



## REPORT TO THE GROWING MID WALES BOARD

16<sup>th</sup> October 2023

TITLE:	Mid Wales Regional Skills Partnership – Planned activity and Restructure of the RSP Board
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### 1. Purpose of the Report.

- 1.1. To provide Members of the Growing Mid Wales Board with an update on the planned activity of the Mid Wales Regional Skills Partnership.
- 1.2. To provide the GMWB with a proposal to restructure the Regional Skills Partnership Board.

### 2. Decision Sought.

- 2.1. To approve the new activities the RSP are proposing for delivery.
- 2.2. To approve the restructure of the Regional Skills Partnership Board.

### 3. Mid Wales RSP, Planned Activity

To progress the work of the Regional Skills Partnership it is important to identify priorities and implement tools and structures that will support the achievement of our goals. To achieve this, we are proposing to.

#### 3.1. Establish sector business clusters.

Our business cluster groups align with the GMW priority sectors, we have also identified 2 additional sectors, Health & Social Care and Public Sector. To support the work of these priority sector groups we have also identified two support cluster groups that will help to implement change for skills and employment needs in the region.

We are proposing that each cluster group will take ownership of relevant parts of the Employment and Skills plan and Action plan, review data, policy and recommend adaptations to the plan where required. Each cluster group will appoint a chairperson to represent the sector at the RSP board.

<b>Sector Business Clusters Groups</b>	<b>Support Clusters Groups</b>
H & SC	Providers
Tourism	Young Persons Guarantee
Energy	
Public Sector	
Transport	
Agriculture, Food & Drink	
Digital	
Enterprise	
Applied Research & Innovation	
Employment & Skills	

### 3.2. Current and Relevant Data.

Part of the RSP role is the collation and analysis of data and Labour Market Information to ensure it is current and relevant.

The way in which the RSP proposes to achieve this is by taking a three stepped approach.

- 1 – Work with a third-party data analysis company that will provide annual in-depth priority sector analysis, identifying current skills and recruitment levels, as well as emerging trends and predictions in growth for each sector.
- 2 – Mid Wales employment and skills surveys will be collated each year; this will provide a Mid Wales view of the skills and recruitment landscape.
- 3 – Mid Wales Sector cluster groups will review all data collated and provide an expert view for that sector.

### 3.3. Availability of Data

We must ensure that the work of the RSP is visible and transparent. To ensure this we are proposing the creation of an RSP website. The website will provide an overview of the RSP as well as identifying board members and their roles.

The website will be a place to access regular business updates and opportunities from WG for funding.

The site will also host all the LMI, data and surveys results that is collated as part of the three-step data collation.

To provide an example of what the website will look like and its functionality, please see the link below (North Wales RSP).

[Home - North Wales Economic Observatory \(rspnorth.wales\)](https://rspnorth.wales)

### 3.4. Future Priorities

The current plan along with local information has identified several key objectives that the RSP needs to focus on over the next 18 months. Therefore we are proposing the following as priorities.

- Improve relationships between education and employers.
- Improve information and guidance offered to young people.
- Create employment and training pathways and work experience opportunities including apprenticeships.
- Improving access to training, education, and employment.
- Improve understanding and access to Net Zero opportunities.
- Raise Awareness of funding opportunities.
- Address Welsh language.
- Refresh the RSP Employment & Skills Plan and Action Plan

### 3.5. Work Plan

To monitor our progress against the key objectives, it is important to implement a framework document that will hold the RSP team, cluster groups and board to account. This will also ensure progress towards our goals.

To ensure this we have created a template which is attached to the report as point 9.2 RSP Work Plan.

## **4. Restructure of the RSP Board.**

4.1. The current membership of the board has 49 members consisting of various local authority representatives, education, FE, HE, advisory groups, and Dyfed Powys police. With only 7 private sector employers representing 4 priority groups identified through the RSP plan and GMW.

4.2. The current structure of the board does not support in depth, focussed discussion that can identify and implement solutions for the region. Therefore, making it difficult to allocate tasks and accountability to achieve successes.

In addition, the current board structure does not reflect the current make up or functionality of existing RSPs across Wales.

4.3. We are proposing to restructure the board to become a focussed membership of approximately 24 board members. 12 of whom are representatives of the 12 identified cluster groups. Ensuring at least 8 are private sector employers.

The remainder of the board will be advisory representatives from various relevant organisations.

- 4.4. Each board representative will have an identified role as either part of the RSP management, sector cluster groups, support cluster groups and advisory groups.

<b>RSP</b>	<b>Sector Business Clusters Groups</b>	<b>Support Clusters Groups</b>	<b>Advisory Representatives</b>
Chairperson	H & SC	Providers	Powys Council
RSP Manager	Tourism	Young Persons Guarantee	Ceredigion Council
	Energy		Higher Education
	Public Sector		Further Education
	Transport		PCC & CCC Education
	Agriculture, Food & Drink		FSB
	Digital		Careers Wales
	Enterprise		NTFW
	Applied Research & Innovation		DWP MWMG
	Employment & Skills		WG

5. We are confident that this approach will satisfy our WG commitments and deliver a comprehensive Mid Wales view of skills and employment across the region.

## 6. Legal Implications

- 6.1. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

## 7. Human Resources Implications

- 7.1. There are no HR implications arising from this report.

## 8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## 9. Appendices

- 9.1. Attached – Regional Skills Partnership Planning Document  
 9.2. Attached – RSP Work Plan Template