

DEPARTMENT OF CITY DEVELOPMENT

**Subject:** Work and Enterprise Board

**Officers** 4697

**Ext:**

**Date:** 15 August 2018

**Location:** Room 1.1 Dundee House

**File Ref:**

**Present:** Alison Henderson, Dundee and Angus Chamber of Commerce (Chair)  
 Mike Galloway, DCC  
 Councillor Richard McCready, DCC  
 Gregor Hamilton, DCC  
 Rory Young, DCC  
 Allan Millar, DCC  
 Shona Johnston, University of Dundee  
 Lorna Edwards, Abertay University  
 Karen Donaldson, Dundee & Angus College  
 Evonne Boyd, Skills Development Scotland  
 Wendy Third, Health & Social Care Partnership  
 Niall Gardiner, TACTRAN  
 Jane McEwen, DWP  
 Peter Allan, DCC  
 Jamie Bell, Scottish Enterprise

**Apologies:**  
 Councillor Lynne Short, DCC  
 Councillor Fraser Macpherson, DCC  
 Julie Farr, DSEN  
 David Martin, DCC  
 Caroline Warburton, VisitScotland  
 Gill Simpson, Scottish Enterprise

**Guests (Part 1)**

David Reeves, Abertay University  
 Margaret Teven, University of Dundee  
 Kathryn Sharp

Item		Action	By Date
<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>		
1.1	Alison Henderson welcomed attendees and invited introductions.		
<b>2</b>	<b>UNIVERSITY COMMERCIALISATION AND CONTRIBUTION TO RAISING PRODUCTIVITY</b>		
2.1	Shona Johnston, Lorna Edwards, Margaret Teven and David Reeves provided an overview of the contribution of University of Dundee and Abertay University to the city and Scotland's economy.		
2.2	With over 16,000 students, 3,200 staff, £86m research income and turnover of £740 million, University of Dundee contributes £749 million benefit to the Scottish economy. It has proven success in areas such as Life Sciences, Medicine and Forensic Sciences. It endeavours to embed entrepreneurship and enterprise throughout its research and teaching programmes, support development of		

- competitive clusters and nurture spin-outs. Dundee Interdisciplinary and Innovation Forum has been established to tackle major challenges (e.g. decommissioning, health inequalities) and the Centre for Entrepreneurship has been setup, in partnership with Elevator, to accelerate early stage businesses. This is open to staff, students, graduates and members of the public with 3 programmes per year.
- 2.3** Abertay University was named top Modern University in Scotland in the Guardian University Guide 2019 and is number one in Europe for Computers Gaming and Ethical Hacking. The university has led on the application of games thinking to other sectors (gamification) and has worked with Interpol on counterfeiting, NATS on pilot training and Firepoint on firefighting training. The university has a proven track record in food and drink innovation and works with food and drink companies to assess how products will be received in export markets. Abertay encourages entrepreneurship through allowing staff and students to own their own IP and is creating a new entrepreneurship programme (Bell Street Ventures) in October 2018.
- 2.4** Margaret Teven provided further information regarding University of Dundee Research and Innovation Services (RIS). RIS has a portfolio of over 100 patents, has generated over £10 million of licensing income over the past 3 years and has over 700 current projects including 100+ with industry partners. Over the past circa 10 years, there has been 27 spin-outs, 30 new staff / graduate start-ups, 700 local jobs created and £33.5 inward investment secured.
- 2.5** Three proposed projects included in the Tay Cities Deal were highlighted. The University of Dundee “Growing the Biomedical Cluster” project aims to create 600 jobs across biotech, medtech and construction through development of Ninewells Elective Training and Treatment Centre, new Medtech Innovation facilities, new incubator facilities and workforce development. The “Just Tech” project aims to create over 500 jobs in the forensic science sector over 10 years building upon University of Dundee’s national lead role in Forensic Science research. The Abertay University “Cyberquarter” proposal is to build upon the university’s reputation for research in this area and establish a cybersecurity cluster in the region which delivers 400 jobs and £112 million GVA over 5 years.

2.6 Going forward there are significant funding opportunities for innovation (e.g. UK Research and Innovation's Strength in Places Fund; UK Industrial Strategy) but these require a joined up regional approach and timelines for applications are invariably short (6-8 weeks). Partners across the region need to come together to ensure that strategically aligned applications come forward from the Tay Cities Region. Abertay University provided details regarding InGame, which will establish a £9 million computer gaming R&D hub in the city thanks to a successful bid to the Arts and Humanities Research Council. This is expected to nurture 40 new start-ups, 200 direct jobs, 1100 indirect jobs and 500 training opportunities and is an example of what can be achieved through collaborative funding bids.

### 3 **HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

3.1 Kathryn Sharp presented a paper highlighting the key provisions of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015 and sought Board agreement that this is a cross-cutting theme that as partners we should be aware of and committed to tackling. Whilst there has been a particular local focus around tackling sexual exploitation, the approach to tackling forced labour is less well developed. It was agreed that further work is needed to understand the sectors that are most susceptible to forced labour and to identify areas for local action.

### 4 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the April meeting of the Board were approved.

### 5 **TAY CITIES DEAL (TCD)**

5.1 Mike Galloway provided an update on the ongoing Tay Cities Deal negotiation. Everything has been done at Officer level to progress things and agreement on Heads of Terms is in the hands of politicians. The parliamentary recess is a potential barrier to this being concluded imminently. The Heads of Terms won't include a detailed list of projects to be funded and further work will be needed to develop full business cases. A new Tay Cities Programme Manager (Morag Saunders) has been appointed and will start in post on 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Progress has been made on regional collaboration with a workshop of senior managers held in June. Proposals are expected to be submitted to the Tay Cities Joint Committee by the end of the calendar year.

### 6 **.EMPLOYABILITY UPDATE**

6.1 Evonne Boyd highlighted the milestones achieved in the period since the Rocket Science Review of Employability reported. These include agreement of a vision, establishment of an oversight board, establishment of KPIs, agreement on workforce development principles and roll out of the self-assessment approach. There has been a degree

of frustration around time taken to achieve changes and recognition of the need to zone in on the achievable. Neighbourhood pilots have made a difference to those that engaged but take up was low. It was also identified that staff across partners didn't know each other well enough and this is being addressed through creation of a learning network. There has been some successful examples of collaborative working with the Employability regional service and the Health and Work pilot programme. Four areas for future development have been identified – building upon neighbourhood pilots through delivery of integrated services in existing job shops, enhanced performance reporting, refreshed branding for the integrated employability service and exploration of the establishment of a city centre employability hub. Employability Group looking for steer from Board on future direction and priorities. Peter Allan questioned the continued aspiration of aspiring to a “world class” service suggesting that the language was unhelpful. Karen Donaldson stressed importance of aligning priorities to regional skills work. Mike Galloway suggested that Rocket Science recommendations lacked clarity and that there was a need for more transparent goals, He also questioned whether payment by results funding supported a partnership approach and if the focus on pursuing ESF monies allowed flexibility to deliver the services required. It was also suggested that there should be less initial focus on a physical hub and priority given to assessing the benefits of co-location and how services would integrate in practice under one roof. Alison Henderson suggested that future direction of the employability service should be shaped primarily by customer insight rather than top down direction from the Board. Gregor Hamilton commented that some of the aspirations set down in Rocket Science had been difficult to achieve in reality and that future priorities for shaping service provision should take account of the work on regional collaboration. Allan Millar concluded the discussion by indicating that the existing employability action plan would be refined down to a more focussed 3 year action plan and this would be brought back to the Board for discussion and approval.

EB; AM

## **7 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

7.1 It was agreed that the next meeting of the Board should have a focus on future development of the Employability Service

EB; AM

## **11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

11.1 Karen Donaldson reported that the Flexible Workforce Development Fund has been launched again for apprenticeship levy payers and their supply chains. D&A

- College have an allocation of £450K to be utilised by July 2019
- 11.2 Peter Allan reported that Dundee City Council is leading a bid for Dundee to be designated as a Living Wage City
- 12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
- 12.1 November 23<sup>rd</sup> , 10:30 a.m., Room 1.1, Dundee House

**Copies to:** Work and Enterprise Board Members

**Signed:** Rory Young

5<sup>th</sup> September 2018

**Date:**

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