Strategic Partnership Manager, gave a brief update on the ESIF projects and noted particularly that Lancashire had been successful in securing £6.180m from the National Reserve Fund.

Resolved: that the update be noted, and the presentation be circulated to the panel

8. National Retraining Scheme

The Chair informed the Panel that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda as the government position on the National Retraining Scheme was being reviewed.

Resolved: the Panel noted the updated position

9. Reporting to the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership

Resolved: that the following matters be brought to the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership Board:

1. The panel recommend to the LEP Board that the Lancashire Skills and Employment Advisory Panel Terms of Reference be amended to explicitly reference employment programmes as set out under Item 5 Appendix A
2. The Panel had a Private Sector vacancy following the resignation of Joanne Pickering

10. Any Other Business

It was noted that Joanne Pickering had tendered her resignation from the panel, and the panel wished to place on record their thanks for her hard work over the last seven years.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 8.00am on 03 June 2020 in the Albion Suite, County Hall, Preston