

Dynamo Board Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: Monday 8th October 4.30pm – 5.30pm

Location: Newcastle University Business School - 5 Barrack Road, NE1 4SE [Map](#)

ATTENDED:

Charlie Hoult (Chair), Anne Macdonald, Alastair Irons, Anthony McMenzie, Mike O'Brien, Stuart Lynn, Graeme Fletcher, Amy Stabler, Andrew Besford, Antony Hall, Siobhan Fenton, Simon Roberson, Graham Jordan, Phil Jackman, Giselle Stewart

Minute taking: Sarah Thackray, Clare Nicholson

Apologies:

Fay Cooper, Sandra Thompson, Mark Larsen, Alan Welby, Alison Shaw, Paul Watson

Board updates

- Hotspot – rescheduled for early 2019. Hard copy posted to all members this week and will include advertising opportunities.
- Innovation Manager role – 7 applicants, interviews taking place w/c 8th October. Funding for a 3 day a week post. Late support from NICD to support full time role in addition to this. Innovation Manager title but will be Cluster Managers. Shared Service Centres – a cluster that has some momentum and opportunity. GovTech and FinTech sectors have the scope for their own strategies to take forward. We will have more influence on this. Massive opportunity to grow clusters as our staffing increases.
- Alastair Irons– Now Academic Dean for the Faculty of Technology.

Finance

- Overview and update.

Innovation SuperNetwork funding has helped with surplus on events. For e.g. £8k on Dynamites. ISN potential to fund at NE UTC – UTC post but with a skills focus. Working alongside Dynamo skills workstream.

NICD funding – Dynamo owned role if this comes through.

CLUSTERS & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

CYBER (Phil Jackman)

September saw the launch of CyberFest, with around 500 people attending 6 events in North Shields, Newcastle, Middlesbrough, Blyth, Sunderland and Durham. The events were well received and generated a lot of interest. The group has met to plan what next. Details to follow.

Agreed to a 2019 event at Newcastle University. Teesside Uni as another host.

SKILLS (Giselle, Graham J)

Graham – ESF update. Digital Skills Training. If spend £1000, can get £1600 towards training.

Giselle - NEF UTC – open on Blandford Street site but moving to permanent site at Stephenson Quarter very soon by October half term. Lots of energy in the school – lots of mentors. Exciting start.

Mentors – now at 2nd stage of industry mentor recruitment – would Dynamo Board and members please work with NEF to put out a call to people in their own and allied organisations for this. Training will be given.

ACTION: Board to contact Giselle if they are interested in becoming a mentor for the UTC.

Digital Schoolhouse programme: uses play-based learning to teach computer science (teaching the teachers how to do it in really interesting ways). We have brought it to the NE, with Ubisoft joining as DSH's latest partner. We have released algorithms from Just Dance and Starlink as teaching resources.

North East Futures and Ponteland Middle School the latest recruits (NEF not showing on the map yet).

<http://www.digitalschoolhouse.org.uk/>

<http://www.digitalschoolhouse.org.uk/articles/2018/09/introducing-our-newest-sponsor-ubisoft>

<http://www.digitalschoolhouse.org.uk/map-of-schools>

BIM Cluster and IC3 (Anne Macdonald)

- Represented Dynamo and region's digital sector at Turner and Townsend's 'State of the region 2018' event at Tyneside Cinema on 27th September. Presented to 120+ delegates from a range of businesses on the big screen! Other speakers included George Mokhtar, TnT's BIM Director and the team behind Newcastle Film Festival.
- Planning Driving Digital Construction Innovation Day with Waterstons on 22nd November at Northumbria Uni. A one-day, collaborative event, aimed at tackling real world, gritty problems in the Construction industry. Please encourage your teams to enter – all skillsets required, don't need to be digital construction specialists.
Teesside Uni – Omar – looking to film the day for footage.
- IC3 project and LEP grant application decision being chased with NE LEP. Should hear outcome imminently.

ACTION: Board members to circulate details of Innovation Day event to networks and colleagues and encourage them to take part in the day or to attend the presentation. Full details

<http://www.dynamonortheast.co.uk/dynamo-launches-driving-digital-construction-innovation-day/>

ACTION: Any board members who'd like to volunteer to get involved, speak to Clare/Anne.

ACTION: Siobhan – ask Omar whether Teesside students are able to film the event.

FINTECH (Mike O'Brien/Anne Macdonald)

- Cluster scoping has been conducted – see below

Vision: The North East - a thriving, innovative centre of financial services technology and services

Objectives:

1. To gain national recognition for the current large-scale financial services technology presence
2. To initiate and accelerate collaboration between universities, the private sector and the public sector Fintech players to the long-term benefit of all
3. To attract a large new Fintech company to the region

Cluster members: JHC, Opencast, Sage, Brewin Dolphin, Accenture, Atom Bank, True Potential, Newcastle University, Northumbria University. Also targeting: DWP, HMRC, NBS, Virgin Money, SLC etc.

Next steps: Identify and engage with large organisations with resources to help drive this work forward – cluster sponsor required. Suggestions welcome!

ACTION: Ant Hall to share contacts with Anne and Mike from FinTech North event that took place last week.

ACTION: Amy Stabler intro Anne/Mike to Karen Elliott who lectures on FinTech to connect with the cluster

SHARED SERVICE CENTRES (Anne Macdonald/Simon Roberson)

- Meeting held with key regional businesses on 12th September, hosted by BT and chaired by Simon Roberson
- Organisations keen to learn more about each other's business models and operations and opportunities to share best practice across the cluster and raise the profile of this activity were suggested. Scoping out knowledge sharing events with presentations by host companies followed by Q+A sessions. This could tie into a December Think Tank event.
- Simon is engaging with more businesses including banking and civil service to involve them in developments
- Next meeting will be in November – location tbc

Is there scope for the Universities to be involved in this. Any part of the curriculum? Yes!

Taking a wide view of services spanning Business Process Outsourcing and high value transactions. .

Public Sector involvement also to be explored. Public sector operations could represent be 2000 +plus. Our cluster can help them.

ACTION: Graham Jordan to follow up with Simon Roberson on contacts in public services

ACTION: If anyone wants to be involved, get in touch with Anne/Simon. Spread the word.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (Anthony Hall/John Marrin)

Dynamo Professional Services met on 26 September 2018 to plan activities for 2019. We are hosting a breakfast think tank with a number of clients/industry influencers to get feedback on how Dynamo Professional Services cluster could best serve the needs of the tech community. The event is due to take place on 29th November.

Cluster objectives are to showcase Prof. Services available in the region and show this nationally. Education piece in helping our tech companies learn what they don't know. Identify better ways to engage. Think Tank – attendees to commit to bring 2 tech colleagues with them.

ACTION: Clare to liaise with Ant re the Think Tank event

ACTION: Board to share with networks in and around prof services once event details confirmed.

GOVTECH

Government Digital Service & GovTech Catalyst event, PROTO, Thurs 8 November, 6pm-8pm

Attendees from: GDS Innovation; Central Government; Local Government; tech suppliers to Government; and innovative start-ups in the GovTech space

GovTech activity in Dynamo currently focused around PSLA:

Public Service Leadership Academy (PSLA) - Digital / Data (Andrew Besford)

George Freeman - £50m written into the budget. Have put in a case for this to be in the North East/NCL Business School.

- Positive discussions with Cabinet Office stakeholders to raise profile of Newcastle pitch and understand alignment with Civil Service leadership schemes including Major Projects Leadership Academy (Oxford Saïd Business School / Deloitte programme)
- Met with Rob Hamilton and Jen Hartley (NCC) to discuss PSLA as a component of North of Tyne devo plan
- Met with Alan Welby (NE LEP) to establish possible support from LEP. Need to make the case for the cluster i.e. this is not just a university initiative

- Met with Newcastle University execs - Prof Richard Davies (Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Engagement and Internationalisation) and Prof Mike Capaldi (new Dean of Innovation and Business) - positive support for idea, discussion around what further information is required to secure commitment from the university
- Brief updates with Steve Caughey and Paul Watson (Newcastle University)

Next steps:

- Initial meeting with Kristina Murrin CBE planned for 9 October (Took up post in Cabinet Office on 17 September reporting to John Manzoni to deliver PSLA. Kris is former head of Policy and Implementation team at No10)
- Andrew to work up numbers with Newcastle University Business School (Barry Walsh + colleagues)
- Further alignment with North of Tyne plans / seek endorsement from Pat Ritchie
- Begin to establish private sector partnerships in North East (similar model to MPLA / Deloitte?) - now that gov and Uni discussions are progressing - opportunity for Dynamo members to play a more active role

WIDER ACTIVITIES (Anne Macdonald)

- Building on success of the Accenture sponsored Dynamo Cyber Cluster and rolling out this model to Dynamo's other clusters. Looking for one lead member organisation to sponsor each cluster.
 - Cluster Sponsor Pack has been developed to enable organisations to sponsor specific cluster groups for a 3-year period, enabling sustainable cluster growth and providing long term benefits to sponsors including increased profile and opportunity to steer regional developments in their specialist interest areas
- ACTION:** Please get in touch if you are interested in supporting any of the clusters. BIM, Shared Services and so on....
- Additional Engagement Manager Post – applicants shortlisted, and interviews take place with Dynamo and ISN on the interview panel on 9th October.
 - Dynamo 2019 Business Plan developed – to be circulated to the Board for their input. Working up proposals for a cluster that frames up tv, games, culture, media, sport (and potential for oven-ready opportunities with NoT Devolution) around 'Future of Entertainment' or 'Future of Leisure'. Get in touch if you would like to input.
 - Judged Dynamites award entries and participated in Judging Panel at Newcastle College. Really impressed with the quality and variety of entries – very inspiring! Some categories with up to 16 entries. Looking forward to celebrating with shortlisted and winners on the night.
 - Filming for Dynamites event taking place at Hault's Yard on 11th October.
 - Met with Catherine McKinnell to discuss Public Service Leadership Academy project to equip civil service leaders with core digital skills. Proposal has been developed by Andrew Besford together with Newcastle University and Catherine is keen to support.
 - Further meetings with NICD/Newcastle University taking place to secure resource for Dynamo's business engagement resource.

EVENTS

PANEL EVENTS

2018

12th Nov Digital Skills hosted by Nigel Wright at Crowne Plaza. Panel: hedgehog lab, Mkodo, metrology software and CEF.

Dec

TBC

2019

TBC

BIM CLUSTER INNOVATION DAY

22nd Nov Northern Design Centre

4 challenges - Driving Traceability, Driving Efficiency, Driving Capability, Driving Change

Looking for 4 teams of 6. 8 applicants to date

Please circulate within your organisations and networks.

THINK TANK

November – Cyber topic

November – Professional Service

January 2019 – Shared services

ACTION: Clare to follow up with both re content/dates

DYNAMITES 18

18th October, Civic Centre

Ticket prices £94 + VAT or £900 + VAT for table of 10 (increase on 2017)

457 booked/confirming ASAP (including sponsor tables/VIPS/Dynamo) Expecting a full house of 480 (100 increase on 2017).

Ticket sales revenue - £28,566 + VAT

Overall surplus on track to surpass 2017 awards.

Dynamo VIP guests confirmed

Cllr Peter Jackson

Sarah Thackray

Anne Macdonald

Charlie Houlton

Andrew Besford

Deni Chambers

Paul Kaiser

Helen Golightly

Ruth Harrison

Gillian Marshall

Rebecca Strachan

Stuart Lynn

Mary Youngs

Jack Heslop

David Searro

Catherine McKinnell

Jefferson Lynch

Giselle Stewart

Giselle Guest

Jen Hartley

Peter Riddell

Aaron Jaffrey

2 x tables of 11

Sponsorship – currently £32,220 + VAT confirmed. Total inc table upgrades - £35,620 + VAT. £3,030 still to get to hit sponsorship target.

Newcastle College Headline and Outstanding Achievement

Capgemini Innovator of the Year

NRG Growth Explosion

Sunderland Uni	Rising Star
Gateshead College	Skills Developer
Mincoffs	Programme
Sunderland College	Collaborator of the Year
BT	Tech for Good
Tombola	New Business of the Year
NE LEP	Project of the Year
Ronald James Group	International Business of the Year

Other: Table sponsor (£1.5k + VAT), Drinks reception (£2k + VAT),

Judging Panel

Deni Chambers	Siobhan Fenton
Fay Cooper	Janet Ross
Anne Macdonald	Michelle Rainbow
Jen Hartley	Alison Shaw
Giselle Stewart	Alison Cowie
	Fiona Hobbs

Ruth Harrison, ThoughtWorks – closing speaker confirmed

Nominations

Record 82 nominations received this year.
38 shortlisted across all categories.

DYNAMO 19

University of Sunderland hosting
Save the date: Thursday 20th June

Kick off meeting planned for January 2019 – to include headline sponsor representative

Teesside University have confirmed they will host in 2020

MEMBERSHIP

New members

- Team Massive Results
- Connect Health
- Flow Mojo Ltd

Total £530 + VAT

Lost members

None this month

Total members	156
Total revenue	£69,030 + VAT

ACTION: CN creating new pack. For internal comms, slide deck for approaching new member organisations

ACTION: Siobhan keen to run an event at Teesside Uni to relaunch/invite local businesses.

AOB

BITR – New date, 4th April 2019. Sponsorship opportunities available.