



## Essex LSIP Board Meeting

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023 2pm – 3.30pm

### Teams Meeting

#### Attendees

Denise Rossiter  
Andy Sparks  
Elaine Oddie Associates LLP  
Kate Koslova-Boran  
Marcella M'Rabety  
Denise Brown,  
Janis Gibson  
Rachel Dawson  
Ann Scott  
Claire Wright  
Councillor Tony Ball  
Dave Cope  
Lucy Spencer-Lawrence  
Louise Aitken  
Hyla Grimwade  
Tom Broome  
Lisa Collins

#### Welcome & Introductions

DR and AS welcomed attendees.

Apologies for absence: Justine Addison, Karen Spencer, Tanya mesh.

#### Updates to Board Membership

- A welcome to Councillor Tony Ball who will be replacing Mark Doran as the ECC representative.
- We previously discussed how well the board membership represented the sectors, and the gaps with people we need to engage. Today we have Ann from FSB, Hyla from Careers, Dave from the DWP, and Lucy from Southend Council. From a council perspective each council now has 2 members on the board.
- We require board members from both the health and advanced manufacturing sectors, which we will hopefully have before the next meeting.



## Declaration of Interests

- Within the information that was sent out prior to this meeting, we sent the Chambers policy on the Declarations of Interest. It is a requirement that we maintain a Declaration of Interests Register for Essex Chambers staff and all board members. Please complete before the next meeting if you have not done so already. These will be publicly displayed on the Essex Chambers of Commerce website.

## Actions from Previous Meeting

- All board members agreed that they were satisfied with the minutes from the previous meeting.
- We discussed sharing our survey link across various councils. That has now been done with Southend which created a flurry in responses.
- We shared the initial presentation from the first meeting as agreed with those present at that meeting.
- The LSIP Board Terms of Reference have been tweaked and recirculated. They will be available to view on the Essex Chambers of Commerce website.

## Progress Update

- The information gathering phase and engaging with employers, training providers and local councils is going well.
- We have commenced virtually all aspects of the Engagement Strategy.
- To maximise responses from the employer survey across the county, we have started a telemarketing campaign throughout January and February, with a company called Trifle Solutions who are based in Reading. They aim to contact 15,000 businesses across Essex. They will be focusing on areas where responses are low. The target is around 500 responses.
- SME have given a reasonable level of response to the survey.
- AS showed the data from the employer's survey results so far.
- Soft skills are not being reported as a cause for concern through the survey, however, they have been mentioned several times by businesses at round table events.
- Data shows costs, and training not being relevant to specific organisations are the highest barriers for businesses when recruiting.
- Maths and English are not coming through as an area for concern on the survey data but are being mentioned at round table events.
- There is a lack of staff in education, which is a challenge and leaving skills gaps.
- LSIP Education & Skills Provider Survey launched 17/01/2023. It has gone out to independent training providers and colleges, higher education institutions locally and the school sector.
- We want providers to be engaged with this process right the way through, so by March we have a better idea of where the key priorities and focus is so this can feed into colleges and providers.



- We have lots of events arranged before the end of February. All events are being advertised on the Essex Chambers of Commerce website. [https://www.essexchambers.co.uk/lsip\\_events.htm](https://www.essexchambers.co.uk/lsip_events.htm)
- We have held two round table events so far. An Aviation Sector Round Table (14 attendees) and a Logistics Round Table (17 attendees).
- Each round table event is being organised with either the Further Education Colleges or Adult Colleges across the county.

### SELEP Update

- LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership) covers East Sussex, Essex, Kent, Medway, Southend, and Thurrock and has been set up by the Government to make investments, to drive growth and create jobs.
- LEP have an official role to support with data and intelligence with the LSIP.
- SAP (SELEP Skills Advisory Panel) is employer led and now includes representation from 3 LSIPs and Chambers of Commerce.
- The Skills Advisory Panel is driving and overseeing skills work.
- The SAP works alongside a LEP skills working group which includes FE, HE, providers, and local authorities. Includes Essex, Southend, and Thurrock LAs, Essex Provider Network, Essex Colleges and Federation of Essex Colleges.
- A SAP data post is being recruited to support the 3 LSIPs. In the interim, SELEP's Economic Data Analyst and Skills Lead are providing initial data and intelligence with sector summaries to be produced.
- Stay up to date at [southeastlep.com](http://southeastlep.com)

### Other Business

- There are barriers with training due to how apprenticeship levy can be used.
- Development of soft skills has been highlighted.
- We still need to schedule an event for the sustainability and low carbon sector and the community and voluntary sector which we aim to schedule for after half term.
- Employers have vacancies, but adults and young people lack the required skills.
- Feedback highlights we need to look at how the curriculum turns into the right career.
- Good quality careers advice and guidance is key, although the system does not always allow it.
- DR The idea of being a part of the ERB is to draw out ideas that have been and try to gather some fresh ideas to give the DfE solutions to what we are finding. We must work together on this. Private companies are willing to invest and speak to college providers.
- LSIP is not just about having the documents at the end of the project which provides actions which people can work towards, it's about the process and bringing everyone together.
- The next meeting will be Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2pm – 3.30pm. We will send the agenda and invite in due course.

