

ANNEX B: INITIAL VIEW OF SPECIFIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

| Sector or theme | Potential opportunities |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Access, participation and outreach | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Access Partnerships: making the case to Office for Students of value of working as a West London geography for some purposes, particularly as most West London institutions have a very high intake of more disadvantaged students compared to national average • Exploring potential for further initiatives such as the Middlesex / Barnet Lifelong Learning Agreement |
| Skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for further partners to join work in progress across HE and FE on higher level modular pathways, which has been discussed with Skills Minister and is being progressed with DfE as 'West London Region of Learning' • Potential for closer collaboration on curriculum development for industry-focused provision, including those emerging from the Industrial Strategy (e.g. Skills Bootcamps, Growth and Skills Levy-funded short courses, Upskilling and Reskilling Programme) |
| Data and analysis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential to bring higher education into early discussions on future data and analysis capability for London government, with GLA, London Councils and sub-regional partnerships including WLA and its counterparts |
| Innovation and clusters | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Innovation Partnerships Fund: place-based funding for Mayoral authorities and others. London has a ring-fenced £30m allocation. Opportunity to position West London's institutions for this. • Industrial Strategy Zones: Government consolidation of previous Freeports and Investment Zones programmes may present opportunity to present a collective West London case for designation across higher education, business and local government (the only London zone currently is Thames Freeport) • Exploring potential for sharing ideas on supporting incubators and spin-out businesses |
| Advanced Manufacturing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential opportunities emerging from Advanced Manufacturing Sector Plan, including supporting the rollout of Made Smarter in London; planned Robotics Adoption Hubs; National Materials Innovation Programme; etc. |
| Creative | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London explicitly excluded from new Creative Places Growth Fund despite being labelled as a 'supercluster' in Creative Industries Sector Plan • Advocating for London's inclusion in, and West London's role in, next wave of UKRI Creative Industries Clusters funding (see previous programme) • International Centre for Creative Industries: previously raised by the Mayor and seemingly revived in the Creative Industries Sector Plan |
| Digital and Tech | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential opportunities emerging from Digital and Technologies Sector Plan, including funding for work on e.g. Advanced Connectivity Technologies, AI (noting link with data centres and West London energy constraints), cyber security, engineering biology |
| Life Sciences | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential opportunities emerging from Life Sciences Sector Plan, including 'Regional Health Innovation Zones for large-scale development and implementation of innovation, for scale-up across the health and care system' |