

Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Local Enterprise Partnership

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES AND A GUIDE TO THE SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES NEEDED

Our Vision Statement

The Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) brings businesses and local authorities together to drive economic growth and create jobs. Formed in 2011, the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire LEP has a clear vision – to create 50,000 jobs and increase the size of the economy by 50 per cent by 2021.

Our ambition is to see more businesses employing more people providing goods and services that are in demand nationally and internationally.

Commitment Required

The LEP has a Partnership Board which meets twice a year and an Executive Group which meets more frequently. The Executive Group membership is drawn from the partnership board. The details can be found at <https://www.stokestaffslep.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/17.03.28-SSLEP-Constitution.pdf> . Board meetings are held in the early evening. Board members currently commit around three days a month in total as a guide but this varies.

Guidance to private sector business representatives

- Your skills, experience and contribution will be vital to the success of the Enterprise Partnership.
- Your primary role will be to represent the views and interests of private sector businesses and in particular those of your sector, business size and geographic area, while always ensuring that decisions are taken in the best interests of the business community as a whole.
- Appointments will be on merit.
- Your role is not to represent your own business or personal interests.
- Your driving force behind wanting to become a business representative on the LEP should be to give something back, wanting to contribute and help ensure an environment in which businesses can flourish and develop the economy.
- Representatives are welcome from for profit, not for profit and social enterprises.
- Support will be provided with ongoing business engagement and consultation through a range of means, including ad hoc expert groups and drawing in other relevant individuals with specialist knowledge.

Skills and competencies

- Experienced person with at least three years in a senior appointment
- A successful individual
- Good standing in the business community
- Good team player
- Good communicator

- Reliable, effective and efficient
- Good influencing skills
- Intelligent, clear thinking, active listener
- A logical approach to problem solving and able to demonstrate sound judgment
- Has the interests of the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire business community and its economy at heart
- Has the time and the commitment to give to the LEP board
- Can bring demonstrable relevant skills and experience
- Can demonstrate a focus on growth and jobs
- Is making a difference to the county's business economy now

Sector Coverage

The Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire economy covers a range of sectors and activities within those sectors. The membership of the Board needs to be representative and therefore needs to include members with experience in one or a number of the following sectors;

- Business services and finance
- Manufacturing
 - Including ceramics, engineering, and automotive
- Hospitality and tourism
- Agriculture and land-based
- Food and drink
- Transport and communications

Geographic Coverage

It is important that the make-up of the Board reflects the different business communities and geographic areas in the area and we will seek to appoint business representatives from across Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire.

Business Size

The size of their business or the experience representatives have had in a number of businesses will be an important asset for the LEP. The issues facing the different sizes of organisation need to be understood by the LEP Board. We will therefore seek to cover a range of business sizes from small to large.

Tenure

Initial appointments will be for a period of three years.

Equal Opportunities and Sustainability

The Board is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity and sustainability in its activities. We aim to be fully representative of the spectrum of business sectors that make up the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire economy and the diversity of our area's communities. We welcome applications that will help us to reflect our diverse area.