
Report to: Employment and Skills Panel

Date: 1 June 2018

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

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1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To provide context to Panel Members on the outcomes of an Employment and Skills Panel workshop to review the Employment and Skills Plan on 21 May. A verbal update will be provided, including from members who attended.

2 Information

- 2.1 As part of the 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 was the workshop with Employment and Skills Panel (ESP) members which took place on the 21 May. The workshop was 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)
3. External environment – Brexit / Automation

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

- 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?

Next Steps

2.3 The next stages of development post workshop are:

- Develop the key messages/vision identified in the workshop.
- Identify what is possible in terms of practical actions and policy.
- Develop a series of policy statements highlighting proposed actions/policy, what our approach is, supported by evidence.
- Provide updates to the LEP and Combined Authority Boards.
- Test messages with business groups, skills officers, skills network, Headteachers reference group.

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 implication 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 the Employment and Skills Panel workshop on 21 May.

8 Background Documents

None.

9 Appendices

None.