



Lancashire Skills and Employment Board

Private and Confidential: No

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Annual Review of the Lancashire Skills and Employment Hub (Appendix 'A' refers)

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Executive Summary

The Lancashire Skills and Employment Hub has now been in a place for a year. This paper provides an overview of progress against the success criteria for 2015/16 that we agreed last year.

Recommendations

1. The Committee is asked to note the up-date.
2. The Committee is asked to consider and agree the recommendations for success criteria in 2016/17.

1.0 Background

At the meeting in September 2015 the Committee considered a document outlining the purpose and objectives of the Lancashire Skills and Employment Hub and approved the success criteria for 2015/16 (see Appendix A).

2.0 Success Criteria 2015/16 and Progress

The table below provides an overview of progress against the success criteria.

Success Criteria for 2015/16	
<p>Skills and Employment Framework completed with ownership of key stakeholders; evidence of action in accordance with the timelines in the framework.</p>	<p><u>Evidence base completed and published.</u></p> <p><u>Skills and Employment Framework developed, consulted upon and published.</u></p> <p><u>Key stakeholders involved in consultation included:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 87 at two Lancashire Skills & Employment Framework Consultations with employers and stakeholders • Met with all Local Authorities in the LEP area • 30 Youth Council members <p><u>Action underway against the framework themes.</u></p>
<p>ESIF & Growth Deal skills capital funding aligned to the priorities in the Framework and a significant proportion of ESIF funding allocated.</p>	<p><u>Growth Deal Skills Capital</u> Round 2 launched in September 2015 and completed in accordance with a demanding timetable. Funding allocated and Grant Funding Agreements in place or currently being negotiated with the Growth Deal Programme Team.</p> <p><u>ESIF Funding</u> ESF funding prioritised against the framework. Procurement underway against all priority themes.</p> <p><u>ESF Matched by Skills Funding Agency (SFA) Programmes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEET Programme 1.2: £4.45m • Skills Support for the Workforce 2.1: £15.56m • Skills Support for the Unemployed 1.1: £7.44m <p><u>ESF Matched by DWP/JCP Programmes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing Worklessness 1.1: £3m <p><u>ESF Matched by Big Lottery Programmes £7.5m match in Lancashire (Building Better Opportunities Programme)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with People 50+ with Low or No Skills 1.4: £2.91m • Working with Younger People (NEETS) 1.4: £2.67m • Digital Inclusion 1.4: £2.9m • Working with Disadvantaged Groups 1.4: £3.62m <p><u>ESF to be matched (open calls)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed Open Call Blackpool Employment and Mental Health 1.1: £1.67m • Open Call 1.4 Active Inclusion: £8.25m • Open Call 2.1 Widening Participation: £4.45m • Future Open Call 2.1 Leadership and Management: £4.95m • Future Open Call 2.2 Small and Medium Enterprises (SME): £4.59m

<p>Engage with and influence future mainstream 'skills' allocations to meet Lancashire priorities. Area review underway (working with SFA, BIS and DfE), based on intelligence / needs of Lancashire.</p>	<p><u>Area Based Review</u> Working Group established and meeting regularly to prepare for the Area Based Review. Lobbied Government for one review for Lancashire.</p> <p><u>Devolution</u> Work undertaken to scope asks for Lancashire, mapped to the priorities in the Skills and Employment Strategic Framework.</p>
<p>Evidence of innovation and new products facilitated by the Lancashire Skills Hub.</p>	<p><u>Lancashire Enterprise Adviser Network - Pilot and Roll Out</u> Piloted from January 2016 in Burnley and Blackburn with Darwen, funding secured to roll out to Lancashire over the next two academic years.</p> <p>20 Schools currently engaged with further schools engaging from September 2016. Funding has been secured for a further 2 academic years from September 2016 with further roll out across Lancashire in September 2017.</p> <p><u>Engaged with DWP to secure a JCP Pathfinder into Schools</u> One of six nationally.</p> <p><u>Lancashire Science Festival:</u> There were more than 13,000 visitors over the 3 days of the festival. It is estimated that over 660 young people, 175 adults and around 70 schools took part in the City Deal stand's activities.</p> <p>During the festival number of teachers asked if the Lego game could be brought into schools and the CEIAG Taskforce will look at this and other ways of taking the good practice from the Science Festival forward.</p> <p><u>Digital Advantage</u> 9 Schools currently engaged, delivery to start in Autumn term.</p>
<p>Evidence of marketing and communications activities which have engaged new employers and learners.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'The Lancashire Skills and Employment Conversation' Two events were held on the week of 2nd November 2015. Invitations were sent by email and posted to the LEP website and on the Lancashire Skills Hub Twitter feed. 39 attended the Employer event and 48 attended the Provider and Partner event. • Apprenticeship Levy Event for Employers: Invitations sent by email and information posted on the LEP Website. Press Release also created. • A schedule of press releases for the Growth Deal Skills Capital round 1 projects has been developed with SKV, who are employed by the LEP to support communications. A number of press releases have been issued featuring the investments in engineering facilities at Runshaw College, Nelson and Colne

College and Training 2000, as well as showcasing the investment in 'Energy HQ' at Blackpool and Fylde College and the investment in the Fleetwood Nautical Campus

- Lancashire Skills Hub website is currently in draft form and is due to launch in September, pending Skills Board approval.
- Twitter account established and followers growing, currently at 318 followers.
- Communications Plan developed July 2016.
- Attendance at various networking events as key note speakers to promote the Lancashire Skills Hub and the Skills and Employment Board, and events and meetings promoting messages, for example:

Events:

- Growth Deal Skills Capital Fund – Launch and Information Event
- 'Inspiring Our Young People' – LMI event for teachers and IAG practitioners in partnership with National Careers Service
- Apprenticeship Levy Event for Employers
- Lancashire City Deal Science Festival
- Construction Hub Events (approx. 40 attendees)

Presentations and inputs at a range of meetings, networks and conferences, including:

- WBL Forum
- Economic Development Leads
- Blackpool Journey to Work Group
- Breakfast@8
- Blackburn with Darwen Employment and Skills Summit
- Chorley Borough Council Skills & Employment Board
- East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce
- NEET/Skills Meeting
- Education Scrutiny Committee
- Lancashire HR Forum
- Lancaster Vision Conference
- Skilled Lancashire
- Logistics Round Table Event
- Looked After Children Board
- NCS Provider Meeting
- North West Aerospace Alliance Conference
- Regenerate Pennine Lancashire
- South Ribble Partnership
- UKTI Aerospace Visit
- Youth Council
- BOOST Conference
- West Lancashire Partnership – Executive Group
- West Lancashire Skills Training and Employment Partnership (STEP)
- The Lancashire Colleges Group

Valued by local stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprenticeship Levy Event: 49 Businesses, (64 delegates) attended. 32 completed evaluations and over ¾ stated that they would be interested in further events. • Good continued relationships have been formed with partners and stakeholders, which are evident in the communications, meeting and event invitations received.
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3.0 Recommendations for Success Criteria for 2016/17

- Skills and Employment Framework refreshed with continuing ownership of key stakeholders; evidence of action in accordance with the timelines in the framework.
- Continue to align ESIF & Growth Deal skills capital funding to the priorities in the Framework allocating the remaining funding.
- Continue to engage with and influence future mainstream 'skills' allocations to meet Lancashire priorities. Area review completed (working with Skills Funding Agency and Department for Education), based on intelligence/needs of Lancashire.
- Evidence of innovation and new products facilitated by the Lancashire Skills Hub.
- Evidence of communications activities which have engaged new employers and learners.
- Valued by local stakeholders.