

Regional Learning & Skills Partnership South West & Mid Wales
RLSP Board

NOTES OF MEETING

Thursday 11th January 2018 (2:00pm – 4:00pm)
Coleg Sir Gar, Graig Campus, Llanelli

Present:

Arwyn Watkins	AW	NTfW
Barry Liles	BL	Provider Group Chair
Jane Lewis	JL	RLSP
John Mark Frost	JMF	DWP
Judith James	JJ	Higher Education
Mandy Ifans	MI	Careers Wales
Mark Jones	MJ	Further Education
Nigel Williams	NW	Food and Farming Chair
Paul Greenwood	PG	RLSP Chair
Paul Griffiths	PG	Regional Regeneration Directors (Powys County Council)
Nick Williams	NW	ERW
Phil Lumley	PL	Construction Chair
Sara Nicholls	SN	RLSP
Rachel Clegg	RC	RLSP
Matt Walters	MW	RLSP
Sharron Lusher	SL	Haven Waterway Board
Tony Sawyer	TS	Health and Social Care Chair

Apologies:

Amanda Carr	AC	Third Sector
Lucy Good	LG	Tourism Chair
Louise White	LW	Creative and Professional Services Chair
Nicky Howells	NH	Energy Chair
Nigel Arnold	NA	Welsh Government
Jayne Ireland	Jl	
Gareth Morgans	GM	ERW
Ceri Stephens	CS	Mid Wales Cluster Chair
Mike Shaw	MS	Growing Mid Wales
Huw Mathais	HM	Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Chair

Ref	Item	Action By Whom
1.0	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies PG welcomed everyone to the meeting and members were asked to introduce themselves, PG provided the apologies to the board.	
2.0	Approve the minutes of the last meeting The chairman sought approval of the minutes of the last meeting held on the 15 th September 2017.	



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	Agreed: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.	
3.0	<p>A New Curriculum for Wales</p> <p>Aeron Rees, Carmarthenshire County Council gave a presentation on 'A New Curriculum for Wales'</p>  <p>NewcurricWales1.1 8.pptx</p>	
4.0	<p>Employability Plan</p> <p>Edwyn Williams, Welsh Government gave an update on the Employability Plan</p>  <p>RLSP Board presentation.pptx</p> <p>TS commented that money is given to education to issue certificates rather than hands on training.</p> <p>EW stated that the employability programme was not pushing qualifications but the enhancement of skills.</p> <p>PG enquired about the targets and measurements of the Employability Programme</p> <p>EW told the board that the programme was at pre-procurement stage therefore targets will be set after this has been completed.</p> <p>JMF advised the new universal credits have been rolled out, and that he would be happy to provide a presentation at a future meeting.</p>	
5.0	<p>NTfW Overview</p> <p>Jeff Protheroe, NTfW gave an overview of NTfW and the work they are currently doing with the apprenticeship model.</p>  <p>Apprenticeships - RLSP - Presentation.</p>  <p>Value-of-Apprentic eships-EN (2).pdf</p> <p>Jeff informed the board members that NTfW had produced a</p>	

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	report on the 'Value of Apprenticeships in Wales'. (attached)	
6.0	<p>RLSP Action Plan and Employment and Skills Plan Update</p> <p>JL informed the board that following a meeting with Welsh Government the Regional Employment and Skills Plan's for the three regions will all follow a new template developed by WG and as a result all three plans will follow the same theme.</p> <p>The plan moving forward will be similar to the old 'Demand and Supply' style report (a spreadsheet and a small narrative document to accompany the spreadsheet). However the RLSP will still develop an annual report for regional use and the team and board will follow the RLSP Action Plan.</p> <p>KP thanked the RLSP and partners for all their work during the development of the plan also feeding into the review of the three RSPs. She informed the board that Welsh Government are currently working on a new specification and this will be more streamlined and will be sent to the RSPs soon.</p> <p>JL updated the group that the next WESB (Wales Employment and Skills Board) meeting will take place in Feb/March and three meetings will take place a year and each meeting will be chaired by one of the RSP's chair.</p> <p>KP stated that a concern that had been raised from the review of the RSPs was around the governance across the three partnerships. She indicated that an independent report was being commissioned to look into the different governance mechanisms of the 3 RSPs.</p> <p>SL wanted confirmation that school level data would be included in the 2018 plan.</p> <p>JMF was concerned that the college data has not been broken down in geographical area and this could lead to the same issue as last year.</p> <p>BL informed the group of the work that the provider group is undertaking to address the issue around FE, HE and WBL data and the employer perspective on the funding. Barry Liles, Mike Williams, David Evans and Judith James have developed a generic presentation and will be delivering to the industry cluster groups during the next few weeks.</p> <p>PGriffiths informed the RLSP team the board need to understand what are the barriers/problems of why some actions in the Action Plan are in red and once the board</p>	

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	<p>know we can work together to address these and turn these yellow.</p> <p>SL looking at the Action Plan members around the table can lead on some of the actions, the RLSP is a small team and some actions may already be completed by partners. For example 'Case study on an apprentice' this is something NTfW could provide.</p> <p>JL agreed that a mapping exercise needs to be completed and moving forward we can assign a member of board to an action.</p>	
8.0	<p>City Deal and the Skills Intervention</p> <p>JL gave an update on the SBCR City Deal and the current situation, the board were informed that the RLSP submitted their Business Case study for the Skills and Talent project in October.</p> <p>In December the team received comments back from UK government and are currently working on them to re-submit in the next month. Eight of the ten projects have submitted their first draft plans and are awaiting comments from UK Government.</p> <p>The board were informed that an advert for the ESB Chair was sent out and the closing date was 15th December and interviews would take place over the next month.</p> <p>PL added that we need to raise awareness of our concerns around procurement in the City Deal.</p> <p>JJ proposed that the RLSP write a letter to the City Deal about the concerns around procurement and to keep the work in the region.</p> <p>PG actioned Jane to write a letter to the Swansea Bay City Deal around the concerns raised at today's meeting.</p>	JL
9.0 / 10:0	<p>Update from the chairs and How to increase engagement</p> <p>SL – Haven way enterprise Zone met in December, and has a focus on food technology and Marine Tourism skills and working with local employers including Puffin to develop a programme together.</p> <p>PL – the construction group has now expanded and has invited architects to the next meeting which will be taking place on the 19th January.</p> <p>TS had attended a Care Council Wales meeting and there are great concerns within the sector of not enough nurses and having to use home care staff and training them up for nursing</p>	

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	<p>duties. TS said he has a large database of employers that he regularly sends invites to cluster groups.</p> <p>NW – the key this year to engage more employers in the food and farming cluster is to demonstrate what the RLSP has achieved and what has changed as a result of the plan and the input from employers.</p> <p>AW informed the board that BHA are not supportive of the recommendation made in the plan about a hotel school.</p> <p>PGriffiths advised the board that the Business Survey can be sent out via Local Authorities and their business teams.</p> <p>PG informed the board that as a partnership we need tangible targets and as Industry Chairs we need to sit down together and work out our message from industry to get more employers involved.</p>	
11:0	<p>AOB</p> <p>JJ proposed that the RLSP host an employer and learners event to allow visibility to local employers.</p> <p>BL advised the members that this sort of event would be very similar to Skills Cymru and other careers events hosted by Careers Wales.</p> <p>JL mentioned to the board that under the Skills and Talent project the RLSP is working in collaboration with Education Department in Carmarthenshire County Council on a new pilot and will be going into schools across Carmarthenshire.</p> <p>JL informed the board that a request had come in from FSB for the organisation to have seat on the board to represent small businesses in our region. The board were told that Rob Basini would be the representative for FSB.</p> <p>Board agreed that FSB to join the RLSP Board</p>	
12:0	<p>Future presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Careers Wales – Employer Engagement. b. Skills Gateway c. DWP 	
13:0	<p>Dates of future meetings:</p> <p>8th March 2018 – Baglan Energy Park 10th May 2018 - Brecon 19th July 2018 – The Beacon</p>	