

THE COLLEGE REGIONAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME



An enhancement programme from CDN and the Economic Recovery Group

CDN Professional Learning Pathways: Leadership & Governance

Supporting Regional Economic Strategies

Based on the recent Economic Recovery Group (ERG) Report *Colleges as Enablers of Sustainable, Inclusive Economic Growth*¹ the College Regional Economic Engagement Programme will support senior college executives and board members to design, develop and deliver the role of their college as a driver of regional economic transformation.

ERG's report identifies the need for:

➤ **Regionally-focussed awareness-raising for college leaders, both executive and non-executive, on the role of colleges as initiators of tertiary and multi-sector collaboration to support regional economic transformation.**

This programme aims to meet that need by providing a series of structured development sessions and analysis reports that will deliver a road map for senior management and board members to engage with regional economic strategies and ensure that the college is well-placed to play a key role in its region.

¹ <https://www.cdn.ac.uk/phase-2-report-economic-recovery-group/>

The Programme

➤ Stage 1: Design

Assisting colleges in the design of their role as drivers of regional economic transformation

➤ Stage 2: Develop

Helping colleges to develop their role as an anchor institution within their functioning economic geography

➤ Stage 3: Deliver

Enabling Colleges to deliver in their role as a leading collaborator driving economic transformation for their regional economy

➤ Stage 1: Design

Assisting colleges in the design of their role as drivers of regional economic transformation

This initial face-to-face session is for the college's senior leadership team.

The core of the session will be a 2 hour interactive workshop which will include the following key elements:

- An introductory session from the ERG team on their work to date – summarising the purpose, findings and impact of the programme.
- An overview of the national and regional policy context – with a focus on the specific role of colleges in their regional economies.
- A curated conversation on the role of college SLTs/Boards in delivering relevant national and regional economic policy.
- A guide to the relevant regional economic context, and how the college best aligns to maximize its impact upon it.
- A facilitated discussion on the role of the college as a driver of economic transformation in their regional economy.

Outputs will include:

- A pre-prepared slide deck.
- A summary feedback report on key points from the session.
- A prompt on next steps for taking the discussions forward.

➤ Stage 2: Develop

Helping colleges to develop their role as an anchor institution within their functioning economic geography

This face-to-face session will be tailored to the requirements of the college's senior leadership team.

The core of the session will be a 2.5 hour interactive workshop to include:

- An introductory session from ERG on its work to date around approaches to college collaboration.
- An overview and update on the national and regional policy context with a focus on the role of the college in the delivery of the post-Withers skills agenda.

- A curated conversation on the specific roles of college SLTs/Boards in the delivery of that reforming skills agenda.
- An appraisal of the relevant regional economic development agenda for the area(s) in which the college is operating.
- Facilitated discussion on the role of the college's SLT/Board in supporting their institution's role as anchor institutions in their regional economy.

In preparing for this workshop the ERG Team will include a meeting with the College Principal and Chair to identify the key challenges their college is facing as an anchor institution within their regional economy that they would like the workshop to reference during the presentation and discussion.

Outputs will include:

- A pre-prepared slide deck for the workshop;
- A feedback report on key action points arising during the workshop discussions shaped by engagement with the Principal and Chair.

➤ Stage 3: Deliver

Enabling Colleges to deliver in their role as a leading collaborator driving economic transformation for their regional economy

This joint face-to-face session with the senior leadership team and the board builds on stages 1 and 2 and expands the discussion to set up a constructive engagement that will shape the delivery of the college's regional economic engagement.

The core of the session will be a half day interactive workshop which will include:

- An opening discussion seeking views of participants on the role of their college as a collaborator in delivering economic transformation.
- Introduction to the work of the ERG to date and the current national and regional policy context with a principal focus on the role of colleges as a deliverer of the skills agenda together with relevance of other key reviews and reports.
- Facilitated discussion on the role of college SLTs/Boards as deliverers of the national economic policy agenda with a focus on skills.

- An assessment of structures, processes and strategies informing the relevant regional economic development agenda for the area in which the college is operating.
- Facilitated discussion on the role of the college SLT/Board in supporting the development of their institution's role as a principal collaborator in delivering regional economic transformation.

To prepare for the workshop the ERG team will hold a semi-structured meeting with the College Principal and Chair, employing their diagnostic method to identify the key challenges and opportunities the college is facing as a driver of regional economic transformation and in forging tertiary and multi-sector collaborations. This will enable the team to tailor the workshop presentation and discussion to generate bespoke feedback and proposed next steps.

Outputs will include:

- A pre-prepared slide deck for the workshop.
- A draft feedback report on key points arising during the workshop discussions together with proposed next steps, for comment from the Principal/Chair.
- A follow-up meeting with the Principal/Chair to discuss the draft report.
- A final feedback report, with agreed next steps including a targeted action plan, for the college.

Pricing

The cost for delivery of the programme is £8000. Individual pricing for each stage can be provided on request but we recommend that the whole programme is followed to ensure maximum benefit to the participants and the college.

The pricing is for the programme as outlined in this brochure. A more bespoke approach can be delivered if required, please contact us to discuss. Further bespoke support can also be offered following completion of the programme to assist with delivery of the action plan.

Further Information

Please contact the CDN team for further information: research@cdn.ac.uk



www.cdn.ac.uk

