



CITY DEAL

Preston, South Ribble & Lancashire

CITY DEAL EXECUTIVE AND STEWARDSHIP BOARD

Private and Confidential: NO

Date: Tuesday, 13 July 2021

City Deal Employment and Skills, Social and Economic Impact Update
(Appendix 'A' refers)

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Executive Summary

The purpose of this paper is to provide an update on the delivery of Employment and Skills and Social Value across the City Deal project portfolio.

The outputs in relation to skills and employment covering performance for the 2019/2020 academic year, were reported to this Board on 3rd February 2021. The City Deal outputs for skills and employment will be updated in November 2021 following the end of the academic year and reported to the Board in line with the time frame for reporting on these metrics.

Recommendation

The City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board is asked to note the report and the attached Case Study (at Appendix A).

1. Skills and Employment

- 1.1. The outputs in relation to skills and employment covering the 2019/2020 academic year were reported to this Board on 3rd February 2021. The City Deal outputs for skills and employment will be updated in November 2021 following the end of the academic year and reported to the Board in line with the time frame for reporting on these metrics.
- 1.2. The impact of the Covid 19 pandemic and consequent restrictions put in place to limit the spread of the disease has had profound consequences on the activity of partners and the delivery of employment and skills initiatives.
- 1.3. The longer term impact is at present difficult to gauge but from a construction standpoint the sector is experiencing a strong rebound. According to data



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compiled by CITB from their Customer Voice survey, in the last couple of months there has been an increase in employers expecting a rise in recruitment and workforce numbers due to increased order books and/or business expansion.

2. Social & Economic Impact

2.1. As reported in the City Deal Executive and Stewardship Report of the 3rd February 2021, the Preston Western Distributor project has generated some very positive results in generating social value during the first year of the construction phase of the project despite the very challenging conditions of operating a large scale site amidst the Covid-19 Pandemic.

2.2. In brief at the end of year 1 the project had generated the following outputs:

- 40.6% of spend this year is being made with local companies within 25 miles of the project
- Costain, the main contractor, has 30% local staff on the project, with 83 staff on site of which 25 live in the locality
- A total of eight apprentices are currently working on the project
- The project has provided opportunities for a total 14 ex-military members of the team, from main contractor and many supply chain partners
- Barratt Group – the formwork contractors have 21% BAME staff on their team, and 47% of their team are local to the project
- 53% of PSI labour agency staff are local to the project
- 66.6% of Frameworks labour agency staff are local to the project

3. Construction Skills Fund

3.1. In the construction sector, the Skills Hub continues to work closely with partners and developers across the county to provide employment and skills opportunities for local people. The Skills Hub are working with the Construction Industry Training Broad and Procure Plus on the roll out of the Construction Skills Fund across Lancashire.

3.2. The programme is geared toward providing training and placements for new entrants/returners to the sector with a focus on priority and under-represented groups secure employment in the sector.

3.3. Despite the restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic the programme continues to deliver some very positive results (see below). The Skills Hub will continue to be an active member of the Construction Skills Fund Board and scope opportunities across LEP programmes and projects.



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Construction Skills Fund: 1st April 2020 – 6th April 2021	Lancashire
Training Completions	132
Employed to date	55
Diversity – All Trained	
BAME Trained	9
Female Trained	7
Learning difficulty and/or disability and/or health problem.	17
NEET Trained	51
Ex-Offender Trained	11
Care Leaver Trained	7
Unemployed >6months Trained	60
Unemployed <6months Trained	75

3.4 The Construction Skills Fund came to a close for new starts at the end of March 2021 and will be superseded by the Onsite Experience programme which will continue to provide employment and skills opportunities for Lancashire residents.

3.5 One of the many projects participating in this programme is the Preston Western Distributor scheme which has provided a total of four opportunities to date including Steven, whose transformative story is told in the attached case study.

4 D'Urton Lane Development Social Value Programme

4.1 The Skills Hub are currently working with Wilmott Dixon and L&Q/Trafford Housing Trust, to develop an ambitious social value programme for the D'Urton Lane development.

4.3 The project team are working with an extensive range of local partners to realise their social value offering and have set up two action groups focusing on Education and Skills & Employment opportunities for local people including work placements, apprenticeships and Kickstart placements.

4.4 Despite being at a very early stage in the programme with enabling works and site preparation the project has already generated 4 employment opportunities, 3 apprenticeships and engaged with a total of 117 students. The project team are currently working with Preston's College to develop a series of Masterclasses for students.

5 Wider Impact

5.1 The economic impact of the pandemic will be reflected across the City Deal Employment and Skills metrics which will be reported in autumn of this year with a likely downturn in apprenticeship starts, graduate destinations, unemployment data and schools engagement reflected in the data.



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List of Background Papers

Paper

Date

Contact/Tel

NA

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

NA