

---

**Report to:** Business, Innovation and Growth Panel

**Date:** 24 May 2018

**Subject:** **Review of the Employment and Skills Plan**

---

**Director(s):** Liz Hunter, Interim Director of Policy and Strategy

**Author(s):** Jonathan Skinner, Christian Denison

---

## **1 Purpose of this report**

Panel members will receive a verbal update on the outcomes of an Employment and Skills Panel workshop on 21 May, which some BIG Panel members may have attended. This is an important area of cross-panel working.

## **2 Information**

### Employment and skills

- 2.1 As part of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's ambition to develop a broader and more radical vision for employment and skills, including stepping back and looking afresh at the skills system to ensure the city region has the right skills for the future, the Employment and Skills Plan is being refreshed. The starting point for this work is a workshop with Employment and Skills Panel (ESP) members that will take place on the 21 May. The workshop is based on an open approach around the following issues related to the LEP Board challenges identified in September 2017 and the expanded policy framework (agreed at the LEP Board):

1. Boosting productivity and innovation
2. Tackling stubborn deprivation and improving living standards (Inclusive Growth angle)
3. External environment – Brexit / Automation

2.2 Attendees will be asked to discuss the following open questions, in relation to the above challenges, from which key priorities/vision can be drawn and practical next step actions/policy:

- What opportunities do these challenges present for employment and skills?
- What should our vision/key priorities be in these areas?
- How can the skills system address these challenges, what changes are needed?
- What practical actions can the Employment and Skills Panel undertake here?

2.3 BIG Panel members will receive a verbal update on the workshop outputs, and how this links to further work taking place around labour market policy and intelligence.

### **3 Financial Implications**

3.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

### **4 Legal Implications**

4.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

### **5 Staffing Implications**

5.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

### **6 External Consultees**

6.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

### **7 Recommendations**

7.1 Panel members are asked to note the verbal update on the outcomes of an Employment and Skills Panel workshop on 21 May and identify any cross-cutting themes / ideas of relevance to the work of the BIG Panel.

### **8 Background Documents**

8.1 None

### **9 Appendices**