

# Hull & East Yorkshire Collaborative Annual Accountability Statement

May 2024

## Introduction

Colleges and independent training providers within the Hull and East Yorkshire area and wider Humber region have for many years collaborated on projects designed to meet the needs of local people and industry. The importance of collaborative working has long been recognised as a means of leveraging the capital and revenue funding to develop the learning resources required to meet the skills needs of the regional economy.

Projects such as the Strategic Development Fund (SDF) and more recently the Local Skills Improvement Fund (LSIF) have demonstrated how collaboration between providers and employers can successfully build the training capacity required to respond to the rapidly changing job market and the need for higher level technical skills.

## Provider Partners

The partners serving this region are:



DN COLLEGES GROUP



SOURCE: HEY LSIP REPORT



## Place

Over the past five years, Hull and East Yorkshire's employment rate has decreased and remains below the national rate and the regional rate of Yorkshire and Humber. There is significant variance in the employment rate by local authority with the East Riding of Yorkshire standing at 77% whereas the Hull rate is 70%. The working age population is shrinking and is expected to account for 58% of the population by 2030.

Overall, the region comprises 20,945 businesses, with 32.5% in Hull and the remaining 67.5% in the East Riding of Yorkshire. Significant sectors were identified as being Construction (14%) and professional, scientific and technical (12%). The region has a strong micro-business base, with approximately 75% of businesses employing 4 or less members of staff and 13% employing 5 to 9 members of staff.

## Collaborative projects

Examples of how providers in the region have worked together to address skills needs include the following:

### Strategic Development Fund (SDF)

Led by TEC Partnership and involving all college providers in the region, the Strategic Development Fund was a key contributor to the region's skills development activities, focusing mainly on Low Carbon/ Green Energy.

### Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP)

Led by the Chamber of Commerce, providers are working together to support the delivery of the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) which has identified 5 key themes:

- i) Technical Skills
- ii) Educational Professionals
- iii) Employability & Behaviours
- iv) Careers Guidance
- v) Accessibility

In terms of Technical Skills, 5 sectors were prioritised:

- Construction
- Engineering Construction
- Manufacturing
- Agri-tech
- Health & Social Care

The provider partners work with private sector employers on aspects of skills development through LSIP Quarterly Forums and LSIP sector specific Working Groups which encourage open discussion and create new relationships.

### Local Skills Improvement Fund (LSIF)

Led by Bishop Burton College and supported by Hull College, the Local Skills Improvement Fund (LSIF) has been a key opportunity for collaborative activity between providers. Based on the LSIP recommendations, the area has focused on two main projects:

- a) Technical Transformation, and
- b) Digital Transformation

### Yorkshire & Humber Institute of Technology (YHloT)

Founded in 2019, the YHloT has provided funding to deliver higher technical qualifications in STEM-based occupations including Agri-tech, Engineering, Construction and Computing. Strategically aligned with colleges' universities and employers, the aim of the YHloT is to empower the region's businesses through the provision of higher-level skills training.

### Humber Principals Group

Currently chaired by Bishop Burton College, this group brings together all of the colleges in the Humber region to enhance and coordinate its approach to skills.

### Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership

The colleges contributed to the Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership which was initiated by the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to raise the digital skills level in the region. One of the outputs from this activity was the publication of the HEY Digital Skills Prospectus 2023 which showcases the courses and opportunities available to businesses and individuals.

### Curriculum Development

Collaborative project working across the provider network has accelerated the development of a range of new provision designed to strengthen careers pathways and meet skills needs including Apprenticeships, T-Levels, Boot Camps and Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs). Much of this work is took place in partnership with the Hull & East Yorkshire LEP (now the Hull & East Yorkshire Business, Growth & Skills Hub).