



The Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP)



Sussex Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) - E-newsletter

June 2022

LSIP Activity

Welcome to the June edition of our Sussex LSIP e-newsletter. Over the last month we have continued to promote the Sussex LSIP report and associated Future Skills Sussex Improvement Framework, that were published back in April.

The documents can be found on the [Sussex Chamber's website](#).

We have also commenced on initial Future Sussex Skills Improvement Framework activities, including:

- Piloting our **Key Sector Deep Dives** commencing with the Digital Sector. Further details on activity and how to get involved can be found below.
- Feeding into the **Sussex Strategic Development Fund (SDF) round 2** application put together by all Colleges in Sussex through FE Sussex.
- Undertaken initial discussions with NESTA regarding the next steps of the **Sussex Skills Taxonomy & Open Jobs Observatory**. We will continue to further this work once we have further guidance from DfE about the future LSIP process and funding, which is expected in the summer.
- Undertaken initial discussions regard the **skills assessments and psychometric tools pilot project** ideas. Again, we are awaiting further guidance from DfE about the future LSIP process and funding in the summer.

LSIP rollout

Department for Education (DfE) have now announced their plans for the rollout of Local Skills Improvement Plans across the country and are inviting Employer Representative Bodies (ERBs) to submit an Expression of Interest by 6 June 2022.

Designated ERBs will receive funding from September 2022 to March 2025 to:

- develop a plan for a specified geographical area
- draw on the views of employers operating within the specified area, and any other evidence, to summarise the skills, capabilities or expertise that are, or may in the future be, required in the specified area; and
- identify actions that relevant providers can take regarding any English-funded post-16 technical education or training that they provide to address the requirements mentioned above.
- In addition to producing and submitting the LSIP to the Secretary of State for approval and publication, the plan will need to be kept under review.

This will provide the Sussex LSIP with the opportunity to further the work that started with the LSIP Trailblazer project and further develop an evidence base, priorities and actions working in collaboration with employers, education providers and partners across the area.

Digital Sector Deep Dives

We have now commenced the Digital Sector Deep Dive project which will run until mid-July and look to build on the findings within the LSIP report, empower existing projects developing an evidence base and strategic direction to support their growth and development, deepen their impact and meet the need of individuals and businesses in wider geographical areas in Sussex.

We have formed a project steering group formed of partners from across the area including digital sector networks Wired Sussex, BIMA, Into Games, Silicon Brighton and digital businesses Red River and Switchplane. The group also has representatives from SELEP and education provider networks Sussex Learning Network, FE Sussex and Sussex Council of Training Providers. This group are supporting the activities of the Deep Dive through their expertise and local contacts.

Employers Survey

As part of the project, we want to gather the view of Digital businesses in Sussex of skills, where they see the skills gaps being in their business, how they train staff and engage with education providers. If you're a Digital business or employ people that undertake digital roles it would be great if you could complete this short survey to help us understand more about your business. [Please click here to complete the survey.](#)

Please submit responses by Friday 10th June.

Skills Providers Survey

would like to hear from providers that offer training programmes that support either those who want to enter work in the Digital sector, or those who already do so, and want to further develop their skills. [Please click here to complete the survey.](#)

Please submit responses by Friday 10th June.

Deep Dive Events

We will also be holding two Deep Dive virtual events to allow for a wider discussion, delve a bit deeper and look at where things have worked well and what can be done better.

Digital Business Event - Thursday 9 June - 11.30am – 1.00pm – [Book here](#)

Education Provider Event – Friday 10 June – 11.30am – 1.00pm – [Book here](#)

1-2-1 Employer Discussions

In addition to the surveys and virtual events we'd like to hear from Digital Sector organisations, and those that employ digital roles, who would be willing to have a short 1-2-1 discussion with our project lead to gain their views on the current skills system, how they interact with skills provision and regarding their businesses skills needs.

Please email skills@sussexchamberofcommerce.co.uk to organise a discussion.

Partner Focus

Free recruitment support for your business

Our LSIP partners at Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) are offering tailored recruitment solutions for businesses across Sussex.

Through our LSIP research we identified the need to focus on recruitment and retention initiatives in the area to support our key sectors overcome challenges in finding and retaining the talent they need for their businesses.

The DWP tailored employer offer provides recruitment advice and supports businesses by:

Online Job Listings - You can advertise your vacancies at no cost using our Jobs portal - www.gov.uk/advertise-job

Advertising - We can advertise and promote your vacancies directly in our Jobcentres, as well as via our social media accounts.

Events - We can organise local recruitment events/Job fairs for you and supply suitable candidates for interview.

Funding - We can prepare jobseekers for your vacancies with sector based training (SWAPs). We may also be able to fund individuals with the tools and equipment they need to take up a job

To find out how their Employer Engagement team can support your business email them at SurreyandSussex.EmployerOffersInbox@dwp.gov.uk



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