

**Hampshire Skills Partnership**  
**12 June 2025 – 14:00 – 16:00**  
**at Brockenhurst College**

**Attendees:** Sarah Greer (Chair) (University of Winchester), Sara Russell (Peter Symonds College), Adele Blaker (DWP), Andrew Kaye (South Hampshire Colleges Group), Julie Milburn (Sparsholt College Group), Matt Johnson (South Coast IOT), Mike Gaston (HSDC), Paul German (Yateley School), Ross McNally (Hampshire Chamber of Commerce), Sue Taylor (ALPS / ALPHI), Charlie Woodsford (Brockenhurst College)

**Hampshire County Council:** Jamie Mackay, Andy Tickner, Michelle Wells (Record Keeper).

**Apologies:** Barney Ely (Hays Recruitment), Graham Galbraith (University of Portsmouth), James Knowles (Southampton Solent University), Virginia Barrett (FCoT).

		<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Welcome and Introductions and apologies</b></p> <p>The meeting commenced with a welcome from Sarah Greer, who thanked everyone for attending and to Brockenhurst College for hosting. Each attendee introduced themselves, and apologies were noted from Barney Ely, Graham Galbraith, James Knowles and Virginia Barrett.</p>	
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Minutes and Actions from the last meeting</b></p> <p><b>2.1</b> The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as an accurate record. As per the Minutes, action points 1 was marked complete.</p> <p><b>2.2a</b> For action point 2, the revised Terms of reference (ToR) had been re-circulated and agreed.</p> <p><b>2.2b</b> A general discussion took place on having the four, main meetings either face-to-face or hybrid due to the inclusion of travel time for these meetings. The challenge of chairing hybrid meetings was discussed, and highlighted the difficulties in sending a substitute, last minute (although the ToR don't allow for this). It was noted that the Wessex Group of 6<sup>th</sup> Form Colleges have face-to-face meetings, and these tend to move around a number of more central locations, like Winchester. The Chair noted that there are only four meetings a year and suggested finding more central locations for meetings in 2026. It was agreed Michelle would compile a matrix of the four meetings (with those for the Hampshire Prosperity Partnership Board) in 2026 for discussion at the HSP meeting on 25 September when potential venues could also be discussed.</p>	MW



<p><b>3.3</b></p>	<p><a href="#">250609-Approach-use-of-LEP-legacyreserves.pdf</a>). Of the year-end total of £31.7m, £5.8m is ringfenced, either for transfer to Surrey County Council or for outstanding commitments relating to the EM3 LEP capital programme (Ross will seek clarification on this). This leaves a balance of £25.9m, of which £3.6m is revenue and £22.3m is capital.</p> <p>The focus for these funds will be on impactful interventions, particularly in areas lagging behind, such as supporting mothers returning to the workforce and youth employment. Emphasis will be placed on AI and data analysis to guide future actions.</p> <p>A shortlist will be considered by HPPB and Hampshire County Council, with no timeline yet for project agreement.</p> <p>Jamie talked through some slides (to be circulated) and gave an update on the Local Get Britain Working plans. There are two plans being developed; the '<i>Get Hampshire Working Plan</i>' (GHWP) which is being led by Hampshire County Council and due for publication in September 2025 and the '<i>Get Solent Working Plan</i>' which is being led by Portsmouth City Council and due to be published at the end of June 2025. The teams working on both plans are working closely together.</p> <p>The governance for the GHWP requires the <b>Hampshire Skills Partnership</b>, the <b>Hampshire Prosperity Partnership Board</b> and the <b>Hampshire Health and Wellbeing Board</b> all need to see and review the plan before a final draft goes to Hampshire County Council for approval in September.</p> <p>A Teams meeting will be arranged by Jamie Mackay in August for the Hampshire Skills Partnership to review the plan.</p>	<p>RM</p> <p>JaM</p> <p>JaM</p>
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<b>4.</b>	<b>HSP Working Group outputs and next steps</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	Jamie gave a presentation on HSP Working Group outputs (to be shared), including a list of four recommendations. Jamie then invited the group to accept / amend / reject each recommendation and provide further guidance on next steps for the Skills Strategy and the next meeting of the Working Group (16 July).	JaM
<b>4.2</b>	<p>Following a detailed discussion, the group responded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Recommendation 1: <i>Amended</i></b> – the group have asked the Skills Strategy to include a list of key sectors, at least to align with the Industrial Strategy, plus Construction and Health and Social Care.</li> <li>• <b>Recommendation 2: <i>Accepted</i>.</b></li> <li>• <b>Recommendation 3: <i>Accepted</i>.</b></li> <li>• <b>Recommendation 4: <i>Accepted</i>.</b></li> </ul>	
<b>4.3</b>	Jamie to continue with the Skills Strategy and incorporate this feedback. Jamie will present the latest update at the next meeting.	JaM
<b>5.</b>	<b>Discussion: Exploring the match / mismatch between learners' expectations vs employers' skills demands.</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	Charlie Woodsford led a short discussion, following a brief background presentation from Jamie Mackay (slides to be shared). The discussion centred around the fourth recommendation and asked the group if there was appetite to conduct some research across Hampshire and the Solent, exploring the match / mismatch between learners' expectations versus employers' skills demands.	JaM
<b>5.2</b>	The group agreed there is appetite and Jamie will meet with Sarah to talk through further about next steps (including ethical consent), lead institution/s and a potential funding bid.	JaM / SG
<b>6.</b>	<b>Update: AI Skills Partnership &amp; AI Growth Zone</b>	
<b>6.1</b>	Sally Thompson presented an update on the AI Skills Partnership and outlined a developing idea that brings together aspects of the AI Skills Partnership and AI Growth Zone initiatives – The AI Growth Alliance (AIGA).	
<b>6.2</b>	<p>Sally explained the AIGA is already attracting interest and attention from stakeholders across Hampshire and the Solent and beyond. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farnborough International have pledged support to host an AI summit at the Farnborough Airshow in September.</li> </ul>	

6.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Surrey Institute for People-Centred AI (PAI) at the University of Surrey have expressed interest in being involved and lending support.</li> </ul> <p>Sally/Jamie to circulate the AI presentation for feedback. The group is asked to contact Sally if you would like a further discussion on this or details of a proposed AI summit in September.</p>	ST/JaM
7.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><b>Future Meetings:</b></p> <p>a) Look at hosting four HSP meetings for 2026 in more central locations within Hampshire.</p> <p>b) Schedule an additional, Teams meeting in August to review the Get Hampshire Working Plan.</p>	JaM/MW JaM
8.	<p><b>Next meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting will be taking place at Sparsholt College on Thursday 25 September, 10am - 12pm.</p>	

## Action Log:

No.	Actions	Who
1	<b>HSP Terms of Reference</b> - matrix to be created showing future dates for the HPPB and HSS meetings	MW
2	<b>Devolution:</b> Liaison on a representative from another area who has been through Devolution with a view to presenting at the next meeting on 25 September.	JM/JaM
3	<b>Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) programme:</b> a) Slides to be circulated and published online. b) LSIP to be a standing agenda item at every HSP meeting.	JaM JaM
4.	<b>Hampshire Prosperity Partnership Board</b> a) LEP legacy reserves paper to be shared: <a href="https://documents.hants.gov.uk/hampshire-prosperity-partnership/HPPB-250609-Approach-use-of-LEP-legacyreserves.pdf">https://documents.hants.gov.uk/hampshire-prosperity-partnership/HPPB-250609-Approach-use-of-LEP-legacyreserves.pdf</a> b) Confirmation that £5.8m is ringfenced, either for transfer to Surrey County Council or for outstanding commitments relating to the EM3 LEP capital programme.	MG RM
5	<b>Get Britain Working Plans:</b> a) Schedule an additional HSP meeting on Teams in August to review the Get Hampshire Working Plan. b) Share link to Get Solent Working Plan landing page: <a href="https://solentgrowthpartnership.co.uk/get-solent-working/">https://solentgrowthpartnership.co.uk/get-solent-working/</a>	JaM JaM
6	<b>Hampshire Skills Strategy (HSS) and Working Group:</b> a) Related documents to be circulated and published online. b) Next Working Group workshop on 16 July. JaM to provide feedback at next meeting. c) JaM to continue working on Hampshire Skills Strategy, based on feedback received at this meeting, and share latest version at next meeting.	JaM JaM JaM
7	<b>Discussion: Exploring the match / mismatch between learners' expectations vs employers' skills demands.</b> Jamie and Sarah to discuss next steps (including Ethical consent), lead institution/s and potential funding bid.	JaM/SG
8	<b>AI Growth Alliance:</b> Presentation to be circulated and published online for feedback and expressions of interest.	JaM/ST
9	<b>Future Meetings Agenda Items:</b> Look at hosting four HSP meetings for 2026 in more central locations within Hampshire.	JaM/MW