

Employment and Skills Economic Services

Businesses supported to engage with employment and skills programmes

The Combined Authority set a target to support 266 businesses through employment and skills programmes. This support is delivered from across a range of different programmes which are funded through different sources including ESF, gainshare and DFE. Skills support is fully integrated with our wider business support offer to SMEs, large employers and potential inward investors. Teams work closely with Local Authority colleagues to ensure that employers can navigate the complexity of the education system and take advantage of support available at a national, regional and local level.

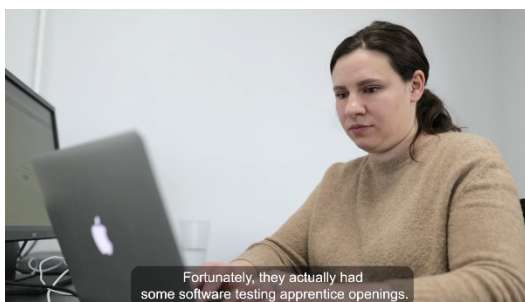
This case study provides an example of the way that the Combined Authority can support businesses to address skills shortages and recruitment challenges through bringing together different funding streams to address their challenges and priorities. Sculpt Digital is a digital business based in Leeds. Through our DFE funded bootcamps, Sculpt Digital supported the delivery of a digital course that offered a clear career opportunity into the tech industry. Sculpt Digital were so impressed with the calibre of the candidates from the Skills Bootcamp that they altered their recruitment plans and took on two female apprentices from the course.

Furthermore, we were able to support the creation of the apprenticeship roles through our Apprenticeship Levy Transfer Service which supports businesses not spending all their levy funding to fund apprenticeships in other organisations.

Santander had committed their levy. They approved their levy transfer to employer Sculpt Digital, covering 100% of the training costs for the two apprentices as well as growing the digital economy in West Yorkshire.

Here is a short video from the businesses and apprentices involved:

[FG Skills Bootcamp Levy Case Study Social Short subbed.mp4 on Vimeo](#)



'Our aim at Santander is to help people and businesses prosper, so the opportunity to do this type of partnership and use the levy was ideal for us'.

Senior Manager at Santander

'Before the bootcamp I wasn't convinced I was able to work in the software industry'

Software Testing Apprentice



Since April 2022 the Employment and Skills team have supported 154 businesses against a cumulative target of 94. The businesses have been engaged across the team through a number of our programmes, including;

- Skills for Growth: supports business skills and growth needs by engaging with a wide range of education establishments in the region.
- Apprenticeship Levy Transfer Service: supports businesses not spending all their levy funding to fund apprenticeships in other organisations
- Schools Partnership: matching business volunteers to schools and colleges to raise aspirations for young people in West Yorkshire.

