



Lancashire  
Enterprise Partnership

## **Growth Deal Management Board**

**Private and Confidential: No**

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October

### **Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework**

Appendix "A" refers

**Report Author:** Dr Michele Lawty-Jones, Director of the Lancashire Skills Hub,  
[michele.lawty-jones@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:michele.lawty-jones@lancashire.gov.uk)

#### **Executive Summary**

The final draft of the Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework was approved by the Skills Board in September, and endorsed at the LEP Board meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> October.

Consultation events are being planned for early November. The framework is presented to the Growth Deal Management Board (GDMB) to raise awareness of the framework in order to enable project sponsors to align skills and employment outcomes to the framework and to inform the development of the GDMB's approach to social value.

#### **Recommendations**

The Board is asked to:

1. Note the final draft of the Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework.
2. Provide comment in relation to the alignment of projects and the Boards approach to incorporating social value.

## **1. Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework**

- 1.1 The final draft of the Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework was endorsed by the LEP Board on the 6<sup>th</sup> October for consultation.

- 1.2 The framework brings together the key findings from a range of studies aimed at identifying issues relating to skills and employment across Lancashire. The studies include:
- Overarching 'Comprehensive Evidence Base on Skills and Employment'.
  - 6 Sector Studies:
    - Advanced Manufacturing
    - Energy and Environmental
    - Creative and Digital
    - Finance & Professional Services
    - Visitor Economy
    - Health and Social Care
  - City Deal skills and employment strategy (bringing in the 7<sup>th</sup> priority sector – construction).
- 1.3 The framework draws together the key priorities and objectives from the range of studies, identifying common themes and issues. The framework is structured into 4 themes: Future Workforce, Skilled & Productive Workforce, Inclusive Workforce and An Informed Approach.
- 1.4 These themes are underpinned by a number of key objectives, plus a common set of outcomes for the framework as a whole. These objectives articulate the priorities for Lancashire and are broken down further into a number of actions.
- 1.5 It is intended that the strategic framework will inform and underpin the investment decisions made in relation to discretionary funding (for example, ESIF funding and Growth Deal Skills Capital) and influence the use of mainstream skills and employment budgets, for example, the proposed apprenticeship levy. Providers making use of these budgets in Lancashire will be invited to set out how their delivery will contribute to achieving the Framework's priorities. In delivering the Strategic Priorities, the Skills and Employment Board and other strategic partners will also work with employers to leverage greater levels of employer engagement and investment in key areas.

## **2 Alignment with the Growth Deal Management Board**

- 2.1 The framework is presented to GDMB for a number of reasons:
- 2.1.1 The framework overview is incorporated into the Growth Deal Skills Capital prospectus, so that skills providers submitting projects in round 2 are able to align their project to the strategic priorities of the LEP and the Skills and Employment Board in regard to skills and employment.
- 2.1.2 The framework is relevant to other Growth Deal projects which have a skills and employment dimension.

2.1.3 The framework articulates the priorities which will underpin the GDMB's approach to the incorporation of social value, as discussed at the last GDMB meeting.

### **3 Conclusion**

3.1 The GDMB are invited to comment on the draft framework and use of the framework in relation to social value.