City Deal – Skills and Employment update – October 2018





Longer Term Career Goals

"My career goal is to work as an architect, where I will be able to apply my practices learnt in my studies."

Student Profile: Choice Odumeru Level 3 Professional Construction

Choice studied in Italy before moving to the UK and furthering her studies at Preston's College. With enthusiasm to learn more about the construction industry, her Level 3 Professional Construction qualification will provide Choice with practical skills and industry experience.

"After high school, I wanted to advance my knowledge and learn more about the different areas in construction, to gain more of a practical insight into the industry and decide which area to go into as a career."

"My Level 3 Professional Construction course at Preston's College covers all aspects of construction, allowing me to gauge where I want to go after my studies. We also have work placement opportunities and site visits to gain real life experiences of working in the industry, which benefitted me in helping me decide which career pathway would suit me best after my studies."



STEM Design Challenge

In July pupils from Penwortham Girls School took part in a STEM Construction Design Challenge to design a landmark feature in South Ribble.

The Dragons Den style competition was generously supported by input from professionals from South Ribble Council's Planning, Regeneration and Economic Development (Investment & Skills) teams who provided professional guidance on concept, design and planning. The activity provided the perfect opportunity for pupils to share their design ideas with the team from South Ribble Council on hand to advise on site location, materials, sustainability and costs.

The activity clearly highlighted the value of councils and developers working with schools helps them to understand more about STEM and the different job roles in the construction and built environment sector as well as help pupils develop the transferable softer skills needed to progress in the workplace.

The activity took place at the end of the schools summer term in partnership with South Ribble Council and was supported by the Enterprise Advisor Network.



Students Project: Environmental Impact Study

Environmental students at UCLan got the opportunity

to get hands on experience of conducting a site based Environmental Impact Assessment. The students were studying the impact of noise on the area and needed recordings to be able to study in their assessments. They were assisted by Parkinson contractors and site operatives who carried out various activities on site to allow the students to record the different noise levels in the area. The students then analysed the recordings and use them in their coursework for the first semester.



Appendix 3



Truck Trail: 'The Route to Success'

A range of hands-on STEM Challenges have been produced as part of the Truck Trail programme all with educational sessions being rolled out across Leyland and South Ribble primary and secondary schools.

The design and print of an interactive board game and accompanying materials was conceived to highlight the variety of career opportunities that fall under the STEM banner.

STEMFirst initially delivered sessions in 9 schools, with the programme being undertaken by 248 pupils in years 6. It has since gone for strength to strength and engaged with a total of 1,148 pupils from right across the area.

Delivery has been very well received so far by Educators with 100% of them saying that the activity was well prepared and organised, interactive, engaging and enjoyable.



Apprenticeships

Professionals and Trainees

Graduate Civil Engineer



Prior to joining the Professional Apprenticeship and Trainee Programme, I worked in the finance team for one of the leading independent forecourt operators in the UK. I have acquired a BSc (Hons) in Civil Engineering.

I have always been passionate about working on projects that are tangible and improve the lives of local people. My post offered an opportunity to be a part of many projects that will improve the local infrastructure and the lives of people as a result. This was a fantastic opportunity as it also offered on job training as well as academic training as part of the role.

"The programme offers an opportunity to work and learn amongst experienced members of Lancashire County Council, who are willing to help and support at this initial stage of my career."

I am currently working in the design team on a number of high profile projects as part of the City Deal. This is an opportunity that will expand my knowledge and assist to work towards achieving a chartered status. I aim to develop a long term career within LCC and continue to develop my technical and personal skills. The major benefit of the Programme is that you can gain experience in different areas of the County which helps to understand how the teams link together. Also you have the opportunity to continue with Education and put into practice what you learn. I am undertaking the MSc in Civil Engineering.

This is an excellent opportunity for graduates looking for their first step into their career. The Professional Apprenticeship and Trainee Programme offers an opportunity to work and learn whilst serving the local community.





'Bridge the Gap' in City Deal schools

In partnership with STEMFirst, the Skills Hub have developed the 'Bridge the Gap' game into a school based activity about City Deal and construction careers.

The 2 hour sessions aimed at Year 8 and 9 pupils helps shine a spotlight on the wide range of opportunities in STEM and construction.

The activity was bought by businesses and post 16 education providers, such as Eric Wright, Preston's College and Future U, and delivered it in schools across the City Deal area. A total of 43 staff have been trained with 963 pupils spread across 15 schools benefiting from the programme.



"I enjoyed hearing about STEM in the world around us – it made us think"

TRAINING 2000

Real life story: Frankie Thompson - Engineering

Frankie first found out about engineering while she was in year 8 at high school. She came to an event at Training 2000 that was aimed at getting girls into engineering and

joined our Saturday morning club when she was in year 11. Since then she knew that a career in engineering was for her!

"It's good that they still do engineering for girls day, as that's what brought me into engineering and hopefully it will get more females interested.

I would recommend an engineering apprenticeship, but it's not an easy option!

But it does mean that you have got a job at the end unlike going to university"



Francesca Beattie Course: BTEC Engineering Grades: D*D*D* Destination: Engineering Product Destign at UCLan "There's a great choice of courses at Flurishaw, with friendly people and teachers who are always available to give you the help and support that you need."

uclan

Preston-based Tranco enlisted one of UCLan's free business support projects, Digital First, a team of digital specialists and students that helps promote and achieve growth through a range of digital tools and tactics.

www.lancashire.gov.uk

Director Darren Penn bought the business in 2003, which at the time was operating as a sole trader, and established to assist businesses in the construction industry. Under his leadership, the business now employs 22 people and has a turnover of £1million.

Completion of the project resulted in a more effective platform to Tranco's services. The new website features improvements in layout, functionality and customer experience, enabling Tranco to display client testimonials and case studies. It has led to an increase in traffic through to the site and number of enquiries received, along with a greater awareness of the business and the specialist skills of its workforce

"I genuinely believe that since achieving my degree and gaining support from Digital First there has been a huge impact on the business and my aim is to keep building on this growth" Director Darren Penn



Educating the Future Construction Workforce

Preston's College are providing training for three Taylor Wimpey apprentices on local Homes England and City Deal developments. Bricklaying apprentices Liam Fisher and Ryan Rowe alongside Site Carpentry apprentice, Kian Addison, are working on sites across the North West including Cottam's Hayfield Park development.

Thanks to the City Deal and other local developments, Preston's College has also seen a growth in demand for groundwork, highways maintenance and civil engineering apprenticeships, including eight recent additions from Lancashire County Council.

Anthony Mansfield, Managing Director of Taylor Wimpey North West, added: "We know we have a skills gap in this country and Apprenticeships are the best way of filling that gap."

