

APPRENTICESHIP ACTIVITY IN SCHOOLS – APRIL TO DECEMBER 2018

From April to December 2018, 130 apprenticeship engagement activities were delivered to a total of 23,199 young people in 78 schools via the LEP Enterprise in Education Programme across the Leeds City Region (managed by the Combined Authority and working closely with partner authorities).

The Combined Authority has focused its activity on those most disadvantaged young people in the city region in order to promote social mobility, as it has been identified that disadvantaged groups are less likely to become apprentices. Of the total 23,199 young people benefitting so far, almost 6,000 have been disadvantaged (pupil premium) learners.

In order to target disadvantaged groups most effectively, additional funding has been secured for a Careers Hub in Kirklees and through the Opportunity Area in Bradford, resulting in additional resource for these areas and a greater number of young people reached.

The Combined Authority role includes directly enabling some activity to take place, including by engaging business volunteers to promote apprenticeships.

Other activity is delivered by a number of providers and partners, funded through a range of sources and co-ordinated and influenced by the Combined Authority's Enterprise in Education team.

Deliverers include businesses, training providers, colleges, universities, public and third sector organisations, and schools themselves, broken down as follows:

- The highest proportion of activity was delivered through the Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge (ASK) programme, funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency to promote apprenticeships to young people in schools, and delivering 33% of the total activities across the region.
- 21% of the apprenticeship activities were delivered by employers; both Enterprise Advisers and Business Volunteers engaged with young people in schools across the region to promote apprenticeships.
- Schools themselves delivered 22% of activities, working with local providers and colleges to organise school careers fairs to engage young people with post 16 options, including apprenticeships and FE / HE.
- Targeted activities (5%) were carried out across the city region, including the Make it in Manufacturing event delivered in Calderdale and Kirklees, linking over 180 young people with apprentices and employers from the advanced manufacturing sector.
- The remaining 19% of activity was delivered by public and third sector organisations.

Apprenticeship promotion in schools is a new area of focus for the Combined Authority, commencing about 18 months ago, and has been well-received by schools and employers. It will be developed further and expanded with the roll-out of the Employment Hub, in partnership with Local Authorities, enabling more young people in a greater number of schools to benefit. These activities are intended to have an impact in the medium and long term which will be realised over a number of years.