

Leeds City Region LEP Skills Plan



OUR AMBITION

The LEP's Skills Plan has been developed to help ensure that Leeds City Region's population will benefit from the potential offered by the estimated 500,000 job opportunities expected over the next decade. It will lead to the creation of a more skilled and flexible workforce that will support improved productivity and position us amongst the leading economies in Europe.



"We want to leapfrog other City Regions, not play catch up. Achieving the highest possible levels of education and skills linked to our sustainable economic strengths and growth priorities will be key determinants of how we raise our game."

Roger Marsh, Chair – Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership

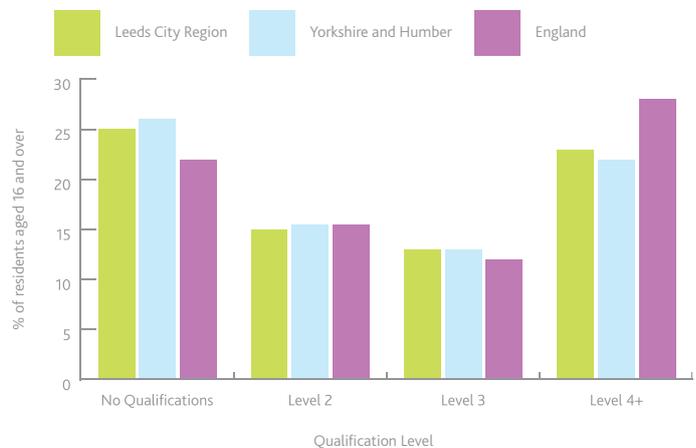
WHERE ARE WE NOW?

We have a lot to be encouraged by on skills...

- The number of apprentices in the City Region is increasing
- GCSE attainment is improving
- We have class leading FE, HE and work based learning.

But we still face some significant issues...

- We have too many people with no qualifications
- We don't have sufficient people with higher level skills
- Many employers don't invest enough in training.



Source: Census 2011

THE CHALLENGE

Our economy is changing. In the future we will need more people with higher level skills, more apprentices and a skills system that supports the needs of the economy. To meet this challenge it is essential that we:

- Improve educational attainment, support enterprise and innovation and ensure that our employers can recruit the right people.
- Ensure that those seeking employment are ready for work and are given high quality and impartial careers guidance.
- Develop the skills of the current workforce by encouraging employers to invest more in apprenticeships and training.

THE SKILLS PLAN IS STRUCTURED AROUND THREE CENTRAL THEMES, EACH A DIRECT RESPONSE TO THE CHALLENGES AHEAD.

1. BUILDING SKILLS IN EDUCATION

Improve the relevance of learning within the City Region's schools, colleges, universities and other educational institutions to our economy. We will:

- Improve English and maths GCSE results
- Strengthen links between education and employers
- Better equip young people and job seekers with the core skills needed by business
- Prepare young people for the opportunities and skills needed in growth and priority sectors
- Roll out the most effective elements of enterprise education across the City Region.

2. TRANSITION INTO WORK

Help the City Region's residents to gain and progress in rewarding employment. We will:

- Boost the number of work placements and internships available across the City Region
- Increase the profile and take-up of Apprenticeships, especially amongst SMEs
- Introduce measures to address pockets of high youth unemployment
- Generate innovative videos and localised information explaining where the job opportunities are.

3. RAISING DEMAND AND IMPROVING SKILLS

Secure increased employer investment in training to improve the skills of the City Region's workforce. We will:

- Help more employers to invest in training
- Strengthen leadership, management and higher level skills
- Invest in skills needed to support growth sectors, low carbon and global trade
- Tackle skills shortages in engineering and computer software.

OUTCOMES

- Better GCSE attainment in core subjects
- Young people more work ready.

OUTCOMES

- A thriving Apprenticeship system with many new employers on board
- Lower youth unemployment.

OUTCOMES

- More employers providing training for more of their staff
- Fewer skills gaps and skills shortages

A BETTER SKILLED, MORE PRODUCTIVE AND MORE PROSPEROUS CITY REGION



“Through this plan we will strengthen the links between the City Region's schools and businesses so that pupils in every school can experience the world of work in a meaningful way and make informed choices about their future.”

Stephanie Burras, Chair – Leeds City Region Employment and Skills Panel



“Our response to the future needs of our economy lies in a joined up approach, starting in the early years and continuing throughout all stages of education and employment. The Skills Plan has been developed to deliver the skills businesses require to compete globally.”

Councillor Peter Box, CBE, Chair – Leeds City Region Leaders Board

OUR PARTNERS

The LEP will build on strong foundations of partnership working to deliver the actions in the Skills Plan. Key players will work collaboratively to accelerate the pace of change.

- LCR Skills Network
- Local Authorities
- Education Institutions
- Government Agencies
- Employers
- Local Employment and Skills Boards
- UK Commission for Employment and Skills.



LEP SKILLS PRIORITIES

The Skills Plan includes actions that are designed to accelerate progress in each of our 13 skills priorities. These have been endorsed by the LEP, its Employment and Skills Panel, the LCR Skills Network and the Minister for Skills.

1. Improved work readiness of school, college and university leavers
2. Improved performance in basic maths and English for employability
3. Core skills and flexibility
4. More enterprise and innovation culture in education
5. Increase Apprenticeship take-up
6. Increase youth employment options
7. More opportunities to progress into higher level skilled jobs
8. Improved leadership and management skills
9. Target workforce skills gaps
10. Stronger careers guidance
11. Prepare for future jobs growth in low carbon
12. Skills for boosting overseas trade
13. Prepare for long term job increases in core sectors.

For further details download the full Skills Plan below



“Our challenge as providers is to link skills provision more closely to business need and employment opportunities. The Skills Plan provides a framework for us to further develop the good work that is already underway in this regard.”

Michele Sutton, OBE, CEO Bradford College Group and Chair of Leeds City Region Skills Network

FURTHER INFORMATION

To download the LCR Skills Plan
www.leedscityregion.gov.uk/skillsplan

For our Labour Market Analysis 2013/14
<http://www.leedscityregion.gov.uk/labourmarket2013/>

For our LEP Skills Report detailing employer skills needs
<http://www.leedscityregion.gov.uk/lepsskillsreport/>

For more information on the LCR Skills Network of colleges, universities, skills and employability providers
<http://www.leedscityregionskillsnetwork.co.uk/>

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