

SCR SKILLS EXECUTIVE BOARD

24th MAY 2018

BROAD STREET WEST, SHEFFIELD

No.	Item	Action
1	<p><u>Present and Apologies</u></p> <p><u>Board Members</u> Cllr Chris Read (RMBC) - Chair Prof Chris Husbands (SCR LEP)</p> <p><u>In Attendance / Advisory Members</u> Tom Smith (BMBC) Krysia Wooffinden (SCR Exec Team) Dawn Shaw (SCC) Ellie Churchward (DMBC) Tim O'Connell (RMBC) Craig Tyler (JAGU)</p> <p>+ Greg Burke and Carol Castle for item 5</p> <p>Apologies received from Board members Laura Bennett (SCR LEP) and Jo Miller (DMBC)</p>	
2	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Prof Husbands declared a non-pecuniary interest in the matters to be discussed at item 5 (SY Futures), noting SHU's engagement with the initiative.</p>	
3	<p><u>Urgent Items / Announcements</u></p> <p>It was agreed dates for future SEB meetings should be determined whilst discussions around the wider SCR structure of meetings are being progressed.</p> <p>Action: Krysia / Craig to formulate future meeting dates</p>	KW / CT
4	<p><u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 12th April were agreed to be an accurate record.</p>	

5	<p><u>SY Futures</u></p> <p>A presentation was received setting out the context of the SY Futures initiative, noting this seeks to build on the government's proposal that universities should play a bigger part in the educational attainment of a 'place'.</p> <p>Work has therefore been undertaken by SHU to determine what specific actions should be progressed to help meet this ambition.</p> <p>It was noted there has historically been a big focus on educational attainment as a metric for educational accomplishment, but the SY Futures initiative recognises and seeks to address the issue in South Yorkshire where there is a comparative gap between levels of attainment and the extent to which this translates into vocational success.</p> <p>A programme of actions is therefore being worked up to look at related factors such as how to build social capital and the need for good careers advice.</p> <p>It was noted the SY Futures programme is broadly structured around 3 strands; preparation, performance and aspiration. Further information to explain these strands, and their associated expected outcomes was provided.</p> <p>The Board was also informed of the ambition to build a single regional data tool of publically available information to facilitate consistency between partners and help identify and quantify the issue to resolve.</p> <p>It was noted efforts are being made to engage all stakeholders and there is an ambition to enable to Mayor's ability to help influence government thinking in support of SY Futures and its ambition.</p> <p>Action: ALL to suggest any stakeholders who may not have been engaged.</p> <p>It was noted a recent presentation to the SCR LEP Board identified the LEP was well positioned to help enable the success of SY Futures by instilling a commitment to the Gatsby benchmarking principles, and encouraging more employers to get involved in delivery programmes.</p> <p>Consideration was given to whether the initiative could be expanded to cover a wider geography (i.e. the D2N2 area).</p>	ALL

	<p>However, the Board proposed it would be best to get the delivery model right locally before considering its expansion.</p> <p>A question was raised regarding what SY Futures could do to bolster opportunities for people leaving the care system. It was noted that as part of the stakeholder engagement work, people engaged with assisting care leavers have been involved with the design of the work programme and an 'ambition for young people leaving care in South Yorkshire' is being formulated.</p> <p>It was requested that the SY Futures initiative be given more detailed consideration at relevant officer groups.</p> <p>Action: Tom Smith to make arrangements</p>	TS
6	<p><u>Skills Capital Commissioning Plan</u></p> <p>A report was received to provide Board with an overview of the spend profile for Skills Capital as part of the Local Growth Fund programme and outline the commissioning process for 2018-2021.</p> <p>Members were reminded that as part of SCR LEP Local Growth Funding (LGF) deal with Government, £28m was nationally allocated to support Skills Capital projects in SCR and of which, £16.9m is still to be allocated.</p> <p>The paper therefore set out a proposal for the commissioning approach for the remaining £16.9m of Skills Capital to stimulate economic growth, support the ambition laid out in the SEP and drive positive disruption to the current skills system to ensure we meet the needs of both business and residents. The paper commented on the opportunities and challenges to address and provided suggestions of what successful schemes would need to achieve for any award of funding.</p> <p>It was noted the intention is to be in a position to invite strategic outline business cases over the summer.</p> <p>Members welcomed the proposal for a more strategic approach to managing the skills capital budget and noted support for the criteria by which business cases would be assessed. However, it was suggested the commissioning brief should provide clarity around how bids must demonstrate support for the overall skills strategy, and that not 'every box' needs to be ticked to be deemed an acceptable bid.</p> <p>Action: Krysia to work up the Commissioning Strategy mindful of the Board members' comments</p>	KW

	<p>It was noted that the IoT bid (should it be successful) would have to apply for funds from this pot in the same way as other applicants .</p> <p>It was questioned whether ‘supporting the introduction of T-levels’ should be a criteria for consideration as the government may be providing capital funding for this.</p> <p>Action: Krysia to investigate the government’s position on capital funding for T-levels</p> <p>It was suggested there may be the opportunity for schemes submitted to the SCR open call process (or skills related elements of them) to be redirected to seek potential funding from the skills capital budget.</p> <p>RESOLVED, that the Board endorses the plans for the Skills Capital prospectus to secure projects that spend in the 2018-2021 window and for a full Prospectus to be worked up following the key principles outlined</p>	KW
7	<p><u>Advisory Membership</u></p> <p>The Board recapped past discussions around the attendance of advisory members at meetings and how to make the most use of engagements.</p> <p>Members voiced general support for the notion of keeping the SEB standing members ‘executive, but recognised the important role provided the wider advisors, as lead representatives of their respective sectors.</p> <p>It was therefore decided to convene quarterly advisory forums with the wider advisory cohort (identified in the paper), and provide opportunities for to test out ideas specific strategic matters.</p> <p>Action: Krysia to work up a SEB Advisory Forum terms of reference and draft schedule of meetings and work with Craig to advise existing advisory members of this</p> <p>It was agreed the advisors should receive agenda packs and minutes of meeting for information as standard practice.</p>	KW/CT
8	<p><u>Delivery Plan Dashboard</u></p> <p>The updated dashboard was provided for information.</p>	

	<p>Members were asked to note reference to the health-led employment trial. It was noted the trial went live at the end of April and c134 referrals have so far been received.</p> <p>Additional verbal updates were provided and members were advised of when delivery plan actions were due to be presented to SEB as substantive agenda items.</p> <p>It was noted the delivery plan was also being mapped against the Mayor's manifesto policies in the interests of alignment but that members didn't want to see any wholesale change to the delivery plan.</p>	
9	<p><u>Skills Bank</u></p> <p>It was noted SEB, CA and LEP feedback received via presentations at recent meetings has been used to help the design of Skills Bank Phase 2. The prospectus is due to be issued early June with the expectation a contract to run the Skills Bank will be awarded later in the year and begin delivery in early 2019.</p> <p>Members were reminded the brokerage element has been separated from the Skills Bank and moved into a new Skills Hub (aligned with the SCR Growth Hub). It was noted a fuller report will be tabled at the next meeting to update the Board on this activity and how funding is being utilised.</p> <p>Regarding the Skills Bank Phase 1 underspend (c£4m), the Board was informed that contrary to previous communications from government (which indicated this would be rolled over) this now may not be the case. SCR officers are in negotiation to try and secure the roll over, but into phase 2 year 2 to avoid the risk of significant notional underspend in year 1.</p>	
10	<p><u>IoT</u></p> <p>The Board was informed feedback is still awaited on the (non-compliant) bid. It is currently unknown when this might be received.</p> <p>It was suggested the SCR's issues with trying to secure a FE anchor may have been problem for many bidders nationally.</p> <p>It was suggested that if the bid is unsuccessful, there should be subsequent dialogue regarding the SCR developing its own IoT initiative</p>	
11	<p><u>Forward Plan</u></p>	

	<p>Verbal update provided.</p> <p>It was agreed to have a fuller review of T-levels at the next meeting, a proposition around LEP investment for CEIAG and financial models for Skills Hub. There will also be a health-led trial update.</p>	
10	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>No further matters noted.</p>	
11	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>12th July, 2018, 9.00am at Broad Street West, Sheffield.</p>	