

Actions

Attending:

Panel members

Simon Telfer Chair (ST);
Rachel Linstead (RL);
Oliver Tasker (OT);
Cllr P Bradwell (PB);
Mandy Watson (MW);
Sharon Green (SG);
Jason Parnell (JP);
Melanie Weatherley (MW);
Andy Harsley (AH);

Specialist invitees:

Amanda Bouttell (AB)
Graham Metcalfe (GM)
Julie Lane (JL)
Karen Linton (KL)

Guests

James Baty (LEP Team)

LEP Executive

Clare Hughes (CH)
Ruth Carver (RC)
Sara Hobson (SH)
Natalie Poole (NP)
Laura Spittles (Note Taker)

Apologies:

Debbie Barnes, Jo Woodhouse, Ian Dickinson, Cllr Craig Leyland, James Pinchbeck, Nicola Ritchie, Bev Moxon, Janet Meenaghan

1.0 – Welcome

The Chair welcomed the meeting and also welcomed some new members to their first quarterly meeting.

<p><u>2.0 – Minutes of the last meeting</u></p> <p>There were two actions from previous meeting for CH. It was discussed that the White Paper might be easier to understand if it is broken down and made more simplified. CH is currently constructing a piece of work around this and will circulate this before the next monthly meeting.</p> <p>The ESAP had requested that a member of the Growth Hub could attend a future meeting to advise on their role in advising businesses on Apprenticeships. This will now happen later in the year.</p> <p>The LEP Team have released a tentative date (2nd November) for LEP Conference which will see the ESAP get involved with the Skills element rather than a separate skills conference. All panel members are requested to hold the date.</p>	<p>CH</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p><u>3.0 – Latest Employment Statistics</u></p> <p>James Baty presented the Panel with the latest statistics. In overview terms the impact of Covid-19 and also the EU Exit has created incredibly complex labour market conditions. A thorough clear picture of the impact isn't likely to be seen until at least next year. Government schemes have been successful in avoiding unemployment but businesses now appear to be struggling with recruitment.</p> <p>At the end of April there were approximately 44,000 people (9%) still on furlough which is still below the UK average. The sectors which have had the highest take up rate for furlough is Accommodation, Food Service, Arts and Recreation.</p>	
<p><u>4.0 – Current Recruitment Challenges</u></p> <p>The panel held a discussion around current recruitment challenges in relation to different sectors. The first point raised was around the shortage of HGV drivers and the knock on effect this has with deliveries to supermarkets etc. During 2020 no drivers were trained to drive HGV's due to the pandemic whereas there are usually 20,000 trained each year. An action from this discussion is to review schemes for driver training and report back to the panel.</p> <p>The discussion drifted to all types of driver training as there is a shortage overall. CH to look into the Wheels to Work scheme and report back to the panel.</p>	<p>CH</p> <p>CH</p>
<p><u>5.0 – LEP Priorities & LEP Team Structure</u></p> <p>The LEP Board agreed 4 new priorities for the year going forward. These are:</p> <p><u>Priority 1 – Game Changers</u> UK Food Valley Programme Humber Freeport Clean Growth Plan for the Greater Lincolnshire area Defence and Security Sector</p> <p><u>Priority 2 – Economic Growth</u> Includes - Production of an Economic Dashboard</p>	

<p>Continuation of support to the Growth Hub Acceleration of innovation in the Greater Lincolnshire area through Higher Education Partnerships</p> <p><u>Priority 3 – International Profile and Trade</u> Help businesses handle the changes brought by the new trade deal with the EU, promote Greater Lincolnshire on a global stage and take advantage of new global trading opportunities</p> <p><u>Priority 4 – Strengthening the LEP</u> Strengthening the LEP’s core team and resources Provide executive support to the LEP and to the Greater Lincolnshire Joint Committee Locally developing a model of meaningful strategic collaboration with partners so that there is a clear business voice for Greater Lincolnshire</p>	
<p><u>6.0 – Programmes & Projects & European Social Fund (ESF)</u></p> <p>CH provided the panel with an update on the Employment and Skills Projects and Programmes that are already running. CH is currently producing an e-booklet to explain the various schemes that are available.</p> <p><u>European Social Fund (ESF)</u> The ESF supports young people, adults and workers who are seeking a job. The fund provides training for less-skilled workers and job-seekers to improve their job prospects. The current 7 year allocation is coming to an end. There are 6 live projects in the Greater Lincolnshire area which are: Skills Support to the Unemployed Career Net Skills Support to the Workforce and Redundancy LEP Employment and Skills Community Grants Building Better Opportunities – Move Building Better Opportunities – Engagement into Learning</p> <p>CH asked the panel how much and how often they would like information on these sorts of running programmes. Panel to email CH with thoughts. CH will circulate details.</p> <p>The panel will possibly look at creating Task and Finish Group to look into the impact and targets of these programmes.</p>	
<p><u>7.0 – Skills Capital Investment Update</u></p> <p>SH provided the Panel with a Skills Capital Investment update. There were 4 projects awarded through the Skills Capital Investment Fund to help build Skills gaps in our area which are: Digital Skills Centre – New College Stamford EMAT Centre – Boston College Technical Business Skills and Innovation Hub – DN Colleges Digital and Professional Skills Centre – Lincoln College</p> <p>These projects have all been completed apart from the Digital and Professional Skills Centre at Lincoln College. This has been delayed slightly.</p>	

<p>From the recent Getting Building Fund that the LEP were successful in obtaining funding for a total of 6 Skills projects have been awarded funding. These are:</p> <p>GC Energy Centre – Grantham College The Care CoRE – Boston College IoT – University of Lincoln (Holbeach) Horncastle Skills Hub – Boston College Construction Expansion – New College Stamford ELITE – Grimsbu (TEC Partnership)</p> <p>SH will provide further updates on these projects at another meeting once more progress has been achieved.</p>	
<p><u>8.0 – A.O.B</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Next Quarterly meeting – 12th July 2021</u></p>	

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