



To be submitted to the Council at its meeting on 24th July 2025

**JOINT MEETING OF ECONOMY, CULTURE AND TOURISM
SCRUTINY PANEL AND CHILDREN AND LIFELONG LEARNING
SCRUTINY PANEL**

3rd March 2025 at 11.00am

Present:

Councillors Augusta (substitute for Wheatley), Bright, Brookes, Cairns, Crofts, Holland (substitute for Downes), Lindley, Morland, Parkinson, Patrick and Silvester.

Co-opted Members: Carole Harrison (Trade Union)

Officers in attendance:

- Damien Jaines-White (Assistant Director Regeneration)
- Amy Gresham (Strategic Lead - Skills and Employability)
- Beverly O'Brien (Scrutiny and Committee Advisor)
- Karen Linton (Strategic Lead – Skills and Employability and Education Transport)

Also in attendance:

- Councillor Jackson, Leader and Portfolio Holder for Economy, Net Zero, Skills and Housing

There were no members of the press or public present.

JSPCE.5 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED – That Councillor Silvester be appointed Chair for this special joint scrutiny panel meeting.

COUNCILLOR SILVESTER IN THE CHAIR

JSPCE.6 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Boyd, Clough, Downes, Jervis, Mickleburgh, K. Swinburn and Wheatley for this meeting.

JSPCE.7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Holland declared a personal interest in JSPCE.8 as he has provided a consultancy service to the technical partnership mentioned within this report.

JSPCE.8 SKILLS ACTION PLAN – PROGRESS UPDATE

The panel received a report from the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure on the progress of the Skills Action Plan.

The joint panel were given the opportunity to ask any questions and seek further clarification on matters.

Members asked for clarification on the following areas:

- Skills newsletter
- Engagement with employers.
- Collaboration with technical career opportunities
- Relationships with Grimsby Institute of Higher Education and The Academy Grimsby.
- How life skills get included in this agenda.
- Adult learners

Officers present responded to the panel's queries.

One Member did have some concerns about the low level of business engagement despite the wide circulation of the newsletter. They felt it was quite alarming. Ms Gresham reassured Members that although the numbers may look low, it had generated three businesses to get in touch with them, which before the newsletter was unlikely to happen.

The Chair asked if Officers felt that they had made as much progress as they had wanted to. Ms Gresham explained that in some areas they had been able to have really good communication with the public, so that had been beneficial. Whereas other elements had been slower than anticipated, but overall, it was going in the right direction. Mr Jaines-White added that they were doing events that had never been done before and their relationships with employers were strong.

RESOLVED –

1. That the Skills Action Plan be noted.
2. That a Skills Action Plan progress update be received by a joint meeting of the Economy, Culture and Tourism and Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panels in six months' time.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 11.50 a.m.