

5.	2015/16 Adult Skills budgets and update on risk discussion	
	<p>MG spoke to the attached paper. It was noted that funding allocation letters already issued would stand for first 12-months irrespective of outcome of forthcoming General Election. A broad discussion followed regarding funding reductions and the impact on both state and independent training and FE providers.</p> <p>The following key points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEP Group to position itself to put forward proposal to new Government (rationalisation, devolution, deals etc) • Identify key qualifications for the area based on employers need ie construction skills • DWP/JCP sector based work academies being cut; can ASB be used to fund working with the unemployed? <p>PT advised that a positioning paper for new Ministers, to include headline data and a snapshot of situation, should be collated. It should set out what is known to work well and is being impacted upon, what relatively small tweaks could be made to current policy that would make a difference and what the skills provision looks like versus what skills are needed by sectors in the region. Information to facilitate this should be emailed to JE. The following actions were offered and agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DWP and SCC to provide relevant skills data • SFA to provide DataCube access • All parties to provide anecdotal evidence • PCC to provide modelling data • FE to discuss what support/data access available • Present proposal as an Agenda item at next LEP Board meeting 	<p>SK/JA MG/TS ALL EC CE/KD JE/KD</p>
6.	Construction Skills Project	
	<p>RB/DP provided an update on status of documentation and launch to industry. Final documents will be circulated to LEP People Group and uploaded onto LEP website. RB and DP were praised for the high quality of this important piece of work by MS, his comments were supported by the Group.</p>	<p>RB/DP</p>
7.	EUSIF – progress on opt in and calls – timeframe for implementation	
	<p>KD talked to the circulated matrix and supporting paper to update the Group on progress. It was noted that the simplified matrix was a great deal easier to use and understand. The following actions were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of supporting evidence for industries to be made available on website • Opinions regarding appropriateness of spread/allocation of money to KD asap • Final sense check with Emma Buchman <p>Further discussion followed regarding content and understanding of matrix and activity placement. KD outlined the context of change regarding the opt ins DWP, BIG and SFA can and cannot now support. EC read out comments previously circulated to the Group received from the CVS.</p> <p>KD explained that BIG BBO is not currently available for the full period of EU funding; the reason why match has been put into one call, adding that strategic decisions would ensure VFM.</p> <p>CS outlined BIG’s decision to have a break in the programme. Having a second round will ensure that the positioning of BIG’s offering will remain on target in terms of outcome performance and end beneficiaries.</p> <p>MG outlined the FSA funding mechanism and supported KDs comments that it is better to be in and amend/tweak later if necessary. It was noted that changes were not without limits and that SFA registered partners could sub-contract/partner with those not on the register.</p>	<p>ALL KD</p>

	<p>The Group acknowledged that the timescale for the HotSW call would add pressure to the delivery of the Work Force Progression development project.</p> <p>It was noted that ESIF committees', established by DCLG, will be responsible for the appraisal of responses to calls; providing the necessary check and balance against strategic priorities.</p> <p>Consideration was given to People Group being represented here. However, as opt in partners already sit on the ESIF committee, it was agreed that further representation was not necessary.</p> <p>Action - KD requested that members provide feedback on the templates issued by 9/5/15</p>	ALL
8.	AOB	
	<p>SK expressed concern regarding the sharing of information by the Group. It was agreed that a protocol should be established. It was noted that the matrix could be shared, with caveats, ahead of the protocol being put in place. SK offered to share DWP's Ethical Walls information.</p> <p>Action – use DWP templates to establish a sharing protocol for LEP People Group for the next meeting.</p> <p>CE put forward that any new government would invariably issue a skills strategy and suggested that the Group give some thought to this ahead of the next meeting.</p> <p>Action – Agenda item for next meeting - Skill Strategy briefing for new MPs</p> <p>Action – suggestions for briefing for discussion at next meeting</p>	<p>PT/TS</p> <p>TS</p> <p>ALL</p>
9.	Next meeting date – Tuesday 16th June 2015 – 1:30pm at Cullompton Community Centre	