

# NORTH AND WESTERN LANCASHIRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## LOCAL SKILLS IMPROVEMENT PLAN TRAILBLAZER



North & Western  
Lancashire  
Chamber of Commerce



# BACKGROUND

## 'Skills for Jobs' White Paper

- Aim to address long-term issues with addressing existing skills gaps and planning for future skills needs
- Proposals to improve post-16 skills provision focusing on FE
- Plan to put employers at the heart of skills planning locally

## Skills Accelerator

- Set out the guidance for expressions of interest for LSIPs and SDFs
- LSIPs to focus on engaging with employers to develop a clear understanding of their skills needs – to be led by an employer representative body
- SDFs to develop capacity and collaboration between FE colleges – to be led by an FE college
- Joint LSIP and SDF bids were strongly encouraged



# LSIP OVERVIEW

Eight difference Chambers of Commerce will spearhead the development of the plans in eight trailblazer areas this year, backed with up to £4 million of revenue funding.

They are hoped to address concerns that employers do not currently have enough influence over the skills provision offered in their locality and struggle to find staff to fill their skills gaps.



## Local Skills Improvement Plan trailblazers

Employer representative body lead	Geographic area	Linked Strategic Development Fund pilot
Business West Chamber of Commerce	West of England	Weston College
Cumbria Chamber of Commerce	Cumbria	Lakes College Cumbria
Doncaster Chamber of Commerce	South Yorkshire	Barnsley College
East Midlands Chamber of Commerce	Leicestershire	Loughborough College
Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce	Kent	Mid-Kent College
North-East England Chamber of Commerce	Tees Valley	The Education Training Collective
North and Western Lancashire Chamber of Commerce	Lancashire	Myerscough College
Sussex Chamber of Commerce	Sussex	Chichester College

# SUPPORT

The North & Western Lancashire Chamber of Commerce is the lead organisation, working in partnership with East Lancashire Chamber.

The LSIP has also received support from stakeholders across the county, including local authorities, education and skills providers, and other business groups.

Supporters include:

- Lancashire LEP
- Lancashire Skills & Employment Hub
- The Lancashire Colleges
- Lancashire WBL Forum
- Digital Lancashire
- Boost
- Lancaster Chamber
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Construction Industry Training Board
- Marketing Lancashire
- Institute of Chartered Accountants
- Chartered Institute of Marketing
- National Farmers Union
- Confederation of British Industry
- NorthWest Aerospace Alliance
- UCLan
- Shout Network
- Active Lancashire



# THE PLAN

Teams of business engagement officers, data analysts, stakeholder managers will be created in both Blackpool and Accrington, overseen by a Projected Leader.

- Analyse existing data sources
- Conduct wider business engagement
- Develop understanding of general needs
- Conduct a deeper interviewing process to understand needs at a more granular level
- Create sectoral and thematic focus groups to investigate issues arising and develop solutions
- Work with FE colleges and training providers to refine solutions
- Create employer and stakeholder groups to work through issues and proposed solutions
- All work to feed into an LSIP Board to finalise the plan
- The draft of the plan needs to be produced by end of February 2022 with the final plan produced by end of March 2022

## WHAT NEXT?

