Project Overview

Project Title	Digital Skills, Green Skills, and Skills Support

Main Funding Programme	Gainshare allocation for Investment Priority 2 (IP2) - Skills and Training for People
Current Forecast Project cost	£7,500,000
Funding Applied for from the Combined Authority now	£6,000,000 from gainshare allocation for IP2 £1,500,000 adult skills funding
Other public sector funding amounts and sources	£0.00
Private sector funding amounts and sources	Businesses in receipt of skills funding could contribute up to 30% match funding

Scheme Description

The Digital Skills, Green Skills, and Skills Support programme is made up of two programmes, the Workforce Development and Growth programme, and the Workforce for the Future programme. The programmes will deliver skills packages to improve West Yorkshire's diverse and skilled workforce, meeting the needs of the local economy and businesses.

The Workforce Development and Growth programme consists of two projects: Project 1 Skills Support for Business, and Project 2 Mayoral Graduate Pilot. The projects will support employers to upskill, reskill and retrain existing employees, as well as developing and acquiring future talent.

The Workforce for the Future programme consists of three projects: Project 3 Digital Inclusion, Project 4 Regional Careers Engagement, and Project 5 Inspiration for people of all ages, and the Further Education Development Fund. The projects will seek to inspire learners of all ages to gain digital and green skills, while promoting a good understanding of the local labour market and career opportunities.

The overall programme will engage 10,000 businesses in skills and training opportunities and engage with 500 young people from a minimum of 30 schools in post code areas considered disadvantaged (based on the index of multiple deprivation 2019).

Projects 1 to 4 are seeking approval to progress to delivery. Project 5 is still under development and will seek approval at a later date.

Business Case Summary

Strategic Case

The overall programme scheme directly supports two objectives - "driving economic growth and innovation to enable good jobs" and "enabling a diverse, skilled workforce and accessible learning for all".

The scheme is made up of two programmes: Workforce Development and Growth, and Workforce for the Future. The aims of the programmes are as follows.

- **Workforce Development and Growth:** will build on the success of previous skills programmes to support employers to help upskill, reskill and retrain existing employees, as well as developing and acquiring future talent.

- **Workforce for the Future:** will seek to inspire learners of all ages to acquire digital and green skills, whilst promoting a good understanding of the local labour market and careers opportunities within the region.

Economic Case

The overall programme will develop:

- Support for employers, particularly addressing high growth areas (such as green skills and digital skills), ways to improve the digital capability of businesses, graduate recruitment and retention, and workforce development and upskilling.

- Locally delivered support for digital inclusion, targeting diverse and disadvantaged groups, increasing the proportion of residents with digital skills for life and work

- A better workforce for the future through the upskilling of educators, building training capacity, and helping people of all ages and from all backgrounds to understand the career opportunities of the future.

Commercial Case

The Combined Authority is experienced in delivering similar programmes / projects and in procuring specialist services to support delivery.

Financial Case

This programme has a total cost of £7,500,000 which will be funded by £6,000,000 from gainshare allocation for Investment Priority 6 and £1,500,000 from the Combined Authority's Adult Skills Funding that has been re-allocated following an underspend on other programmes.

Management Case

This scheme will be managed by the Combined Authority's Employment and Skills Team.