

Sussex Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) - E-newsletter ✨

January 2024

***Future Skills
Sussex*** ✨



Welcome to the **January 2024** edition of our Sussex LSIP E-newsletter

In this month's edition we will be covering:

- 1. Employer Survey**
- 2. Skills Provider Survey**
- 3. LSIP Board member recruitment - Visitor & Hospitality sector rep**
- 4. LSIP activities update**
 - NetZero and Green Skills research
 - Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) research
- 4. Our partner focus**
- 5. Sussex Chamber events**



Employer Survey

Complete our Sussex LSIP Business Survey 2024 for a chance to win a free place on one of our training courses.

As part of the Sussex LSIPs action plan – [Future Skills Sussex Improvement Framework](#), the LSIP team at Sussex Chamber are continuing work to gather local intelligence and information to inform and update our evidence base and continued skills conversations across the area.

The purpose of this business skills survey is to gather intelligence from Sussex businesses to aid in the continuing development and delivery of the LSIP and help local education providers to put on the provision that meets the skills needs of businesses.

The information you provide will also help us to develop our LSIP progress report to be submitted to Department for Education.

To thank you for your time in supporting the LSIP and completing this survey, **the first 50 organisations to do so will be entered into a prize draw and three organisations will be picked out to receive a voucher for a free training course** provided by Sussex Chamber of Commerce. Our training events can be found on the Chamber's [website](#).

We would also be very grateful if you could share this information with all your contacts and networks to ensure that we gain as much input as possible.

The closing date for this is **Friday 2 February 2024**.

[Please click here to begin the survey.](#)

**Future Skills
Sussex** 



Sussex
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www.sussexchamberofcommerce.co.uk

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tel: 01444 259259

Skills Provider Survey

Education & Skills Provider Survey 2024

As part of the LSIP teams work to update all our existing data intelligence, which is available on our website, we are surveys with businesses and local skills providers.

This survey is specific to you as providers and the more comprehensive your response, the more in depth the intelligence will be that we share with employers and the Department for Education (DfE) as part of our annual LSIP progress report.

The information you give us will also be analysed and used to inform the LSIP annual progress report, which we will share with all partners and DfE.

The survey consists of 21 questions and is broken down by the themes within the Future Skills Sussex Improvement Framework relating to skills provision.

The closing date for this is **Friday 2 February 2024**.

[Please click here to begin the survey.](#)

LSIP Board member recruitment

We are currently **inviting expressions of interest from Visitor & Hospitality sector organisations** who have an interest in supporting the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) – Future Skills Sussex and local skills development across the Sussex area.

The purpose of the LSIP Board is to provide direction and oversight on the implementation of an effective LSIP for Sussex. The Board meets virtually on a quarterly basis and Board members need to be able to represent the views of their sector and be of sufficient seniority to make decisions on behalf of their organisation.

Further information including how to apply can be found in the Board Recruitment Pack on our [website](#) home page, under latest news, along with the LSIP Board Terms of Reference.

All expressions of interest should be sent to skills@sussexchamberofcommerce.co.uk by **Friday 19 February 2024**.

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LSIP activities update



Green Skills and NetZero research



The LSIP team is working with [Clean Growth UK](#), at University of Brighton, on a project around NetZero and Green Skills.

This project is part of our actions with the LSIP Improvement Framework under the Intelligence theme to **'Build on the sector deep dives with a particular focus on skills for NetZero and climate change; and equality, diversity and inclusion'**.

The activities of the research project include:

- conversations with partners and organisations that work in the NetZero/green skills arena to discuss skills needs
- areas of current good practice within businesses
- development of case studies that can help businesses identify steps they can be taking themselves
- green skills provision/programmes across Sussex (and regionally/nationally)
- Identify national/local policy and support for businesses regarding green skills/NetZero

If you would be interested in knowing more about this project or being interviewed as part of the research please email us at skills@sussexchamberofcommerce.co.uk.

LSIP activities update

Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) research

Over the coming months the LSIP team will be working on a small project to build on the sector deep dives we've already undertaken, with a particular focus of **improving Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) knowledge and understanding in businesses to improve workforce skills and practices to recruit and retain staff.**

Our aim is to delve deeper into the realms of Equalities, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) within the local business community to:

- Research and report on examples of good practice in local businesses
- Provide a shared resource of useful tools and information to assist businesses in enhancing their EDI approaches.
- Offer access to valuable local and national EDI data to inform business strategies and thinking.

Why does Equality Diversity and Inclusion matter to your business?

We believe that fostering a diverse and inclusive environment is not just morally right but also commercially astute. It's about shaping a future that values everyone's contribution and provides equal opportunities for growth and success.

Call for collaboration

We are reaching out to ask for your involvement and support in this pivotal project. Your insights, experiences, and practices could greatly contribute to the richness and utility of our research.

Specifically, we are looking for:

- Examples of good practice - do you have success stories or initiatives within your organisation that have made a real difference in EDI? We'd love to hear and possibly feature them in our report.
- Examples of existing initiatives - we'd like to hear about initiatives that support businesses to develop a greater understanding of various aspects of EDI, such as neurodiversity.
- Resources and toolkits - if you have or know of any tools, resources, or online information that have been particularly helpful in advancing EDI within your business, please share them with us.
- Data contribution - any data or insights that you feel could contribute to a broader understanding of EDI in the local context would be invaluable.
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If you would be interested in knowing more about this project or being interviewed as part of the research please email us at skills@sussexchamberofcommerce.co.uk.

FE Sussex Administrator Vacancy

About FE Sussex

FE Sussex is a charity and consortium of FE and Sixth Form Colleges across East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton and Hove. Our membership includes:

- Bexhill College
- BHASVIC
- Chichester College Group
- East Sussex College Group
- Plumpton College
- The College of Richard Collyer
- Varndean College



These colleges operate on 15 sites across the region, with over 50,000 learners, 8,000 staff and an annual turnover of £200m. In addition to our core members, FE Sussex has two Associate members in Surrey: East Surrey College and Brooklands College.

Our purpose is to support members in the delivery of high-quality further education to Sussex learners, tell the stories of Sussex skills provision, and create a supportive workplace for staff in the Sussex FE sector. You can find out more about the work of FE Sussex in its [2023-26 Strategy](#). The key activity of FE Sussex includes delivering collaborative projects, training and professional development opportunities for college staff, and influencing local and national policymakers.

The FE Sussex Administrator will be joining a small team, comprising the CEO and freelance consultants who manage our project and training activity. FE Sussex is overseen by a Board of Trustees made up of the CEOs and Principals who lead our member colleges. In addition to our members, we work closely with the local authorities, universities, Independent Training Providers, and employers.

FE Sussex Administrator: Job Overview

FE Sussex is seeking a proactive and self-motivated Administrator to manage finance, meetings, events, marketing, and general administrative tasks. The ideal candidate will possess excellent organizational skills, demonstrate strong relationship-building abilities, and be comfortable working independently.

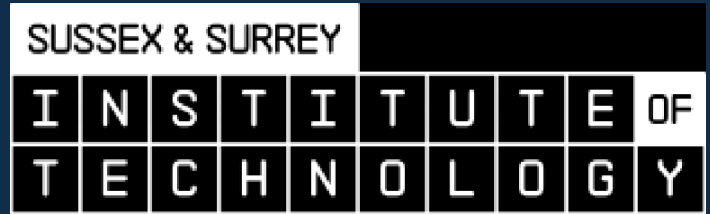
Practical information:

- Salary: £25,000 pro-rata.
- The role is offered on an 0.5 FTE basis, and we offer flexibility on when the hours are worked (either 2.5 days a week or mornings), although there will be times when you are required to attend meetings outside of your usual working pattern.
- 30 days annual leave (mainly to be taken outside of term-time) with closure of the office between Christmas and New Year.
- The role is fully remote, with occasional attendance at meetings in various locations across Sussex.

If you are enthusiastic about supporting the Further Education sector, possess the required skills and experience, and can thrive in a proactive, dynamic work environment, we invite you to apply for this exciting opportunity. FE Sussex is an equal opportunity employer.

Please apply by sending your CV and a covering letter of no more than 2 sides of A4 to janet@fesussex.org.uk by **5pm Friday 2 February 2024**.

Interviews will take place on **9 February 2024**.



Digital & Data Skills Advisory Panel - call for employers

[Sussex & Surrey Institute of Technology](#) (IOT) is a cutting-edge institute that brings together the latest in digital technologies, innovation, and industry-led education.

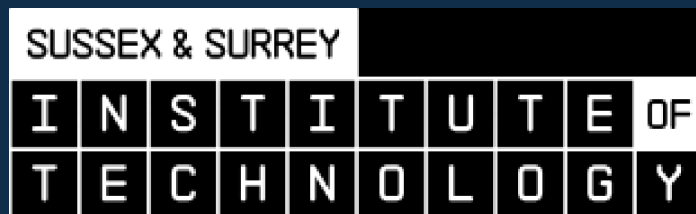
The institute is a collaboration between universities, further education colleges, and industry partners across Sussex and Surrey, working together to provide students with a new kind of education, designed to prepare them for the jobs of tomorrow.

The courses cover a range of areas, from engineering and manufacturing to digital and construction, all designed with the future in mind. This includes apprenticeships, short-courses and higher education programmes, giving learners the chance to gain valuable experience and make industry connections.

The institute is putting together a Skills Advisory Panel of employers and providers to support development of its Digital & Data programme curriculum intent and implementation to ensure employers get the workforce with the right skills now and into the future.

They love to hear from interested employers who would be interested in attending their first meeting on **Wednesday 7 February at 2.00pm.**

If you would be interested in being a part of this important collaboration please email skills@sussexchamberofcommerce.co.uk and we will arrange an introduction.



Institute of Technology at Nescot Opening Event

The Sussex and Surrey Institute of Technology are delighted to invite partners and employers to their opening of their new facilities at Necot College in Surrey on 28 February 2024.

At this event you will get the opportunity to see our new digital technologies facility, created as part of the Sussex and Surrey Institute of Technology. You will hear from keynote speakers from Nescot, Institute of Technology, employers and others, who will be providing insights into IT skills needs relevant to regional and national employers.

Tour and demonstrations of labs and training rooms dedicated to:

- Virtual reality
- Cyber security
- Robotics
- The 'internet of things'
- Software development and IT support

Our Institute of Technology will provide:

- A range of qualifications and bespoke IT training relevant to all industries & sectors
- Innovative apprenticeship programmes addressing skills needs
- Unrivalled facilities and equipment in cutting-edge digital technology

Wednesday 28 February - 11am – 1pm
Institute of Technology suite
Nescot, Reigate Road, Ewell, KT17 3DS (free parking available)

To book onto this even please [click here](#).

Sussex Chamber Events

At the Chamber we hold many events for our members and also non-members. They are a great opportunity to hear about business and sectorial topics and network with others.

We are holding the following events that are available to book on our [Events Gallery](#) on the Sussex Chamber website:



Speed Networking with the Neighbours: Sussex, Surrey & Hampshire

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND, we are delighted to invite you to join us at the picturesque LYTHE HILL HOTEL & SPA, Haslemere, for the return of the unmissable cross-county speed networking session...This was so popular, we've got a bigger room!

-- SPEED NETWORKING WITH THE
NEIGHBOURS: SUSSEX x SURREY x
HAMPSHIRE --



Digital and Technology Forum - The 5G Revolution and Business Benefits

This specialist face-to-face event will bring together some leading industry experts from the Sussex digital and technology sphere, in a series of talks on key areas, new ideas, best practices, and factors affecting of the industry. It will also be a fantastic opportunity to network with delegates representing businesses & education institutions, to aid collaboration and drive positive change across the county.

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