



**LANCASHIRE SKILLS
& EMPLOYMENT HUB**

LEP Scrutiny Committee – March 2021

Refresh of the Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework

**Dr Michele Lawty-Jones, Director, Lancashire Skills
and Employment Hub**

Background



- The Lancashire Skills & Employment Board was established shortly after the formation of the LEP
- The Lancashire Skills & Employment Hub was set up in 2015 to provide executive capacity to the board
- Agreed that we needed an evidence based skills strategy for Lancashire
- Commissioned an evidence base and a range of sector studies
- Undertook consultation: employers, providers and stakeholders
- The Lancashire Skills & Employment Strategic Framework 2016-20 was published in February 2016
- Four key themes: Future Workforce, Skilled and Productive Workforce, Inclusive Workforce, Informed Approach



Background

- The Lancashire Skills & Employment Board & Hub support the work of the LEP and Lancashire Leaders, with a nominated leader and council CEO
- Membership also includes: universities, colleges, independent training provider, third sector, school and industry representatives:
<https://www.lancashireskillshub.co.uk/our-people/the-board/>
- Evolved to the Lancashire Skills & Employment Advisory Panel (SAP) in 2018, in-line with national guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) and the establishment of SAPs

Refresh for 2021

- Much achieved since the publication of the first framework:
 - Open source Labour Market Intelligence Toolkit
 - Award winning Careers Hub / Enterprise Adviser Network
 - First Digital Skills Partnership in the country
 - £30m Growth Deal Skills Capital invested in the learning infrastructure
 - £98m of European Social Funds allocated to projects
 - strategic oversight, partnership approach (Lancashire Skills Escalator & Escalate)
 - Lancashire Skills Pledge

Refresh for 2021

- Pragmatic approach – one year refresh for 2021, rather than a 5 year document
 - Impact of the pandemic only beginning to be understood
 - Development of the Strategic Economic Framework (SEF), Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) and output from the Sector Groups
 - Development of Greater Lancashire Plan (GLP)
 - DfE requirement of Local Skills Reports from SAPs countrywide
- Feed into the SEF, LIS and GLP and refresh accordingly come 2022
- Align with statutory requirements of the DfE

Refresh for 2021: Process

- Summer 2020: updated evidence base / reviewed relevant government policy
- Summer 2020: Identification of priorities and objectives, building on previous Framework
- Autumn Consultation:
 - Two online events with over 50 employers, providers and stakeholders
 - Meetings with the 15 CEOs/senior teams of the councils
 - Meeting with each of the 4 university vice chancellors/senior teams
 - Session with LEP directors
- Presented at LEP Board in December for final approval
- Professionally published in January 2021:
<https://www.lancashireskillshub.co.uk/strategies/strategic-framework/>

Strategic Skills & Employment Framework



LANCASHIRE SKILLS & EMPLOYMENT HUB

Purpose: An enabler of the LEP's Strategic Economic Framework and the Greater Lancashire Plan, the Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework aims to build a talent pipeline aligned with the needs of the economy, boost the skills of our people to enhance productivity and drive an inclusive workforce in partnership with businesses, providers and stakeholders.

