**AGENDA FOR EMPLOYERS’ SKILLS AND EDUCATION BOARD MEETING ON 16 FEBRUARY 2022**

**The main purpose of the meeting is for Members to:**

* Review key developments since their last meeting on 19 January (including the Levelling Up White Paper and the latest information on the Shared Prosperity Fund) and respond to any issues raised during meetings of key groups held since last Board meeting
* Explore with Alice Choi, Chair of the LEP’s Growth Board how the Employers’ Skills and Education Board and the Growth Board might work together more effectively
* Reflect and agree next steps following the refresh of the Skills Report and the Labour Market Assessment and provide a steer on developing a purpose pyramid for the Employers’ Skills and Education Board
* Receive an update on Local Growth Fund skills investments and identify any follow up action needed
* Review and comment on the Cheshire and Warrington proposal for a programme of skills bootcamps

**Note the key meetings that have taken place since 19 January**

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| 19 Jan  | Macclesfield Pledge Management Meeting |
| 19 Jan | LEP Board meeting |
| 25 Jan | Workforce Recovery Group meeting |
| 25 Jan | Digital Connectivity Board |
| 26 Jan | Cheshire and Warrington Careers Hub Conference |
| 27 Jan | Local Authorities’ Growth Director meeting – including discussion on skills bootcamps |
| 27 Jan | Crewe & Nantwich Pledge - Management Group |
| 28 Jan | Submitted refreshed Skills Report to the Department for Education |
| 1 Feb | Inclusive Levelling Up workshop  |
| 1 Feb | Mid Cheshire East Pledge Management Meeting |
| 1 Feb | Submitted final business case for Digital Skills Partnership Funding for 2022/2033 to DCMS |
| 2 Feb | Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Commission meeting |
| 7 Feb | Into Work Board meeting |
| 7 Feb | Accelerate Governing Board meeting |
| 8 Feb | Convention of the North  |
| 9 Feb | Careers and Enterprise Company quarterly review meeting |
| 9 Feb | DCMS Local Digital Skills Partnership Regional Coordinators Workshop |
| 14 Feb | Submit proposals for skills bootcamps to Department for Education |
| 16 Feb | Pledge Assurance, Delivery, Risk Officer Group Meeting |

**AGENDA**

**13.30 hrs Welcome, declarations of interest, introductions with members sharing information on any key developments since the last meeting** **on 19 February**

* Welcome Alice Choi – Chair of the LEP’s Growth Board
* List of attendees and apologies (Annex A)
* To note any additional declarations of interest.

**13.35 hrs Note of last meeting and outstanding actions** (5 minutes)

* To approve note of last meeting and review updated action list

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

* Members to note the list of meetings that have taken place since the last Employers’ Skills and Education Board meeting – this is an opportunity to raise any queries about the meetings
* **LEP Board** (Nicola Dunbar) 4 minutes - Members were sent the Chief Executive’s report to the January Board meeting
* **Accelerate** (Kurt Allman and Phil Atkinson) 4 minutes
* **Institute of Technology and Skills Accelerator** (Dhesi) 4 minutes
* **Work Force Development Group and Into Work Board** (Pat) 4 minutes

**14.00 hrs LEP’s Growth Board – (20 minutes)**

* Nicola Dunbar and Alice Choi, Chair of the LEP’s Growth Board to lead discussion on how theEmployers’ Skills and Education Board and the Growth Board might work together more effectively

**14.20 hrs Levelling Up White Paper, Shared Prosperity Fund and Refresh of Skills Report – Next Steps (25 minutes)**

* Members to note publication of Levelling Up White Paper (executive summary at

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_d ata/file/1052046/Executive\_Summary.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_d%09ata/file/1052046/Executive_Summary.pdf) and information on the Shared Prosperity Fund

* + Members to note refreshed Skills Report and associated papers on LEP website and updated Purpose Pyramid
	+ Members to consider next steps including the need to prioritise budgets (at present there is a

budget for data and labour market work (£75K), a budget for the Digital Skills Partnership

(£75K) and funding for the Jobs Portal (£30K)

* Members to give views specifically on the future of the Jobs Portal – is this a priority for funding?

**14.45 hrs** **Local Growth Fund Skills Investments (10 minutes)**

* Sarah Williams will provide an update on progress to date and suggest next steps

**14.55 hrs Skills Bootcamps (15 minutes)**

* Pat to provide an update on the Cheshire and Warrington proposal for a programme of skills bootcamps
* Members to provide a steer on next steps

**15.10 hrs Pledge and Career Hub (15 minutes)**

**15.25 hrs Any Other Business and Date of Next Meetings**

* **Date of next meetings** 16 March 2022
* Items for March agenda to include:
	+ a presentation from Hartree organised by Phil Atkinson
	+ update from Employers' Skills and Education Board Local Growth Fund Skills investment sponsors

**EMPLOYERS SKILLS AND EDUCATION BOARD MEETING ON 16 FEBRUARY 2022 Annex A**

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

* \*Nicola Dunbar (Deputy Chair)
* Kurt Allman (University of Chester)
* Tim Smith representing \*Eleanor Blackburn (Warrington Borough Council)
* \*Bill Carr (Carpe Diem)
* Paul Colman (South Cheshire Chamber)
* Dhesi (Cheshire College South and West – representing the training providers)
* \*Phil Atkinson (Daresbury)
* \*Clare Latham (Cheshire West and Chester)
* \*Lucy Liang (AUE Ltd)
* Maggie Chen
* Sarah Hopkinson (Engie)
* Nicola Johnson (Bentley Motors)
* Kevin Hutchinson (SISK)
* Cllr James Nicholas (Cheshire East)
* Kevin Hutchinson (SISK)
* Julia Teale Mid Cheshire Health Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
* Pat Jackson (LEP) \*With voting rights

**Apologies**

* \*Kath Mackay - Chair
* Kim Hardman (Astra Zeneca)

**Also attending**

* Ben Longworth (BAE Systems)
* Umu Timbo (Department for Education – working on skills bootcamps)
* Matthew Smith (Cheshire West and Chester)
* Sarah Williams, Grace Sheldon and Trevor Langston for specific agenda items

**Papers copied to**:

* Trevor Brocklebank (Deputy Chair of LEP)
* Martin Wood (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy)
* Jamie Zucker (DfE)
* Clare Cassidy (DfE)
* Mike McLouglin (DfE)
* Peter Skates (Cheshire East Council)
* Kirstie Simpson (University of Chester)
* Nicola Said (LEP)
* Joe Manning (LEP)
* Andy Devaney (LEP)
* Sarah Williams (LEP) and Trevor Langston (LEP)
* Andrew Bridge and Dave Rowlands (CITB)