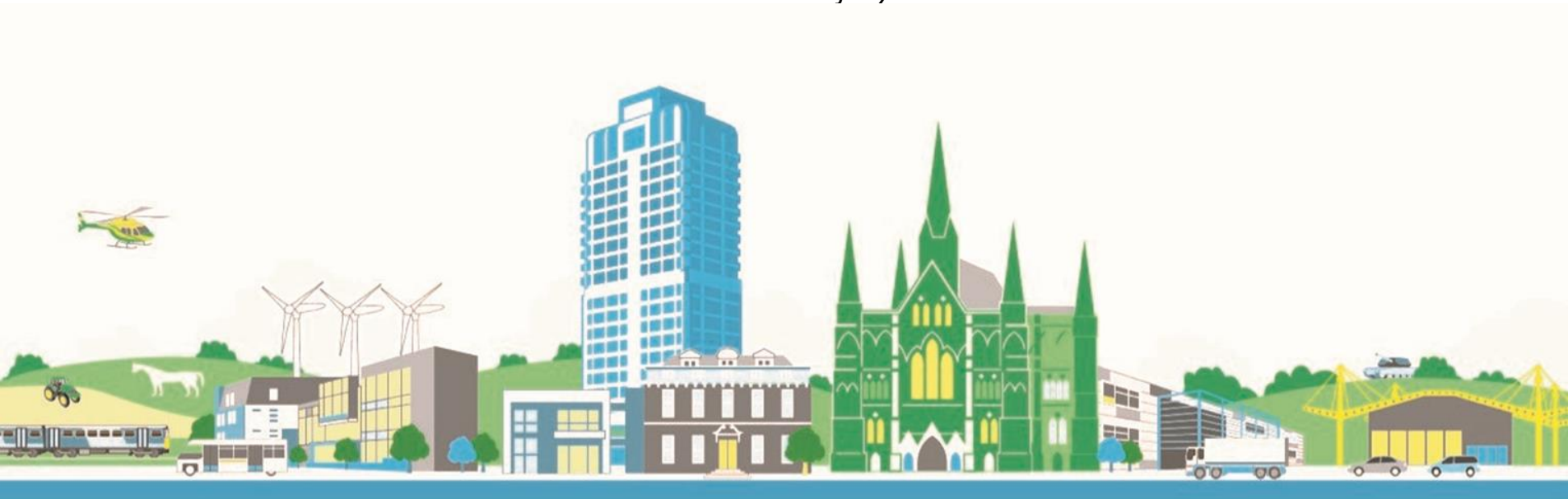


Board meeting 27 January 2022

Subgroup update

The Subgroups are responsible for overseeing and providing strategic direction, advice and support to the SWLEP Board to ensure the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership's strategic objectives are delivered successfully





Swindon & Wiltshire
LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

Skills and Talent Meeting 12 January 2022

Carole Kitching

Skills and Talent

- Labour Market Intelligence
 - total and apprenticeship job posting volumes decreased in the SWLEP area and UK between November and December 2021. This could be driven by a number of factors (for example, a general Christmas slowdown or Omicron);
 - total posting volumes in December 2021 remained above December 2019 in the SWLEP area and UK, suggesting labour demand is stronger compared to the last December before the pandemic struck;
 - caring, leisure and other service job posting volumes remained more robust compared to other occupations in the SWLEP area and UK; and
 - claimant rates for the 16-64 and 16-24 age groups continue to decrease in the SWLEP area and England. The claimant rate for the two age groups is now the same in England;
- Plan for Growth – update on areas for consideration by Skills and Talent

The Subgroups are responsible for overseeing and providing strategic direction, advice and support to the SWLEP Board to ensure the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership's strategic objectives are delivered successfully

Skills and Talent

- Green Economy – demand for skills and jobs
 - Major theme of the meeting and very well received by participants
 - Presentations included:
 - Business perspective (Littelfuse, Chippenham)
 - National research on green skills and jobs (SWLEP)
 - Jobs in sustainable technologies (University of Bath)
 - building knowledge and understanding in schools and colleges of jobs in the green economy (Careers Hub)
 - Greening existing jobs and upskilling staff (SWLEP)
 - The local authority perspective on their need for green skilled staff and engagement with businesses (Swindon Borough Council and Wiltshire Council)
- Follow up report in preparation to summarise position and identify actions to pursue.

Business Environment Meeting 17 January 2022

Alison North

Business Environment

- Business Cyber Centre
 - Getting Building Fund
 - DCMS approval
 - Staffing
- Growth Hub
 - Budget underspend
 - Peer Networks
 - Kickstart
- Living Wage

The Subgroups are responsible for overseeing and providing strategic direction, advice and support to the SWLEP Board to ensure the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership's strategic objectives are delivered successfully

Actions

- BCC official opening date
- Development of “dashboard” to show SWLEP work outcomes
 - To help identify risks and bring recommendations on change to the Board
- Impact on business environment of Govt. forthcoming reports
 - To feed into plan for growth

Infrastructure, Ideas and Places Meeting 18 January 2022

Suzanne Wigmore

Ideas, Infrastructure and Places

- The Group welcomed as an observer Tom Harrison, who works for PA Consulting and has a rail network and business case development background.
- Rail strategy
 - Current support from the DfT to develop business cases for stations at Devizes and Corsham – both at the earlier stages of the process
 - Discussion about increased emphasis from HMT on social and environmental value of developments, not just a monetised benefit cost ratio.

Ideas, Infrastructure and Places

- Hydrogen technologies
 - Discussion about the green hydrogen strategy to come to the Board
 - Using funds from the South West Energy Hub, the SWLEP has engaged in a comprehensive feasibility study into the potential for green hydrogen generation at the Wroughton Airfield site. Report due to come to the Board in March.
 - SWLEP closely assisting the Western Gateway in mapping hydrogen developments across its geography. Report back to March Board.
- GPIF – discussion about the report to be presented at this Board meeting.