**Background to the Employer Networks**

The Employer Network is an initiative set up and funded by CITB. Employer Networks are designed to bring together and support employers at a local level to inform CITB on training needs, to advise how funding should be prioritised and allocated, and to effectively use training provision to address immediate and future skills needs. Through the Employer Network Steering Groups, employers within the Employer Networks can influence thinking and make recommendations on how CITB levy reinvestment can be best used to address immediate and long-term local skill needs.

**Purpose of the Local Employer Network Steering Group**

To ensure that funding via CITB’s Employer Network is addressing the skills priorities and training provision gaps at a local level for employers adequately and effectively. The Local Employer Network Steering Group will provide a forum for its members to inform and influence the way Employer Network funds provided by CITB are spent and on what. It will ensure that funds are used fairly and meet their primary intention to encourage SMEs to engage with CITB support and do more training.

**Members’ Role Description**

*Time commitment*

Meetings will take place quarterly throughout the year. Ideally, we would like to hold two of these face-to-face and the remainder via Teams. However, we appreciate how busy you are and so are happy to be flexible with this approach.

We would expect each meeting to last no longer than 2 hours.

*Responsibilities*

* Attend Employer Network Steering Group meetings and workshops;
* Adhere to the Employer network Steering Group Terms of Reference;
* Assist the Steering Group to accurately identify key issues affecting industry within the EN Boundary;
* Debate and offer constructive challenge on the priority outcomes CITB is targeting and its proposed approach to meeting them;
* Make timely recommendations to the Steering Group about extraordinary matters arising that may impact on the ability of the Employer Network to support local employers;
* Provide insight into the challenges and opportunities for the industry within their respective Employer Network and;
* Provide a local perspective on construction skills gaps against agreed forecast needs.

*Skill sets and competencies*

* Experience within construction with direct knowledge as a direct employer or an employee within a construction business;
* Knowledge of the issues and opportunities facing the construction sector in relevant Employer Network area in relation to training and skills;
* Knowledge of the issues and opportunities facing the industry in terms of the local careers and recruitment market;
* Have a network of contacts within the construction industry locally to assist with giving an industry perception;
* Understanding of the roles / responsibilities of the Employer Network Steering Group;
* High standards of personal integrity and probity and;
* Politically astute, with the ability to grasp relevant issues and understand relationships between interested parties.