

AGENDA ITEM 8**REPORT TO TEESSIDE FREEPORT BOARD****8th JUNE 2023****REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FREEPORT****UPDATE FROM THE INNOVATION & SKILLS WORKSTREAM****SUMMARY**

The purpose of this paper is to update the Freeport Governance Board on the activities of the Innovation & Skills workstream.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the updates are noted.

DETAIL

1. The Innovation & Skills workstream met on 10th May. It was chaired by Nolan Gray, Director of Freeport, as an interim measure during the local elections.
2. The meeting focused on:
 - a. A general Freeport outlook and the potential for Scottish, Welsh Freeports and Investment Zones to move forward in 2023.
 - b. Innovation update including the Centre for Digital Trade and Innovation, NET zero update and Innovation Launch Pad.
 - c. Skills update including adult education budget and skills bootcamps.
 - d. Partner Update – partners were encouraged to update on the current position and any issues.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4. There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

RISK ASSESSMENT

5. There are no specific risk implications arising from this report.

CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATION

6. This meeting represents a stakeholder engagement event.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

7. No specific impacts on groups of people with protected characteristics have been identified

Name of Contact Officer: Nolan Gray
Post Title: Freeport Director
Email Address: Nolan.Gray@teesvalley-ca.gov.uk