

SCR SKILLS EXECUTIVE BOARD

12th JULY 2018

BROAD STREET WEST, SHEFFFIELD

No		
	Item	Action
1	Present and Apologies	
	Board Members Cllr Chris Read (RMBC) - Chair Laura Bennett (SCR LEP) In Attendance / Advisory Members Tom Smith (BMBC) Dawn Hall (DMBC) Tim O'Connell (RMBC) Eve Waite (SCC) Krysia Wooffinden (SCR Exec Team) Helen George (SCR Exec Team) Andrew Fitzgerald (SCR Exec Team) Cassie Houlden (Ekosgen) Craig Tyler (JAGU) Apologies received from Prof. Sir Chris Husbands (SCR LEP), Jo Miller (DMBC) and Dawn Shaw (SCC)	
	Declarations of laterest	
2	<u>Declarations of Interest</u>	
	None.	
3	<u>Urgent Items / Announcements</u>	
	The Board was informed that both the Careers Hub bid and the IoT bid (as discussed at previous meetings) had been unsuccessful. However, it was noted the Doncaster UTC bid was successful. Laura informed members she had been asked to join the UTC Board to represent the SCR LEP.	
4	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	

	The minutes of the meeting held on 24 th May were agreed to be an accurate record.	
5	Matters Arising	
	The Board was provided with an update on the matters arising from the previous meeting.	
	It was noted the Mayor's review of SCR governance structures is due to conclude over the summer and the findings should be known by the next SEB meeting.	
	It was noted work continues to find a means to best engage the Board's wider family of advisors.	
6	Health-Led Employment Trial Update	
	A paper and presentation were received to provide an update on the initial stages of the Health Led Employment Trial.	
	The presentation reminded the Board of the background to the trial and the various referral routes now in place, and reiterated the challenges it has been conceived to try and address.	
	The Board was informed that in the first 67 days of delivery (57 days of full running), 690 referrals have been received and 4 customers had already been supported into employment.	
	Additional statistical information was provided.	
	It was noted that due to delays in mobilising the trial within the Work and Health Unit, the referral window had been reduced from 18 months to a more challenging 10 months, resulting in a higher monthly volume target. Options to have the referral window reextended are being considered.	
	The Board considered what more the Local Authorities could be doing to help generate referrals.	
	Action: Andrea to provide the LA reps with some additional material to promote the Trial via internal comms channels	AF
	RESOLVED, that the Board notes the content of the report	
7	LEP Strategic Priorities	
	Members were advised that following discussion at LEP Board (18th June) on the strategic direction of the LEP in relation to Skills, Employment and Education, it had been requested that recommendations from SEB be brought back to the LEP, on the	

topics of demand-led growth link to inward investment and business growth which support Industry 4.0, and the role of the LEP in careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) and what initiatives might be undertaken to deliver these priorities.

Consideration was therefore given to potential initiatives that might have the capability to address these points.

The Board was reminded there was 3 further years of assured skills capital funding, plus the opportunity to start to consider what could be achieved over a longer term, and the requirement to identify the needs of 'the workforce of the future'.

It was noted the officer group had given these matters similar detailed consideration and identified a number of lines of enquiry, including the need to effectively engage more with younger children as a means of developing a holistic, all-ages 'careers strategy' and the importance of employer engagement (and how the LEP may be best positioned to alleviate issues) for both larger businesses and SMEs. It has also been suggested there is an issue with getting schools to engage with all the skills and employment related opportunities they are presented (albeit acknowledging the pressure schools are under to deliver on so many fronts).

Other ideas discussed by the Board included an Employer / Schools Partnership Board, Gainshare investment funding of a careers hub and the re-appropriation of other funding streams.

The Board considered how the various ideas emerging might be best presented to the LEP Board.

Action: Krysia (with support from the LA reps) to collate a 'spectrum of potential initiatives, ranked by degree of radicalism, and present these to the next SEB meeting for consideration ahead of presentation to the LEP Board.

KW

8 HS2 Growth Strategy

The Board received a paper and accompanying presentation to provide an update on activity in relation to the production of the HS2 Growth Strategy in particular relation to the Skills and Employment section of that Strategy.

Members were reminded that skills and employment is seen as a key element of the Growth Strategy and advised the Strategy ensures that the expected skills and jobs profile is able to be met, that all residents are able to access opportunities and that businesses are supported and able to access supply chain opportunities.

Examples were provided for where HS2 will directly and indirectly benefit skills and employment opportunities in terms of the building, planning, design and construction of the line and rolling stock, maintenance and operations, commercial developments unlocked by HS2 and a general economic uplift with transformed travel to work opportunities.

It was noted that to inform this work, Ekosgen held an initial workshop on the 26th June for key skills and employment stakeholders which included schools, colleges, careers providers and universities. The workshop was to understand initially what their understanding of HS2 was, what it means for the region, what opportunities it provides and challenges in accessing those opportunities. It also started to form what asks back to Government may be in terms of supporting the realisation of the full potential offered through HS2.

The Board was provided with the feedback and findings of the workshop, at which it was noted, stakeholders were broadly supportive of the proposed 'asks'.

It was acknowledged it is difficult to wholly predict the shape of the 'workforce of the future' and therefore somewhat difficult to map skills and employment supply against potential demand.

The Board discussed the role the High Speed Rail College might take it helping the SCR achieve its HS2-related skills and employment potential. Members cited issues around current take up and the lack of co-ordination pathways for learners between this and other FE institutions. It was requested this matter be addressed by officers (and Ekosgen) as part of their work on the HS2 Growth Strategy.

Action: Krysia / Cassie to look at whether the Growth Strategy might be a catalyst to improve and join up FE systems and pathways

KW/ CH

9 Overview of T-Levels

As per the request made at the previous meeting, a paper was received to update the Board on the introduction of T-levels and how these are supporting key elements of the Skills, Employment & Education delivery plan.

The Board discussed the need to be mindful of the expectations of employers in relation to T-Levels and commented on other potential issues and complexities that might be experienced going forward.

It was acknowledged it is currently difficult to establish what the demand for the new qualifications might be.

10 Delivery Plan Dashboard

	The Board was provided with an update in relation to the current situation regarding the various Delivery Plan undertakings. It was noted the presentation of a more detailed update on the Delivery Plan is scheduled to be received at the next meeting.	
11	Forward Plan	
	It was noted the next meeting will focus on an update on Skills	
	Bank/Skills Hub and receive the 'spectrum of priorities' for the	
	potential strategic direction of the LEP in relation to Skills,	
	Employment and Education.	
12	Any Other Business	
	7 THY STITUTE BUSINESS	
	No further matters noted.	
11	Date of Next Meeting	
	23 rd August, 2018, 10.00am at Broad Street West, Sheffield.	