

Draft Minutes of the Greater Lincolnshire Employment and Skills Advisory Panel

13th September 2021 Via MS Teams

	Actions
Attending:	
Panel members	
Simon Telfer Chair (ST);	
Andy Harsley (AH);	
Rachel Linstead (RL);	
Mandy Watson (MW);	
Melanie Weatherley (MW);	
Oliver Tasker (OT);	
Janet Meenaghan (JM);	
Jason Parnell (JP);	
Officers and guests:	
Amanda Bouttell (AB)	
Julie Lane (JL);	
Karen Linton (KL);	
Graham Metcalfe (GM)	
James Baty (JB)	
<u>LEP Executive</u>	
Clare Hughes (CH)	
Ruth Carver (RC)	
Sara Hobson (SH)	
Natalie Poole (NP)	
Laura Spittles (Note Taker)	
Apologies:	
Cllr P Bradwell	
James Pinchbeck	
lan Dickinson	
Sharon Green	
Nicola Ritchie	
<u>1.0 – Welcome</u>	
The chair welcomed the Panel to the meeting.	

2.0 Minutes and Actions from previous meeting

1. **Produce a written brief about the Institute of Technology** - not completed yet - the lead on the IoT at the University of Lincoln has left, so we're waiting for further information. Sara Hobson to check if any further information

CH

2. **Hold the date for the LEP Conference – 2nd November** - date now confirmed. Scaled back conference but also incorporating the launch of the UK Food Valley

SH

3. Check details of who is eligible for Wheels to Work scheme – Sara Hobson provided the team with a brief update. Access your Future is the contractor currently looking after this scheme. They have a fleet of 105 scooters available and are hoping to be able to provide more if they get funding. There are certain criteria that must be met before being able to join the scheme. Further information will be obtained.

4. Ask Growth Hub/Business Lincolnshire Business Advisers to tell us about the support they offer to businesses to take on Apprenticeships – have asked the question and hoping they can attend a future meeting – they weren't able to attend this one today.

СН

5. **Review schemes to support new drivers** –report provided for a discussion. The Panel discussed the latest Government announcement on this subject and how we can help this for the local area. It was also discussed that this isn't the only area of concern in the area at the minute and as a Panel we need to make sure that we also look at issues in other sectors.

3.0 - Progress of Action Plan

Clare Hughes talked through the Action Plan and the updates that had have happened. Priority one has now been completed by producing the Local Skills Report. Most of the work carried out over the past couple of months has been focussed on Priority 2......

We were successful in receiving funding to extend the current Enterprise Adviser Network to create a Career Hub. Natalie Poole provided more detail in Agenda Item 4. Priority 3 is about maximising the impact of national initiatives, an example being the driver shortages which is a topic currently being looked at.

Priority 5 was to update and publish the Apprenticeship Strategy and take forward the actions we've got on the agenda today. The first part of this has been completed. Priority 6 still needs to be completed and the Panel need to start considering how this can be taken forward over the next few months.

For the next quarterly meeting (being held in December) CH will provide an update about the commission of the Digital Skills work

CH

4.0 – Enterprise Adviser Network and Career Hub

Natalie Poole provided the Panel with a brief update regarding the Enterprise Adviser Network. This programme began in 2018 with 1 Enterprise Coordinator and has been building steadily since then.

Due to the funding the LEP have now received and the creation of the new Careers Hub we will be able to have 5 Enterprise Coordinators working with over 100 schools. The creation of a Careers Hub will enable the LEP to provide careers, activities, resources and carry out more practical tasks with schools and colleges.

A more in depth update will be provided at the next quarterly meeting in December.	NP
5.0 – Apprenticeship Strategy and Action Plan	
Clare Hughes sent round the Apprenticeship Strategy before the meeting for the Panel to read. The strategy document is basically a local campaign in terms of how we can add some additional promotion behind it. Roy Harper attended a previous meeting to talk through the actions that were included in this strategy. CH asked the Panel to consider whether this strategy is still a priority right now, given all the other issues that are going on. The plan was to create a Working Group to take this further.	
The panel discussed different areas of concern with apprenticeships and how these could be looked at. Some amends to be made to the action plan.	СН
6.0 – Employment and Skills Dashboard	
James Baty provided the panel with a brief update on the items that have been carried out on terms of creating an Economic Monitoring Dashboard. This dashboard was originally developed as a Covid Dashboard. The Dashboard will be helpful for the ESAP to see data and statistics for certain areas such as universal credit claimants, furlough information, job postings and much more. JB asked the Panel what they would like to see on this dashboard to help with the current actions that need to be looked at.	
The Panel discussed ideas such as more details on Apprenticeships, DWP information, NEET information, future jobs forecasting, qualification levels and sector specific vacancies.	
7.0 – DFE Consultation to simplify FE Funding and Accountability	
CH discussed the latest DFE Consultation. The government has launched a consultation on proposals to simplify funding and accountability systems in further education. As mentioned in the Skills for Jobs White Paper, the reforms aim to give colleges and providers more autonomy by relaxing ring-fences, introducing a multi-year funding regime, and holding them to account for the outcomes they deliver. The reforms to funding will only apply to adult streams and not 16 to 19 or apprenticeships. The accountability reforms will focus on outcomes and will take a strategic approach to support and intervention.	
8.0 – Any Other Business	
None	
Next Meeting - Wednesday 13 th October (Monthly Meeting)	