



**RSP Board & Cluster Groups Workshop Feedback: 06.11.24**

**1. What's worked well? What should we do more of?**

- Engagement of sectors – role for the portal to reach employers without a voice but more needs to be done here to reach smaller businesses.
- RSPs strength is to pull partners together across sectors and broader partners
- Anglesey Pilot – focus on how to mainstream good practice and activities across the region
- Skills portal delivery
- Could do more demand stimulation, e.g. Apprenticeships
- Have more Cluster groups in sectors where there are perceived gaps , i.e. in Adv Manufacturing
- Drive Portal into schools
- Leverage positive outcomes from pilots
- Continue to be 'the voice' of sectors / employers
- RSP's influence on Education – LEA, MEDR, WGOV
- Skills Portal – do more to target 16-18 year olds / Parents/ Careers Wales, etc.
- Need more regular feedback from Cluster groups – unsure of some groups work)
- Young person's toolkit is a good Resource
- RSPs have made Strategic links
- LMI information received from RSP has worked well – Research undertaken (such as Low carbon report, Green Skills report & Digital Skills Research) useful for the Board members and investors
- Networking events for businesses and employers have been a success (April 2024 event)
- Bringing real world experiences – Apprenticeships, etc.
- Promoting a Strategic approach via the Skills Plan has worked well and has aligned work of partners to work towards our shared vision
- Need to raise profile of RSP and its good work collectively across the region – suggestion of a monthly round-up of activities sent by the RSP Team with Board and clusters which can be shared more widely within sectors and organisations

**2. What's not worked so well? What should we stop doing?**

- Review the work of the sub-groups/ clusters – ensure no duplication and feed back from one group to the other.
- More influence with schools
- Are some projects too small? i.e Inspire to build
- Raise profile of the RSP – can we reach further and get messages to relevant partners/ employers?
- Skills eco-system – broader conversations on 11-16 and IAG to provide the breadth of career pathways
- Small impact on projects such as Construction pilot project in Anglesey
- Work experience programmes – still inconsistent across the region
- Recognition from UK Govt and other departments in WG, particularly employability, on the work of the RSP and its groups.



### **3. Obstacles & Risks**

- Profile of RSP within certain divisions in Welsh Government can be a risk
- Small SMEs have too little time and capacity to engage – how do we involve them and get messages to them about the skills eco-system?
- Do schools fully promote the full range of Learning pathways options?
- Transport (getting young people into placements/ work/ colleges)
- Short term funding cycles - Working on a three year Skills plan and annual funding and need longer term planning if going to make a difference
- Size of RSP team is small to connect with a broad agenda
- Lack of funding
- How do we capture regional differences
- Central place for all employability programmes
- Uncertainty of funding on what's next. Need longer term funding cycles via WG
- How to ensure the sustainability of the Skills Portal in the long term
- Need to understand why wages are falling in North Wales in comparison with rest of Wales and UK.
- How can we pass on some of the pilot work to other partners to deliver therefore releasing the time and resource of the RSP team to focus on other things.