

Skills and Productivity Board - meeting 9

Tuesday 11 January 2022

11:00 to 13:00

Attendees

- Angela Noon – Chair
- Claire Crawford
- Ken Mayhew
- Ewart Keep
- Grace Lordan
- Arun Advani
- Andy Dickerson
- SPB Secretariat
- Deputy Director for Skills Analysis - Frank Bowley

Agenda Item 1 – General welcome from Angela

Angela welcomed the board to the meeting and noted that the Deputy Director for Skills Analysis had now spoken to board members individually about the future direction of the SPB.

- The focus of today's board meeting would be the insights within the January report.

Agenda Item 2 - Update from Deputy Director for Skills Analysis

The Deputy Director for Skills Analysis updated the board on work within DfE setting up a Unit for Future Skills. The remit of this unit will be to improve the accessibility and use of Labour Market Information (LMI) to help improve skills matching.

Agenda Item 3 –Report on Opportunities and Challenges of LMI on skills

- The secretariat set out progress on the report. A detailed discussion went through each of the main sections of the report with board members.
- The potential of local data and identifying future demand was a key area of discussion and debate. The board discussed the potential challenges of web-scraping of vacancy data, taxonomies, looking at future demand, working towards a sectoral approach, and the supply of skills.
- Board members agreed the areas in the report needing further work and responsibilities for leading on these.
- A timeline was agreed for sending the report to the SoS at the end of January/ beginning of February.

Agenda Item 4 – Reports for publication in March

The board considered options on stakeholder engagement around the Spring publications (covering Question 1, 2 and 3).

- The board agreed the best way forward would be for engagement post-publication (i.e., after the Spring outputs have been published), using the papers as a prompt for discussion. It was agreed that the secretariat will work with board members to identify key stakeholders with which to engage, with a strategy and plan to be drafted by the secretariat.

Agenda Item 5 – Any other business

The secretariat provided a short update on commissioned research projects, confirming the receipt of a bid for the work on international comparisons, and that this work was on schedule.

Next board meeting 21 February