**RLSP Provider Group**

**Tuesday 10th September held at The Beacon.**

Attendance

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| Jane E Lewis  Barry Walters  Nicola Thornton-Scott  Rob Hillier  David Bawden  Jackie Mathias  Helen Griffiths  Angeline Spooner-Cleverly  Amanda Daniels  Paul Kift |

Apologies

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| Angela Maguire-Lewis  Wendy Williams  Bridget Mosley |

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| **Declarations of Interest**  No declarations of interest were received from members of the group. |  |
| **Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair**  Barry Walters from Pembrokeshire College was nominated and elected as the new Chair of the RLSP Provider Group, as chair he would also represent FE on the Skills Solution Group and the Board.  Nicola Thornton Scott was elected as the Vice Chair of the provider group. |  |
| **To receive the Action notes of the meeting held on the 16th July.**  The minutes of the meeting held on July 16th, 2024, were received, and approved as correct.  *Matters Arising from the Minutes*  NTS confirmed that information on apprenticeship numbers had been provided to the RLSP, but additional details were needed from the RLSP team.  It was AGREED that the RLSP would create a template for the colleges to outline the number of where apprentices placed with either the main contractor or supply chain businesses delivering the City Deal Programmes. | ACTION – RLSP to create a template for the colleges |
| **To receive a report on the Skills and Talent Fund responsibilities and procedures and review the Terms of Reference.**    The document attached was circulated to each group following the July board meeting to clarify the roles and responsibilities of each RLSP group within the skills and talent programme process. JL provided a detailed explanation of the document, and members were asked for their feedback.  NTS noted a gap for the RLSP Provider group in evaluating project outcomes and suggested adding this to the process as the group does not see the Project once approved. BW agreed this could be incorporated.  **AGREED** **that an overview of each project together with a progress report on delivery be circulated to the provider group at the next meeting.**  JM requested clarification on the scoring process, which JL explained the skills and talent team review each application and score based on the set criteria against a poor, average, good and excellent score.  HG suggested adding an arrow to the diagram in the document to show the connection between the RLSP provider group and the skill solution group. | Action to provide an overview of each project and progress report to the next meeting |
| **To receive an update on the Renewable Horizons application**  JL informed the group the Renewable Horizons project, a bespoke STEM-based education outreach programme focusing on renewable energy production and green skills. This initiative utilises specially designed wind turbine and solar farm kits to deliver a series of 2-day workshops in comprehensive schools across the region. These practical and interactive workshops aim to teach students the principles of how renewable technologies generate clean and sustainable power, contributing to Net Zero and climate change goals.  JL mentioned that the application was referred back from the July board meeting due to the need for further information on cost breakdown, as well as concerns around the qualification. After consulting with the applicant, it was clarified that the qualification is worth 2 credits of a level 1 qualification.  JL also noted that the project is linked with three of the city deal projects, all of which have provided letters of support.  BW asked RH and DB for their feedback on the school's perspective. RH questioned whether the project had conducted sufficient research and if schools would be willing to participate in the project. DB acknowledged the project's good work but expressed concerns around the 2-credit qualification, questioning where additional credits for the learner would come from.  AD added that while the project sounds great for schools, there was a previous emphasis on moving away from engagement projects to those with tangible outputs. It was suggested to pilot the project with one kit per local authority. The group  **Agreed to forward the application to the skills and talent group for further consideration**. |  |
| **Presentation on the skills gaps identified and discussion on potential solutions.**  JL provided a presentation to the group on the skills gaps within the region. |  |