

## **Employment and Skills Board 29 June 2021**

### **Attendees:**

#### **Board Members**

- Al Kingsley (Chairman) - Group Managing Director - NetSupport
- Pat Carrington - Executive Principal Assistant Director Skills and Employment, City College Peterborough, Cambridgeshire County Council Peterborough City Council
- Jane Paterson-Todd - Chief Executive - Cambridge Ahead
- Stuart Searle - Managing Director - First Mailing Co.
- Julia Nix - District Manager - Department for Work & Pensions (DWP/ JCP)
- Jane Thomas - Regional Lead, East of England - BT Group Plc
- Dan Edwards - General Manager of Marshall Centre, Marshalls
- Martin Lawrence – Commercial Director - Stainless Metalcraft
- Mark Robinson - Principal and CEO - Cambridge Regional College
- Rose Shisler - Stakeholder Engagement Programme Lead - Anglian Water
- Tony Jones - Chief Executive - One Nucleus
- Joe Crossley - Chief Executive - Qube Learning Ltd.
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#### **CPCA Officers**

- John T Hill - Director Business and Skills
- Alan Downton - Interim Programme Manager
- Felicity Miller - SRO Workforce Skills
- Parminder Singh Garcha - SRO AEB
- Amos Akinwale - AEB Programme Officer
- Laura Guymer - Interim Programme Manager -
- Janet Warren Commissioner – Adult Education
- Edward Coleman -Business and Market Engagement Officer

#### **CCC Officers**

- Tamar Oviatt-Ham - Democratic Services Officer - Cambridgeshire County Council
- Monika Balazs – Democratic Services Assistant – Cambridgeshire County Council
- Rachel Hallam - Senior Analyst – Research - Cambridgeshire County Council

## **Part 1 – Governance Items**

### **55. Welcome, Apologies and Introductions**

Apologies received from:

- Sharon Keogh - Head of Community Action - Kingsgate Community Church, Peterborough

- Bob Ensich - Area Director - Morgan Sindall

**56. Minutes and Action log**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2021 were agreed for accuracy. The Action Log was noted.

**57. Work Programme (Forward Agenda Plan)**

The work programme was noted.

**Part 2 – Delivery**

**58. University of Peterborough Update**

Board Members received a [presentation](#) on the progress of the University of Peterborough Programme.

The presentation provided:

- An overview of the project.
- An introduction to the first 2 phases of the project and timelines of their delivery.
- Summary of the projected 10-year Economic Impacts of all three phases.
- Background to the reasons why a further teaching building was added to the plans as well as some information on the commercial viability.

The Board noted the update and the Chair advised that the progress of the building works was on schedule.

**59. The Art of the Possible: Devolved Adult Education in the Region**

Board Members received a [presentation](#) provided an overview of the Devolved Adult Education in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough region.

During discussion Board Members:

- Commented that digital education should be a key element of delivering adult education and this would increase capacity.
- Highlighted that post- 19 education funding was not only coming from the CPCA, but from other funding sources and suggested that these options should be made easily accessible to employers.
- Suggested that any training should be industry lead to increase employability and suitability for the future.

The Board was advised by the SRO Workforce Skills, that a successful bid for £18m funding was secured to hold digital bootcamps and these would be run in the next 9 months. The Board requested further information regarding the

digital bootcamps. The presentation would be distributed to Board Members to provide feedback. Action required

#### **60. Business Growth Service**

The Interim Programme Manager advised the Board that the programme known as Business Growth Service were transformed into Growth Works and that was now in the public domain. The programme would run from the 1st of June until 31st December 2023 with an overall value of £25m. The next stage of Growth Works would aim to capture the involvement of suitable businesses and would involve discussions on how to engage the Board and other stakeholders in shaping the Skills Agenda. The development of a portal providing live data on how KPIs were progressing in different workstreams was also confirmed, and completion would be expected by September 2021. The Board Members also received a short video introducing the Growth Works Company.

The video:

- Provided information on the development of the Local Economic Recovery Strategy and introduced its primary aims.
- Introduced Growth Works as one of the key interventions of the Strategy, which would provide a transformation business growth and rebound service.
- Gave an overview of the five service lines of Growth Works
- Provided information on the shared online platform of Growth Works and Skills.

In discussion Board Members:

- Requested a narrative to be provided with the video detailing specific aspects that would need to be focused on to attain feedback from the wider network.
- Agreed the distribution of the video to the wider network.

The Interim Programme Manager advised that in addition to the video, separate slides explaining each service line of Growth Works would be shared with the Board. Action required.

### **Part 3 – Strategy**

#### **61. Briefing on the White Paper and Implications for the Employment and Skills Board**

The Board received a presentation that gave an overview of the White Paper an implication for the Board. During discussion Board Members:

- Commented that the right level of resources should be provided to schools and the funding of Skills Leads would be key in order to achieve recovery.
- Career education in schools would need to be reviewed.
- Agreed that another key element would be to provide the right training at the right time, working closely together with stakeholders and local enterprises to find the balance.
- Noted that representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, Public Health, Anglia Ruskin University, the University of Cambridge, and the Federation of Small Businesses were already involved in the discussions and would be represented on the Board going forwards.
- Suggested that representatives from more sectors should be involved, such as Life Sciences and Cambridge Angels.

## **62. Development of the Skills Strategy**

Board Members received a [presentation](#) on the development and implementation of the Employment Skills Strategy.

The presentation provided:

- An overview of the process of the development of the Employment and Skills Strategy
- Objectives of the Development and Skills Strategy,
- A SWOT analysis
- Timescales

It was discussed that:

- An open call for evidence on how to shape skills development would be sent to stakeholders with defined questions to form the basis of the Employment and Skills Strategy.
- LMI data would be included alongside the Consultation/ Engagement session evidence so responses can be based on this evidence.
- A copy of the documents would be sent to Board Members for comments and suggestions alongside with an extract of the participant list.
- The utility and digital sectors should be included in the consultation as well.

## **Part 4 – Date of Next Meeting and AOB**

### **63. AOB**

The next meeting of the Employment and Skills Board was confirmed as 19th October 2021.