

**West  
Yorkshire**  
Combined  
Authority

# Employment and Skills Plan Refresh



# Employment and Skills Plan (2016- 2020)



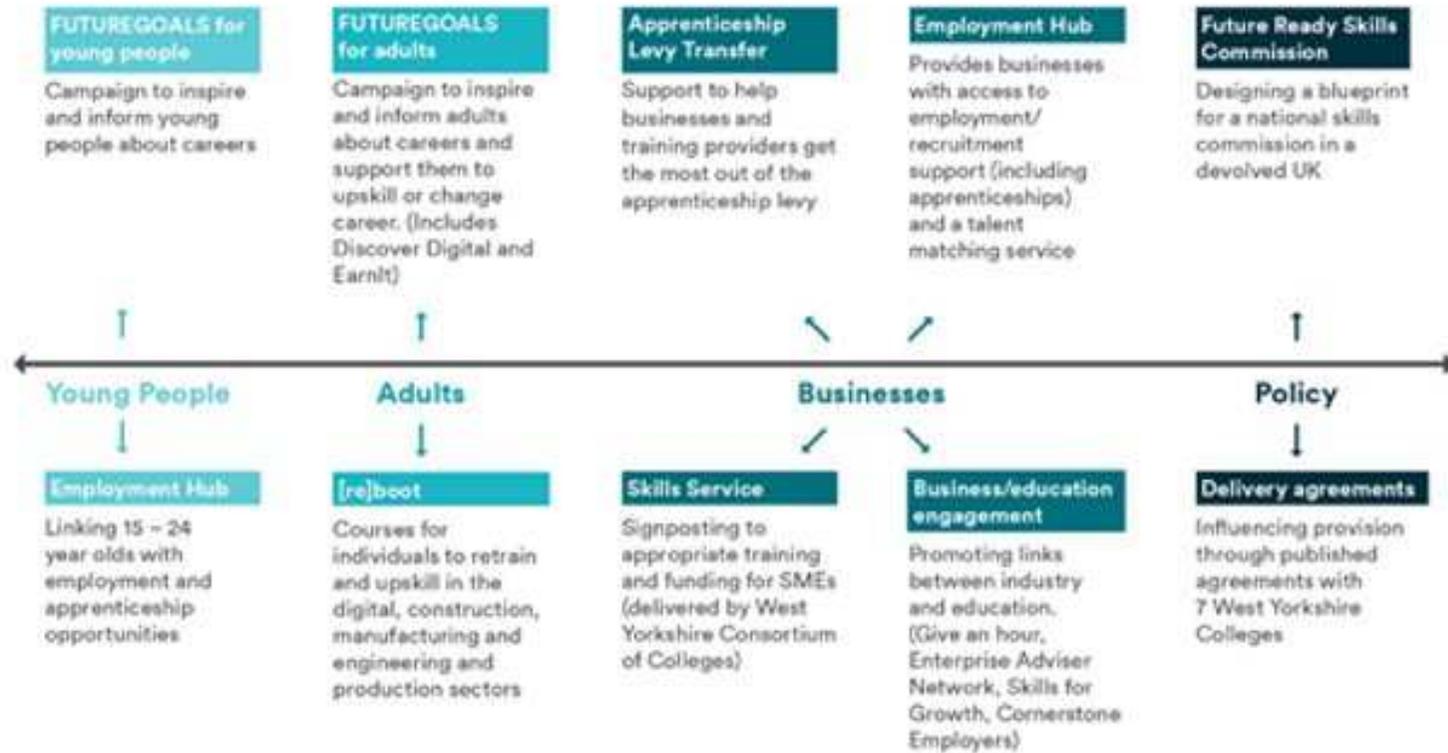
# Where are we now – labour market challenges

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- **Skills levels** - are below the national average (at level 4+). There is significant over-representation of people with low / no qualifications in West Yorkshire and large numbers without basic literacy and numeracy.
- **Skills Supply** - Around two-thirds of employers expect future upskilling needs. Many report they are unable to find the skills they need, yet the majority of employers under-invest in skills. Only 9% of employers demonstrate high performing workplace practices.
- **Skills deprivation** - West Yorkshire has more than twice its “fair share” of neighbourhoods that are among the most acutely deprived in terms of adult skills.
- **Unemployment** - West Yorkshire’s unemployment rate is above the national average. The claimant count (the number of jobless people claiming benefits) has been on an upward trend for some time.

# Where are we now – delivery strengths

## Leeds City Region employment and skills offer



# What Does Success Look Like?

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By the end of the period covered by the employment and skills plan, we want West Yorkshire to have:

- A productive, resilient and innovative economy that offers a high standard of living and is based on a highly skilled, diverse and flexible workforce.
- Stronger relationships between employers and training providers with good quality skills and training opportunities that reflect the unique needs of our labour market.
- Closed the attainment gap for disadvantaged learners, so that all communities are able to access and progress in learning, and experience the economic benefits
- Universal access to a widely used and valued, high-quality careers information and support service, and for people to understand how to access their entitlements in relation to careers guidance and training.

# Process and next steps

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The proposed timescales and plans for the refresh are:

- **Stage 1:** Scoping and appraising current priorities (May – July 2020)
- **Stage 2:** Consultation with key stakeholders and partners, and open consultation (July – September 2020)
- **Stage 3:** Preparation and sign-off of the refreshed plan (October – December 2020)
- **Stage 4:** Publish and launch plan (Early 2021)