

WORCESTERSHIRE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2008-11 DELIVERY PLAN

Prepared by	Dean Marjoram, Skills Funding Agency	Revision Date	12/07/10
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SUMMARY

Theme	Priority	Theme Group	Management Group Lead	Partners	Cross-Cutting Theme
Economic success that is shared by all	To remove barriers to employment and improve skills in education, employment and training	Economy & Transport Theme Group	Mike Ashton, H&W Chamber of Commerce	SFA, Worcestershire County Council, Business Link	Promoting community cohesion

Indicator	Description	Purpose	Indicator Lead
NI163	Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 2 or higher	This indicator is needed because of the important role local authorities have with regard to economic development and the key part which skills and qualifications play in supporting economic development.	Dean Marjoram, Skills Funding Agency

Baseline	2008/09 Target	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target	Target
70% for those qualified to at least level 2 in 2006 Annual Population Survey	+2%	+5%	+9%	Designated

CONSIDERATIONS

Is this priority dependant on any other LAA priorities?	LAA Priority	Theme Group	Arrangement for managing dependency
	N/A	N/A	N/A

Have equality and diversity considerations been made?	The refreshed Economic Strategy seeks to improve the employment levels and skills of the local population. It also sets out how we will also work to remove barriers to employment for disadvantaged groups and communities. In addition work to improve the quality of training provision and create greater flexibility to meet employer and learners needs.
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What are the significant risks associated with this priority?	Risk	Current Impact	Current Likelihood	How managed
	Demand levels exceed available resources	Medium	Medium	Managed deployment of finance will enable programmes to remain viable.
	The programme fails to address key skills issues that will support economic recovery	Low	Low	Managed through focus given to key regional sectors.
	Learning & Skills Council (LSC) no longer existing	Medium	High	Responsibility for LAA indicator to be managed by County Council until Skills Funding Agency (SFA) take over LSC's responsibilities
	Limitations with availability and measurement of data	Low	Low	Quality improvement in management information systems and identification of suitable proxy measures
	Difficult in engaging with hard to reach learners	Low	Low	Increased progression routes and partnership working with VCS
	Economic recession may impact on ability or willingness to invest in education and training. There is particular risk in the ability to influence training not funded by government.	Medium	Medium	Enhancement of marketing and communications and information, advice and guidance
	Recent increased government policy emphasis on reskilling, not just upskilling, and more flexibility to support part and second qualifications may reduce numbers gaining new full Level 2 and 3 qualifications	Medium	Medium	This change of emphasis better reflects demand and may in due course require a review of skills targets based only on full qualifications.

Is this priority delivered through or dependant on any other policy, plan or strategy?	Policy, plan or strategy	Responsible Theme Group or organisation	Arrangement for managing dependency
	N/A	N/A	N/A

What arrangements are in place for managing performance of this priority?	<p>In conjunction with performance updates provided by the Worcestershire County Council Research & Intelligence Unit progress against delivery plan activity is monitored on a quarterly basis by the Economy & Transport Theme Group.</p> <p>Performance and activity are RAG assessed and reported along with all other LAA indicators to the Worcestershire Partnership Performance Management Task Group. Where we are not meeting our targets or activity is not being delivered an update is provided by the relevant Theme Group lead on what progress has been made and any remedial activity indentified by the Theme Group to enable the appropriate challenge and support from the Partnership.</p>
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ACTIVITY PLAN

Action	Who	Milestones / Success Measure	When	Resource Implications	Commentary
Train to Gain	Skills Funding Agency	Increase the number of Level 2 Train to Gain Starts	2009/2010 Academic Year	within existing resources	The numbers of Level 2 Starts are 1252 in 2009/10 (Part Year Figures as at June 2010) compared to 1407 in 2008/09. However based on current performance the number of Starts in 2009/10 should exceed 2008/09 starts by the end of the academic year.
Skills Pledges	TBC	Increase number of Employers committing to upskilling their workforce	Ongoing	All Partners to promote Skills Pledge	136 employers had signed the skills pledge as at March 2009, this has now increased to 229 as at March 2010
Local Employment Partnerships (LEPS)	Jobcentre Plus/Skills funding Agency (Pre Employment Training)	Skills Funding Agency to provider response Pre Employment Training for LEPS	Ongoing	within existing resources	The Skills Funding Agency has not been asked to provide any Pre Employment Training for LEPS.
Public Sector Skills Challenge	TBC	Public Sector Organisations committed to upskilling their workforce	Ongoing	TBC	14 Worcestershire Public Sector organisations signed up to the Public Sector Skills Challenge.
Adult Learner Responsive	Skills Funding Agency	Increase the number of Level 2 starts	2009/2010 Academic Year	within existing resources	The numbers of Level 2 Starts have increased from 1738 in 2008/09 to 1793 in 2009/10 (Part Year as at June 2010)

Action	Who	Milestones / Success Measure	When	Resource Implications	Commentary
Apprenticeships	Skills Funding Agency/National Apprenticeship Service	Increase the number of Apprenticeships	2009/2010	within existing resources	The numbers of Level 2 Starts have increased from 766 in 2008/09 to 839 in 2009/10 (Part Year as at May 2010)
The integration of an adult careers service	Skills Funding Agency	To provide personal, relevant advice on getting on in work and life, reflecting individual needs and situations.	From 01/09/10	within existing resources	The integrated service will be launched from 1 st August 2010 under the brand of Next Step. The new Service will have 3 channels of access – Web, Telephone and Face to Face
Explore the skills and jobs opportunities resulting from the Impact Investment locations within Worcestershire	Skills Funding Agency / Worcestershire Local Authority	Local Authority to implement West Midlands Procurement Framework for Jobs and Skills in securing contractor support to secure access to Jobs and Skills for local People	Ongoing	within existing resources and possible Skills co-ordinator post – funding for post TBC	To work in partnership with Worcestershire Local Authority to understand jobs and skills opportunities for Worcestershire Growth Point