

Skills Enhancement Subgroup

Minutes 21st May 2025

1. Present: J Codd (WCCC), C Rossi (WLP), Grace Power (LEO), R Hickey (Ireland South East), Ed Connolly (Regional Skills), G Wilson (WLP), T Ryan (Skillnet). P Wallace (WAP), Susan Sheahan (WWETB), Laura Power (UNESCO City of Learning), Kay Sinnott Browne (LAIT).
Apologies: Trevor Sinnott (WWETB), J Beresford (D&WWC), L O'Reilly (DEASP).
2. Presentations. 1) Susan Sheahan (WWETB) made a presentation on Youth training services, 2) Laura Power presented on Waterford UNESCO City of Learning. 3) Kay Sinnott Browne (LAIT) presented in skills mapping in the Ukrainian rest centres. All presentations will be circulated
3. Minutes 26th March 2025: Matters arising: J Codd has issued an invitation to SETU for a committee rep.
4. UNESCO City of learning introduced by Laura Power, this is to be a permanent agenda item.
5. Fab Lab: Official Launch postponed to 2026 due to budgetary issues.
6. Training Opportunities for Young People: Extract from SICAP mid year review will be circulated when complete. WAP are collaborating with Children's Group Link to provide additional supports to their Targeted Youth Employability Initiative. Arising from a meeting with Irish Hotel Federation -Southeast HR Forum, WAP are consulting with the group to prepare short training courses for the hotel and catering sector.
7. Skillnet Programmes: Skillnet courses will be circulated. Requests for new courses are being made, releasing trainers to run the courses will require subsidies of approximately €1m.
8. Opportunities for Ukrainians: English language still a major barrier. LAIT representative presented on shifting demographics and matching skills to vacant positions.
9. WCCC have published a dedicated skills page or one-stop-shop for those seeking to train or upskill. PR drive going ahead in June, radio advert has issued to WLR and a poster for socials and print media is being created by WCCC Comms team. Next FET fair is 9th October in SETU.
10. Breakfast Briefing: Breakfast briefings (linking trainers and employers). One event scheduled for 5th June Enniscorthy. Details will be circulated.
11. Portal: 7 Training videos are available and will be included on the skills web page, new videos can be sent to J Codd.
12. Ed Connolly: A report on sectoral profiles will be available for the July meeting.

13. Offshore Wind Farming: First wind farm auction, Site A, deferred to Q3 to allow further information to issue to developers. Former Co. Wexford harbourmaster Phil Murphy has taken a position in SETU working on Offshore Wind development
14. A.I. 16 attendees at a recent LEO course.

15. A.O.B.

Our Rural Future consultation events taking place in May and June. Invitations have issued to LAG members.

South East Regional Skills Course for business owners, managers and H.R. personnel will take place in Kilkenny on 11th June, 18th June, 1st July.

16. Next Steps

- Circulate Skillnet Programmes (J Codd).
- Continue to monitor medium and long term skills shortages (Ed Connolly).
- JC to publish PR drive advert
- Circulate feedback on Wind Farm Task Force (Ed Connolly, R Hickey).
- PR Skills and Training page on WCCC website, updates are to be sent to J Codd, SETU links to be added, check for videos JC.
- Agencies to continue networking with Clusters (LEO, WLP, WWETB).
- WAP, ETB and Regional Skills to collaborate on Green Energy projects and courses. Consultancy document on economic opportunities to be circulated
- SICAP Mid Year review, details of youth training work to be circulated when available.

17. Meeting Dates 2025. Wednesday's 11.30am

23rd July

24 September

19th November

Appendices: Current Skillnet Courses.

WST LAES Jobs & Training Pack

WWETB Youth Services Presentation

UNESCO City of Learning Presentation

LAIT Ukrainian Skills presentation

Upcoming Learning City Webinar

Work Based Learning Slides