

Appendix 2: Full list of WYCA Business and Employment and Skills support and pipelines

Current Business Support	Description
Growth Service	<p>Access point for all businesses in West Yorkshire to find out what support is available to them and to be linked directly to the support, whether the support is being delivered by the CA or by any of its local, regional, or national partners e.g., LAs, Innovate UK, Department for International Trade, Chambers of Commerce, universities & colleges etc.</p> <p>In addition, a team of SME Growth Managers provide account-management support to businesses in each district of the region, linking their clients to the right support at the right time in their growth and resilience journeys.</p>
ReBiz (Resource Efficiency & Circular Economy Programme)	<p>Programme offers businesses free efficiency audits and consultancy advice, business-support and up to 40% capital grant funding. The programme can help businesses reduce energy consumption, increase environmental performance, realise carbon savings and increase recycling and reuse activities.</p>
Strategic Business Growth Programme	<p>Programme helps SMEs with growth ambition to improve their performance and identify opportunities for growth. This includes working with leadership teams to align goals and ambitions and prioritise tasks to support company growth.</p>
#Grow	<p>Support for businesses in the creative, digital, med-tech or fin-tech sectors looking to expand and grow in the region. Businesses can apply for grant funding as part of the Digital Investment Fund linked to job creation.</p>
Enterprise West Yorkshire	<p>Support available for individuals planning to start a business, irrespective of sector, business model or growth plans. This includes finding support to start the business, identifying and engaging potential customers and practical business considerations such as insurance and financing.</p> <p>A specific workstream around supporting innovative entrepreneurs with high growth potential will be available in Autumn 2022.</p>
Business Growth Programme	<p>A scheme for businesses with 100 employees or less. The scheme provides businesses with grants between £10,000 and £50,000, particularly those in key growth sectors such as health and life sciences, low-carbon, finance and digital/creative. Applications close 30 September 2022 and projects completed and claimed by 31 December 2022.</p>

Current Business Support	Description
Connecting Innovation	Advice, guidance, and funding for businesses to develop and commercialise new products, processes, and services by working with an external third party, such as a university or research specialist business.
Travel Plan Network	Advice and support for employers of all sizes to implement active and sustainable travel into their operations, such as enhanced use of public transport, walking and cycling, car sharing and car park management.
SME Investment Fund	Equity and debt finance from £50k to £2m for West Yorkshire businesses with high growth potential. The fund is being managed on the CA's behalf by the Foresight Group following an open procurement exercise.
Made Smarter	Advice, guidance, and grant finance to support SMEs to implement advanced digital technologies into their manufacturing operations. For example, artificial Intelligence, robotics, virtual reality, additive manufacturing, big data, and internet of things. The programme is being delivered across Yorkshire with South Yorkshire CA as the lead, and with WYCA delivering the grant finance element.
Current Employment and Skills Support	Description
Employment Hub	A programme delivered until March 2023 through the West Yorkshire local authorities aimed at people of all ages provides support through individual advice, guidance, apprenticeship, training, and employment opportunities. The Hubs provide businesses with access to employment or recruitment support including apprenticeships and a talent matching service for individuals seeking employment.
Adult Education Budget	The devolved budget supports West Yorkshire residents who are employed and unemployed to gain sustained employment and increase skills for employed individuals to progress whilst in work.
Skills Connect	Programme delivered through a network of delivery partners that provides training courses for individuals to enable them to retrain and upskill in key sectors.
Apprenticeship Levy Transfer	Supports businesses who are not spending all their levy funding to transfer up to 25% of their annual contribution to fund apprentice opportunities in other organisations.

Current Business Support	Description
Enterprise West Yorkshire	Supports start-up businesses from diverse communities to grow through online and face to face workshops and advice.

Pipeline Programmes	Description
2022 – 2024	
Business West Yorkshire	Revised and refreshed Growth Service with enhanced approach to reaching a larger and more diverse range of businesses, making better use of digital technology to engage different market segments, and engaging more effectively with the corporate sector to secure support for the SME market.
Business Productivity Programme	A new programme launching in Autumn 2022 which provides businesses with support to increase their productivity levels through the likes of investment in new technology. Some businesses will also be able to receive financial support between £5,000 and £100,000.
Innovation West Yorkshire	New programme to support more businesses to invest in R&D activities and develop new products, processes, and services with support from academia and the private sector. This will include advice and grant investment, alongside the Mayor's new Innovation Prize and the annual West Yorkshire Innovation Festival.
Business Sustainability Programme	New programme to help businesses reduce their carbon emissions, energy usage and, hence, energy costs. The holistic programme will focus on 'measure, plan and action' and will also incorporate support to implement active and sustainable travel, recycling and reuse of waste materials, proactive measures related to extreme weather incidents and ongoing measurement of emissions at the firm level.
Mayoral Innovation Prize Pilot	A pilot challenge competition which will ask young budding entrepreneurs to design a new product, service or technology that will focus on tackling the climate emergency.
Export Support	A new programme that will help businesses who are seeking to export to international markets.
Post Ad:Venture	A successor programme to the existing Ad:Venture programme. This will likely include similar business support and grant investment to help early-stage businesses grow (such as business planning, advisory support, workshops and access to incubation spaces and services).
Post Digital Enterprise	A programme that will replace the existing Digital Enterprise programme, and that is likely to include

Pipeline Programmes	Description
	digital growth vouchers for businesses to invest in digital technology, equipment, and improved connectivity. It will also provide advice and guidance to businesses on how to build their digital capacity and capability.
Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP Pilot)	Exploring a potential new programme to make it cheaper for businesses to take part in or run a short KTP which would work better for many businesses.
Skills Support for Businesses	Looking at providing new skills support to businesses such as leadership courses, internships, and graduate schemes.
Creative Catalyst	A scheme to help support the growth of the creative sector across West Yorkshire, providing support on business growth planning, leadership, and international markets.
Digital Skills Programmes	Interventions to support more individuals and employer gain digital skills for life and work as well as high tech specialist skills
2024 – Onwards	
Seedcorn Finance	A programme that will look to support, facilitate or convene high-growth start-up businesses with equity finance to support business expansion.
Health-Tech Sector Support	A call for funding opportunities to support the priorities under the regional Health-Tech Strategy.
Inward Investment Pot	A programme to support the work of securing inward investment to the region.

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Pipeline Employment and Skills Programmes	Description
2022 – 2024	
Employment West Yorkshire (previously Employment Hubs)	Revised and refreshed Employment West Yorkshire will begin in April 2023 and will support individuals to access employment information, advice, and guidance. This service is aimed at people of all ages and will provide bespoke signposting support via advisors expertise on apprenticeships, training, and employment opportunities. Local services provide businesses with access to employment or recruitment support including apprenticeships and a talent matching service for individuals seeking employment. Each local delivery service has different cohorts they are aiming to support based on their area needs however, all will support inactive and unemployed individuals. The programme will deliver specific pilots to support the need for green and digital skills.
Green Skills programmes	A new programme launching in Autumn 2022 will provide support for businesses, individuals, and education providers to enable them to work towards ambitious regional net zero targets. The programme will create opportunities for young people to work within the green sector through a Green Jobs Gateway which will align directly to skills support delivered through Local Authority Partners. The programme will build capacity for FE institutions to deliver skills that support the need within business and will deliver support to businesses to retrain and attract talent to the sector.
Employment and Skills support for ex-offenders	Options are being explored to develop a programme that will focus on influencing the prison leaver employment agenda to reduce reoffending and prevent future victims in the region. Employment and Skills support for ex-offenders will focus on representation at regional level at regional forums that address education and employment for

	<p>prison-leavers. Development of specific Labour Market Information for regional HMP's, incentivising employer engagement, exploring pathways and understand support available within community settings.</p>
<p>Digital Skills</p>	<p>Through the Digital Skills Plan, an innovative digital offer will be available from Autumn 2022 to individuals and businesses. To break that down further, the intended outcomes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Everyone in society can gain 'everyday' skills required in an increasingly digital-first world to help manage their finances, navigate the health system, and apply for jobs etc., •Through accessible and inclusive provision of digital skills training, no individual is left behind in our increasingly digital society. •The skills shortages and gaps are reduced in roles within the digital sector and in roles that require digital skills. •Businesses are able to access local recruits with the skills they need, and residents can enter prosperous and progressive careers in West Yorkshire. •SMEs and the Third Sector value and invest in digital skills for their workforce to transform their businesses and build economic resilience and growth.
<p>Mayoral Graduate Scheme</p>	<p>The Mayoral Graduate scheme will help bridge the gap between SME and graduates within the region by understanding the barriers SMEs face when recruiting and developing pathways/materials for graduates. This scheme will contribute towards the 1000 green jobs pledge, attracting/keeping talent in the region and increase skilled and well-paid workforce across the region.</p>

Skills Support for Businesses	<p>Skills Support for Businesses will provide employers with the opportunity to help their staff upskill, improving training opportunities and in turn, businesses growth, resilience, productivity, and staff well-being. This support will help businesses to move to more efficient, green, and digital practices.</p> <p>This support will also help the regions SMEs become a more competitive and attractive business.</p>
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