

**Report to:** Employment and Skills Committee

**Date:** 24 January 2022

**Subject:** **Local Skills Report**

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Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

## 1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To seek comments from the Committee on the draft Local Skills Report refresh for West Yorkshire.
- 1.2 To seek approval for the publication of the refreshed report subject to comments received.

## 2. Information

- 2.1 The LEP published its first Local Skills Report in March 2021. The purpose of Local Skills Reports is to set out each area's unique skills landscape and skills needs. They also cover progress on skills-related activities and set out how local partners can support local skills plans. They are required to present information in a consistent way across all Skills Advisory Panels (SAPs). The overall aim is to maximise SAPs' influence, engage local partners and feed intelligence into central government and the national-level Skills and Productivity Board (SPB).
- 2.2 As noted at the October 29 meeting of the Employment and Skills Committee, the LEP is required to publish a refreshed Report under its current Memorandum of Understanding with the Department for Education by the end of January 2022. Since there has been a short period since the publication of

the previous report DfE guidance calls for a light-touch update of the content of the report rather than a re-write.

2.3 The Department for Education's guidance indicates that SAPs are expected to obtain SAP Chair sign off on their Local Skills Reports. For West Yorkshire this equates to sign off by the Chair and wider membership of the Employment and Skills Committee, which serves as the Skills Advisory Panel for the local area.

2.4 The draft refreshed Local Skills Report for 2022 is appended for review. Members of the Committee are asked to provide comments on the report content. Assuming that the content of the report is deemed to be broadly acceptable by the Committee, comments will be incorporated into the report and the final document re-circulated to Committee members prior to publication.

### **3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications**

3.1 The draft Local Skills Report considers the skills implications arising out of the climate emergency and the actions that partners are taking to address these skills needs.

### **4. Inclusive Growth Implications**

4.1 The Local Skills Report considers the role of employment and skills in fostering inclusive growth and the ways in which current policy and action promote inclusion.

### **5. Equality and Diversity Implications**

5.1 The report considers issues of equality and diversity from the perspectives of access to opportunities in the labour market and access to education and training for different groups.

### **6. Financial Implications**

6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

### **7. Legal Implications**

7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

### **8. Staffing Implications**

8.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

### **9. External Consultees**

9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

## **10. Recommendations**

- 10.1 That the Committee provides comments on the refreshed Local Skills Report.
- 10.2 That the Committee approves the draft Local Skills Report for publication on the Combined Authority website, subject to any comments received.

## **11. Background Documents**

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

## **12. Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Draft Local Skills Report