[2.8.1] Employer Engagement

Please describe how you will engage with employers in the local area to achieve job outcomes.

Your response should:

- Identify the specific key employment opportunities in the specified geographical area over the life of the contract
- Show an understanding of the sectors in the area and those that are experiencing (or are expected to experience) significant growth over the life of the contract
- Clearly explain what Employer engagement you will undertake to capitalise on the opportunities to achieve job outcomes for participants
- Show how you will identify newly arising employment opportunities and utilise these to support your above methodology

Insert your response in the pre-set, shaded space on the following pages. Your response MUST be limited to 1 sides of A4.

1. Specific Key Employment Opportunities: The Local Delivery Partnership is fully aware of large and small scale employment opportunities and the REDACTED new jobs predicted to be created in growth sectors over the next ten years in REDACTED, including the REDACTED at REDACTED, REDACTED multi-million pound development programme, growth in on-line retailer REDACTED REDACTED and REDACTED REDACTED. Local manufacturing opportunities are increasing in REDACTED due to REDACTED social initiative.

2. Sectors in the area that are experiencing significant growth: The LEP Skills and Employment Strategic Framework projects high replacement demand and growth potential in seven key sectors: Advanced Manufacturing; Construction; EET; Creative and Digital; Health and Social Care (HSC); FPS; and Visitor Economy.

HSC accounts for REDACTED % of all jobs in the county, and forecasts by Oxford Economics suggest that local employment in the sector will grow by REDACTED in the period 2014-24, with the fastest growth taking place in REDACTED.

Visitor Economy: a predicted REDACTED more FTE jobs between 2014 and 2020, rising to REDACTED if supply chain jobs are included. REDACTED % of this is expected to be in REDACTED.

Construction: e.g. REDACTED & REDACTED REDACTED £32m transformation of REDACTED.

Energy & Environmental Technologies (EET): REDACTED; replacement and growth demand from major firms such as REDACTED, REDACTED REDACTED, REDACTED, REDACTED and REDACTED and the potential for shale gas extraction.

Finance (FPS): National Savings and Investments, REDACTED, REDACTED, REDACTED, with an expected increase in the number of jobs in the next 6 years varying from REDACTED (UCKES) to REDACTED (Oxford Economics).

3. Capitalise on opportunities: Each subcontractor will appoint an Employer Engagement Manager (EEM) to ensure that employer need and job sourcing remain at the forefront of activity. We will: • **Use existing relationships:** e.g. REDACTED Council works closely with REDACTED, running a four week unpaid work placement scheme which has been particularly effective for older workers; REDACTED has priority access to all REDACTED of their business sponsors; REDACTED has a bespoke recruitment service, a long established Apprenticeship programme and deliver bespoke training packages to large and small employers across REDACTED; REDACTED runs high profile events for the business community e.g. the recent REDACTED event with REDACTED • **Build new relationships:** EEMs will prioritise LEP growth areas and jobs in local support services, supported by strategic links with JCP Partnership Manager REDACTED • **Share vacancies:** via supply chain networking meetings and quarterly LDP Employer Engagement Forums • **Pursue Section 106** agreement opportunities • **Help employers** by pre-screening candidates to optimise employer interviews • **Tailor employment routeways** for employers e.g. REDACTED offers customer services training for REDACTED • **Provide high quality in-work support** to maintain positive relationships, leading to repeat / future vacancies.

4. Newly arising opportunities: The EEMs will use their local knowledge to identify and generate new opportunities. G4S's Partnership Manager will leverage the LDP's strategic relationships e.g. REDACTED CEO is a member of the LEP and maintains awareness of new business developments in the region. REDACTED Enterprise Team will inform all the new REDACTED employers of the help that the ESF programme can offer in sourcing new staff. REDACTED Council will be involved in

planning applications which generate new opportunities. REDACTED has experienced and well-networked sector leads for Retail, Warehousing, Care and Facilities Management constantly on the lookout for new opportunities in those sectors.