

Hull and East Yorkshire LEP

Employment & Skills Board

Monday 31st October 2022

Paper C – Employment & Skills Manager's Report

1. Summary

- 1.1. This paper summarises the progress made by the HEY LEP Employment & Skills team since the last meeting held on 12th September 2022.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The board notes the progress made by the Employment & Skills team.

3. Report

3.1. HEY LEP Skills Network

- 3.1.1. The LEP's recruitment of a Chair and Vice Chair has concluded. The LEP is delighted to announce the appointment of David Gent, CEO, Active Humber (and HEY LEP Employment & Skills Board member) as Chair and Lynette Leith, Vice Principal Curriculum, Hull College as the Vice Chair.
- 3.1.2. The LEP would like to thank all candidates nominated for the roles and expressing their interest in supporting the group.
- 3.1.3. The Network held its second meeting on Monday 17th October at the MKM Stadium. Delegates heard from the Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce on Local Skills Improvement Plans and participated in a round table discussion contributing to the development of the plan. Delegates also heard from the Humber Industrial Cluster Plan team on their progress. The next meeting of the Network is scheduled for Tuesday 7th February 2023.

3.2. Career Aspirations Group

- 3.2.1. The Career Aspirations Group met on the 19th October. The group is planning CPD event for employability professionals which will take place on 8th February 2023 at the Guildhall in Hull. The subject of which will be "professional services" and will cover legal and financial careers. Video soundbites will be produced and will be publicly available to help promote the sector and employment opportunities.

3.3. Apprenticeship & Technical Education Group

- 3.3.1. The Apprenticeship & Technical Education group met on 13th October. The group received updates on local apprenticeship data and is helping to inform the SAP commissioned apprenticeship research.

3.4. Talent Forum

- 3.4.1. The first Talent Forum meeting was scheduled for 20th October but unfortunately had to be rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances. A new date is to be agreed.

3.5. The Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership

- 3.5.1. The Local Digital Skills Partnership steering group met on 17th October. Steering group members heard from Paula Gouldthorpe who has recently taken over as Development Manager for the South Yorkshire, East Yorkshire and The Humber area of the Federation of Small Businesses. Paula gave a detailed presentation on the anticipated impact of LSIPs on the small business community, with a particular emphasis on meeting skills needs within digital & tech and green sector based companies. As a new steering group member, Paula agreed to keep the Humber LDSP updated on future developments and feedback any insights or intelligence from FSB members.
- 3.5.2. Steering group members also heard from Andrew Hewitt, HEY LEP's Senior Policy and Business Advisor, regarding a recent EoI submission by the LEP for funding under the [Create Growth Programme](#) (DCMS). The EoI resulted in approval of a small amount of seed funding towards initial sector research which supported the creation of a "Prospects for Creative Growth" research report, produced by [KADA Research](#). Andrew Hewitt agreed to keep steering group members updated on further progress regarding the bid process.
- 3.5.3. Media content has been completed which is intended for inclusion in the Humber LDSP's Tech Talks project. Six videos were created at a recent WiME event and will be used to inspire young people into digital and tech careers. A further video, created by local media marketing company [Squideo](#), has been completed and will also form part of the Humber LDSP [Tech Talks video gallery](#).
- 3.5.4. Development work continues regarding the commissioning of an update of the [Humber Digital Skills Analysis](#) (2020) and the creation of a Humber LDSP digital strategy, in partnership with Humber LDSP members, relevant regional stakeholders and the HEY LEP.

3.6. Skills Advisory Panel Funding 2022-23

- 3.6.1. The Employment & Skills team has begun developing the commission briefs for SAP funded research for the 2022-23 financial year following the endorsement of the Employment & Skills Board at its last meeting.

3.6.2. The briefs cover:

- Updating of the Local Skills Report Core Indicators (N.B. there is no requirement to refresh the Local Skills Report this year)
- Refresh of the Skills Dashboard
- Adult Education Budget
- Apprenticeships
- Digital Skills Analysis (and Digital Framework)
- Employer survey to gather greater insight into in-demand skills
- Refresh of the Economic Impact Analysis

3.7. Local Skills Improvement Plans

3.7.1 The full guidance can be accessed here: [Statutory guidance for the development of a Local Skills Improvement Plan \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1141442/statutory-guidance-for-the-development-of-a-local-skills-improvement-plan.pdf)

3.7.2 As agreed by the Board at its previous meeting, the LSIP Manager is now a permanent member of the Employment & Skills Board and will deliver the LSIP updates through a standing agenda item.

3.8. The Careers & Enterprise Company (HEY Careers Hub)

3.8.1. During this term to date, the HEY Careers Hub will support 36 Careers Hub schools and colleges with their Compass self-evaluations. The data obtained from these assessments will be available shortly to share with schools.

3.8.2. A Grant Offer letter has been received by the LEP from the Careers and Enterprise Company to confirm funding for the academic year 2023-24. This letter offers the financial contribution from the CEC to expand the Careers Hub to include all 51 schools in the HEY region.

3.8.3 The HEY LEP has secured match funding from a combination of local authorities and the Humber Outreach Programme to continue the current HEY Careers Hub model for the 2023-24 academic year which includes 36 schools. In order to maximise the CEC funding offer and expand the Careers Hub to include all 51 schools in the region, an additional match funding contribution of circa £26k is still required. Stakeholders have been invited to work with the Careers Hub to look at finding the local partnership contributions needed for the 2023-24 academic year. The LEP and Careers Hub team continue to explore additional external funding sources to support Hub sustainability and expansion.

3.9 Quality in Careers Standard

- 3.9.1 Schools and colleges continue to work towards the Quality in Careers Standard. The panel meets regularly to review assessments.

3.10 Workforce Development

- 3.10.1 The Workforce Development Business Advisor (WDBA) continues to establish links with SMEs and training providers throughout the Hull and East Yorkshire region. The WDBA has also attended a number of local partnership network and working group meetings. These have provided opportunities to access large company representatives to promote the wider benefit of the apprenticeship, T Level, internship and other industry placement offers as an opportunity to bridge existing recruitment and skills shortages.
- 3.10.2 The WDBA is pleased to announce that as a result of the above discussions on levy transfer and the importance of the redistribution of unspent levy funds to local SMEs through the levy transfer scheme, has again yielded positive results. A meeting has been arranged with East Yorkshire based company, Bee Health, who are keen to meet with view to discussing opportunities for the redistribution of their unspent levy funds.
- 3.10.3 We also are pleased to announce that following agreement with Groupe Atlantic, the HEY LEP is now providing a triage service for all third-party levy transfer 'expressions of interests' on their behalf. The WDBA has been able to successfully facilitate levy transfer connections between two local digital sector companies, Baltic Training and Groupe Atlantic. In addition, there are also a further three requests for levy transfer support from within the manufacturing sector.
- 3.10.4 The WDBA continues to work closely with the HEY Growth Hub advisers, following up on referrals received. The WDBA is currently supporting a company to find alternative apprenticeship training provision following the withdrawal of the original provider.

3.11 Skills Bootcamps 2022-2023

- 3.11.1 DfE have asked MCAs/LAs for proposals by November for Wave 4 2023-2024 which HCC are currently exploring with existing Skills Bootcamp providers.
- 3.11.2 The DfE have not approached the LEP for new Wave 4 (2023-24) proposals and instead have approached Hull City Council for proposals which are required by 7th November 2022.

3.12 Multiply

- 3.12.1 The Multiply programme aims to reach adults over the next three years to improve functional numeracy skills for those without a Level 2 qualification or equivalent in Maths.
- 3.12.2 Funding has been allocated to Local Authorities to deliver programmes that will boost people's ability to use maths in their daily life, at home and work. The programme is for people aged 19+ without a Level 2 or equivalent in Maths.
- 3.12.3 Hull City Council have procured provision with local providers who intend to start delivery in November 2022. East Riding of Yorkshire Council are delivering some of the Multiply programmes and are in the process of procuring other elements.

3.13 UK Shared Prosperity Fund Update October 2022

- 3.13.1 Hull City Council and East Riding of Yorkshire both submitted their UKSPF Investment Plans to Government ahead of the 1st August deadline. As of w/c 17th October neither Local Authority had received feedback from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities on their proposed Investment Plans. In order to optimise notionally allocated funding both Local Authorities are considering starting programme delivery at risk.
- 3.13.2 As such both Local Authorities are seeking to open full business case process to received detailed submissions for projects which can deliver against the UK SPF priorities outlined in the Investment Plan. Delivery will be a combination of in-house activity, commissioned work, and grant awards. More details will be published by both local authorities in the coming weeks. Hull City Council's Partnership Board communicated a desire to see a two-phase approach to delivery of commissioned work and grant award with phase 1 opening for full business cases in October/November for delivery in the 2022-23 financial year, and a second phase opening in January for 2023-24 & 2024-25 projects. All profiled spend and outputs will be required to spend within that specific financial year.
- 3.13.3 Both Local Authorities are currently working to ensure the governance for these programmes and their Partnership Boards are in place and fit for purpose.
- 3.13.4 East Riding have been allocated £1.8 million funding over two years in the Rural England Prosperity Fund. This fund is a rural top up to UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and succeeds EU funding from LEADER and the Growth Programme which were part of the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE). This fund is being

developed to supports activities that help to address the particular challenges rural communities face. The project ideas form is now live:

<https://eastridingofyorkshirecouncil.flexigrant.com/startapplication.aspx?id=10647>

3.13.5 The deadline for project idea forms is 11:59 on 31st October 2022.

3.14 Consultation responses

3.14.1 The Employment & Skills team has responded to two national consultations during this reporting period:

- Improving the data HMRC collects from its customers
- LEP Network response to NAO report on Developing Workforce Skills for a Stronger Economy

3.15 Wider stakeholder engagement for the reporting period

3.15.1 Since the previous meeting of the Employment & Skills Board, the Employment & Skills team have met with several key stakeholders to introduce the work of the HEY LEP and explore areas of potential collaboration around employment and skills related aims and objectives. These include:

- Federation of Small Businesses
- Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce (SDF employer engagement & LSIP ERB)
- Department for Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS)
- CIPD Regional & National team
- Humber Industrial Cluster Plan
- National LEP Network
- Greater Lincolnshire LEP
- York & North Yorkshire LEP
- Careers & Enterprise Company
- BAE Systems
- Harbour Energy
- Careers & Enterprise Company
- Youth Futures
- Department for Education
- Unit for Future Skills
- Humber Outreach Programme