Staffordshire Chambers' of Commerce – Digital forum

'This forum is here to drive the growing digital sector in Staffordshire, enabling businesses to freely exchange information, share best practice and discuss digital innovation, information communication technology and artificial intelligence (AI).'

Date of meeting	Thursday 26th February 2026
Venue	Newcastle & Stafford Colleges Group – Institute of Technology
Number of attendees	18
Agenda topics	**Apprenticeships in digital** – Update from NSCG about changes to the way apprenticeships are delivered. Further details can be found under: Further details can be found on the website: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apprenticeship-funding-rules-2025-to-2026 **AI apprenticeship** – Update from Axia Solutions on the launch of a new AI Practitioner Standard apprenticeship. Core content of the apprenticeship will include the likes of strategic & ethical adoption, testing & evaluation, governance & risk and continuous Improvement. **Artificial Intelligence (AI) "show and tell" event** – Review of 24.10.25. "show and tell" event with discussion around replication of event in future. **Digital Divide Working Group (DDWG)** – Update on the work of the DDWG, which has established an IT Asset Disposition (ITAD) to accept donations of unwanted IT equipment (laptops, mobiles, tablets), with the aim of securely wiping the devices, before recycling them and offering them to community groups who will donate to members of the community who are suffering from the effects of digital poverty. **Action:** Appeal for donations of unwanted IT equipment and for more forum members to join DDWG.

| | **Digital Skills Working Group (DSWG**) - DSWG is connecting businesses and training providers to create a local view of a digital skills pathway. This will provide learners (and where appropriate their families), with sign posting to technology specific learning opportunities and how the available courses can support a professional career development within the digital sector (and beyond). **Action**: Appeal for more forum members to join DSWG. |