

Heart of the South West Skills Advisory Panel

Monday 11th December 2023, 10:00 – 12:00

Attendees:

- Vince Flower (Chair)
- Andy Dean
- Arabella Moore
- Charlotte Collyer
- David Ralph
- Gabrielle Climie
- Helen Hart
- Helen Higgs
- John Laramy
- John Revill
- Julie Hawker
- Laurence Frewin
- Lee Tozer
- Lisa Tuck
- Mary Payne
- Nicholas Child
- Paul Blackmore
- Richard Brine
- Rod Davis
- Sarah Newham
- Sharron Robbie
- Tina Brinkworth
- Hannah Keyte (Notes)

Apologies:

- Alex Coull
- Andy Berry
- Bill Blythe
- Carl Wyard
- Chris Evans
- Connor Connelly
- Debbie Stafford
- Guy Hazlehurst
- Isaac Young
- Jackie Grubb
- Jamie Evans
- Joanne Caine
- Katy Hockings
- Keri Denton
- Khristine Norton
- Mark Shepherd
- Mel Roberts
- Michael Green
- Mike Matthews
- Nora Corkery
- Paul Turner
- Phill Adams
- Sean Mackney
- Stuart Elford
- Suzanne Bond
- Tony Skeel
- Tony George
- Victoria Hatfield

Welcome, Housekeeping and any new Declarations

- Vince Flower welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Julie Hawker declared Cosmic have direct interest in the Digital Skills Item.

Minutes of Last Meeting

- The Board were content with the minutes from the previous meeting and all actions completed.

LSIP Update – Helen Hart

- Helen Hart provided an update on the DfE Celebration Event which Robert Halfon and Sir Michael Barber were keynote speakers. There were two asks from Robert Halfon;
 - To provide examples of where you may be struggling to engage SMEs to take on apprentices due to the bureaucracy in recruiting. Please send any examples through to Helen Hart.
 - A focus for Robert will be to reduce the time for new qualifications to be accredited. Ask to provide examples of where we are developing new qualifications, but they become out of date/ no longer relevant by the time accredited.
- Helen Hart will be retiring in March 2024 and therefore the Devon and Plymouth Chamber will be recruiting. Helen Hart will share the JD. Vince Flower, on behalf of the SAP, thanked Helen Hart for all her work on the LSIP.
- **ACTION: Sharron Robbie and Helen Hart** to have a discussion around apprenticeships. Sharron Robbie can provide a copy of the report from DTPN prepared for the Careers Hub focusing on apprenticeship drop out figures.
- LSIF - Tina Brinkworth would like to understand the percentage split for Independent Training Providers (ITPs) and Colleges. **ACTION: Tina Brinkworth, Helen Hart and Bill Blythe** to pick up offline and feedback through SAP. David Ralph requested milestones around funding and spend and what this looks like.
- David Ralph requested an organigram to understand how ERBs, LSIF etc fit together.

Multiply Programme – Mirela Doana

- Mirela Doana updated on where we are currently with the Multiply Programme (April 2022 to March 2025).
- An overview was given for the following projects: Maths 4 Life – Young Devon, Virtual Reality Maths – Immersion in The Community, Everybody Counts: Access and Inclusion – Soundart Radio, Numeracy Café – Petroc College, CTSW Skills Limited – Numeric Construction Skills Project and HeadOn – Tackling the cost-of-living crisis Project Cosmic.
- Outputs include having supported 375 substantive learners with 475 enrolments in substantive learning.

Digital Skills Update – Debra Steele

- Raising Digital Engagement – supports young people aged 11 to 14. It's delivering digital activities to 100 schools; 3000 students to inspire the digital careers aspirations of students.
- Digital Skills Series supports SME Senior Leaders and has delivered a total of 591 training hours to date and is due to finish one of the last cohorts before Christmas. Will start again in the new year with the 32-hour intensive offer which will be delivered to further cohorts.
- Core Sector Digital Training - working within core sectors, providing training opportunities for individuals and employees of SMEs. Fully contracted through procurement and hoping to launch in January 2024.

Skills Bootcamp Update – Kevin Booker

- Train4Tomorrow programme is being delivered in Devon and Cornwall and targets adults aged 19+. This is free for individuals with some contribution from employers.
- Wave 3 supported 455 learners and Wave 4 supported 703 learners.
- 24 EOIs received for Wave 5, covering 100+ bootcamps and a bid was submitted in September. Pending DfE notification imminently and seeking to launch early January 2024.
- Required to allocate 70% of funds to national priorities and 30% to local priorities. **ACTION: Kevin Booker** to share the list of national and local priorities with Helen Higgs.
- There is also a national call so if an employer who has a national footprint wishes to put forward a Skills Bootcamp covering their workforce need, they can express interest. Local providers are also able to bid into national delivery.

Employment & Skills Review – New format (Sway) – Gabrielle Climie

- New format has been adopted using Sway and seeking feedback on this and any gaps in data.
- Tina Brinkworth highlighted this does not capture those on supported internships and supported apprenticeships. **ACTION: Gabrielle Climie** to link in with Tina Brinkworth and Sharron Robbie to discuss further.
- The SAP Board were happy to continue to receive this document via Sway.

Roundtable of Members – All

- Andy Dean – As part of Civic University Agreement, working closely with DCC and developing action plans for each of the missions. Will be seeking focused support as part of the delivery groups (3 per year) so will be reaching out to some of you in due course.
- Lee Tozer – [Autumn Statement](#) provided key headlines but pending the detail (once available, Lee will share with the Board). If there are any questions, please contact Lee or Sarah Newham.
- Charlotte Collyer updated on an awareness campaign around T Levels specifically within engineering and advanced manufacturing. Region wide proposal has been made. Seeking to

attend an event on 1st February and run an online roundtable to include Devon, Cornwall and Somerset.

- Richard Brine (Interim Director of Operations at South West Institute of Technology) focused on developing and delivering higher technical education (Level 4+). Will provide an update on Strategic Plan at the next SAP Board.
- Sharron Robbie working with Careers and Enterprise Company and Devon, Plymouth and Torbay Careers Hub on a pilot to encourage ITPs to use the Encompass Tool. This is used for self-assessments in terms of Gatsby Benchmark. Careers Hub identified a lot of young people in Year 10 are not getting access to meaningful work experience and therefore work is taking place around this. Pending an update on the tweaking of Apprenticeship Levy in terms of Levels 6 and 7.

Close

- The next SAP Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday 21st March 2024, 10:00 – 12:00