

**BISHOP BURTON**  
*College*

# **Annual Accountability Statement and Local Needs Duty**

## **2024/2025 Academic Year**

1.



Figure 1 Bishop Burton Campus

## **1.College Mission and Purpose**

Bishop Burton College's mission is 'Growing Potential for Sustainable Futures'

The purpose of the College is to provide students with the skills and knowledge needed to secure rewarding careers in the industries and communities we serve, transforming lives through high quality education, training and support.

The College delivers a high proportion of specialist technical qualifications which serve the national need for land-based skills. In addition to this, the College makes best use of its excellent facilities to deliver skills required locally, regionally and nationally across a range of subject areas.

We welcome students and apprentices into the College community which is driven by the College values, these are:

First class, first choice technical education  
Striving for excellence in all that we do  
Respect for each other and the environment  
A positive can-do attitude

## **Strategic Aims and Objectives**

Bishop Burton College has a number of strategy documents. Our five-year Strategic Plan was approved by the College Board, and can be found [here](#). This annual accountability statement aligns to the Local Skills Improvement Plans (LSIPs) published in June 2023, refocussing elements of the general further education curriculum to ensure the College contributes to the delivery of local and regional priorities identified through the Hull and East Yorkshire and Lincolnshire LSIPs.

Bishop Burton is a specialist Land-based college, the strategic aims below are written from this perspective outlining our priorities identified in our Strategic Plan.

# Our Strategic Aims



### Our Future

Ensure the college's sustainable future

- F1 Develop high quality enterprise activity
- F2 Ensure excellent financial planning
- F3 Ensure the financial strategy improves facilities and resources
- F4 Reduce the college's carbon footprint and protect the environment

### Our People

Empower our people

- P1 Attract and retain talented and capable staff
- P2 Develop and support our people to achieve the strategic aims of the college
- P3 Develop a culture and ethos that enables staff to grow and succeed
- P4 Develop and support effective leadership and management

### Our Students

Develop and support students to ensure they achieve their full potential

- S1 Continuously review and improve inclusive teaching, learning assessment and feedback
- S2 Provide support to meet the needs of all students, enhancing their employability skills and enabling them to progress into meaningful careers.
- S3 Improve the student experience through the relentless pursuit of excellence
- S4 Ensure the highest standards of health and safety and safeguarding

### Our Economy

Support sustainable economic development within the region and beyond

- E1 Promote the college's reputation as a leading provider of specialist education and training to achieve growth
- E2 Continuously develop innovative solutions to meet employer needs
- E3 Build successful partnerships to provide industry specific learning opportunities
- E4 Engage with the local, regional and national communities we serve

## Context and Place

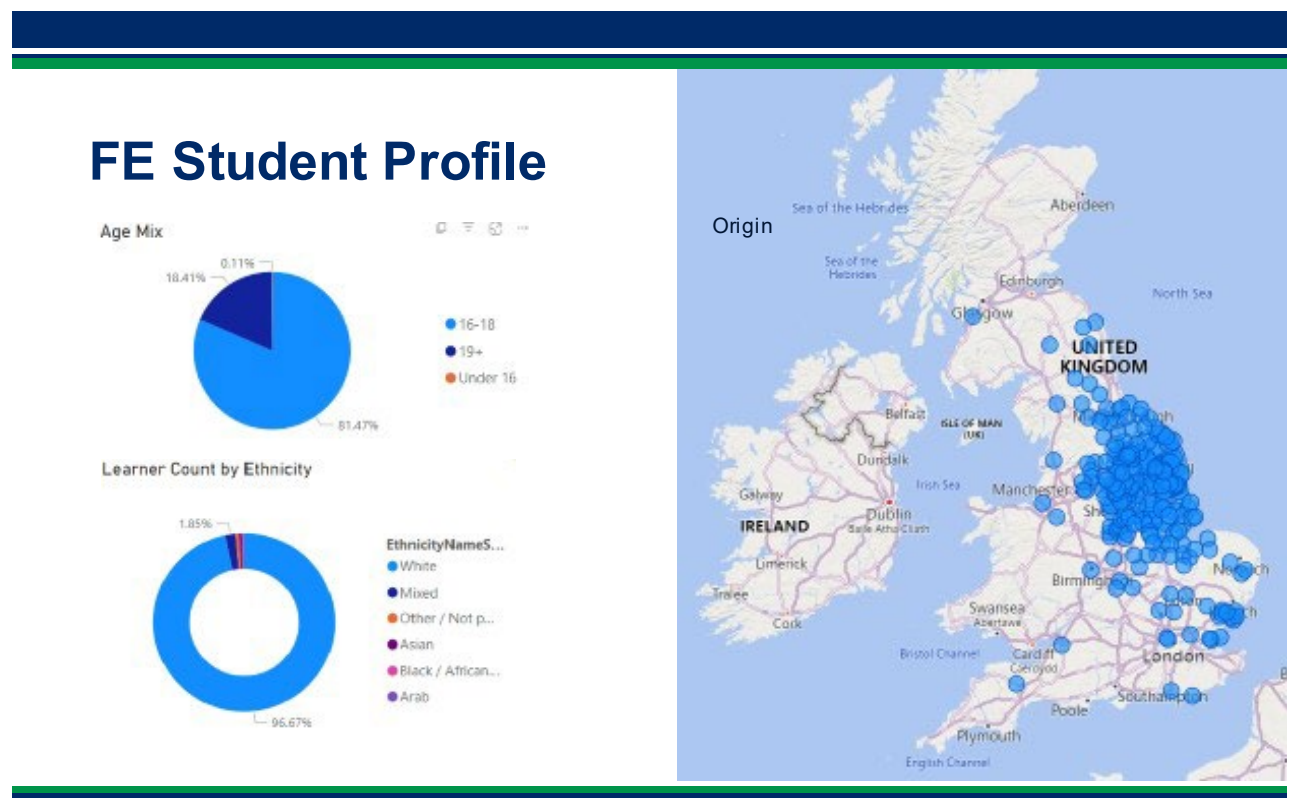
### 2. The Communities We Serve

Bishop Burton College has two sites, one near Beverley in the East Riding of Yorkshire and one at Riseholme Agricultural showground and Riseholme Park in Lincolnshire. As a specialist land-based provider, Bishop Burton College recruits nationally, serving the agricultural, equine and animal management industries with training utilising high quality resources and specialist expertise. The College also serves its local community across land-based and general further education provisions; 82% of our recruitment to the Bishop Burton Campus is derived from the following local authorities:

- East Riding of Yorkshire
- City of Kingston upon Hull
- North Yorkshire
- North Lincolnshire
- North East Lincolnshire

The Riseholme campus recruits predominantly from the Greater Lincolnshire area with some national recruitment onto specialist land-based and sports provision.

The map below illustrates the recruitment reach of the College:



We offer courses for 16-18-year-olds and adults, higher education, T levels and apprenticeships

Across the three local authorities which Bishop Burton campus serves, the region of Hull and East Yorkshire covers 957 square miles and has a population of around 600,000. The geography is varied, impacting significantly on the industries serving a variety of regional needs. The City of Hull sits on the North bank of the Humber Estuary and accommodates industry associated with the port, transport and logistics, manufacturing, health and food processing. There is also rapid growth in the digital and renewables sectors. Further north in the region, the farming and food production industry predominates. The East coast generates significant income from the visitor economy.

The Hull and East Yorkshire region has an annual Gross Value Added (GVA) of £13bn, with around 24,000 businesses providing more than 250,000 jobs. The region's economy represents 10.5% of Yorkshire and the Humber region's GVA and 3.6% of the output for the North of England.

The Hull and East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has identified the following skills priorities in key employment sectors:

- Health and social care: an estimated 55,000 additional jobs by 2030
- Construction: an estimated additional 19,000 jobs by 2025
- Digital Technology: an estimated 10% increase in jobs by 2024
- Haulage Ports and Logistics: the jobs doubling by 2030
- Manufacturing: 186,000 engineers required nationally every year
- Low Carbon Technologies: an estimated additional 21,000 jobs by 2032
- Tourism and the Visitor Economy: a value of £866 million to Hull and East Yorkshire
- Agri-tech and food: accounting for a significantly higher % of employment in the region (11%) than nationally (4%), with growth anticipated post-Brexit.

The Hull & Humber LSIP emerging priorities are identified as:

- Technical Skills: Digital; Net Zero; Engineering Construction; Construction; Manufacturing; Agri-Skills, and Health & Social Care
- Educational Professionals
- Employability & Behaviours
- Careers Guidance
- Accessibility

The Riseholme campus predominantly serves the Greater Lincolnshire area, with a concentration of students travelling from North and North East Lincolnshire. Greater Lincolnshire has a population of around 1.3 million people spread across 2,687 square miles. North and North East Lincolnshire has a population of around 320,000 situated within c. 400 square miles.

Although more sparsely populated, there are some similarities between Lincolnshire and Hull and East Yorkshire, with a significant coastal economy and large areas of food production inland. Lincolnshire has a higher proportion of Small to Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs) than the national average with 45% employing fewer than 50 people compared to 32% nationally. There are significant challenges in connecting a skilled workforce to skills gaps due to the geography of the region.

The county is essentially rural with an economy heavily reliant on Agriculture, Horticulture and Food Manufacturing. More than 50% of jobs in Greater Lincolnshire are in sectors which underpin the local economy. This includes Retail, Wholesale, Health and Care, Teaching and Public Services. Occupations reporting the highest level of vacancies in 2020 in Greater Lincolnshire were nurses and care workers (5.9% and 5.7% of job postings respectively) followed by HGV drivers at 2.9%

The Greater Lincolnshire LEP has identified the following regional industrial specialism clusters:

- Along the South Humber Bank, offshore wind and decarbonisation, and ports and logistics are hubs of growth and job opportunities.
- Advanced manufacturing and chemicals cluster on the South Humber Bank and around Lincoln.
- In southern Lincolnshire and Rutland and the area around Lincoln, we have important defence clusters.
- The east coast – East and West Lindsey – and Lincoln provide visitor economy hotspots.
- AgriFood, seafood and food production hubs span the area, from the Humber to Rutland, with fresh food production clustering in South Holland.

The Lincolnshire LSIP priority sectors are:

- Digital
- Construction
- Engineering
- Decarbonisation and Green Skills
- Leadership and Management

With cross cutting themes of:

- Work readiness and Essential Skills
- Digitalisation and Smarter Working
- Decarbonisation and Green Skills
- Local Socio-economic Conditions
- Leadership and Management
- Local Skills System

Greater Lincolnshire produces 30% of the nation's vegetables and 18% of the poultry, with a total agricultural output of over £2bn in 2019, representing 12% of England's total production.

The UK's largest fish processing cluster is located on the Humber and the centre of the UK's fresh produce industry is located in South Lincolnshire. In total the food chain provides 24% of jobs throughout Greater Lincolnshire (as compared with just 13% nationally) and 21% of its economic output (7% nationally).

Bishop Burton College has contributed to the York & North Yorkshire LSIP process at the invitation of the West & North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce. The following emerging skills priorities were identified:

- Construction (including retro-fitting)
- Engineering and manufacturing (including rail)
- Health & Social Care
- Digital
- Agri-skills
- Business (including Leadership & Management)
- People (Preparation for Life and Work)

The College also has an important role to play in addressing National Skills Priorities where there are high volumes of vacancies. These sectors are:

- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Digital and Technology
- Health and Social Care
- Haulage and Logistics
- Engineering
- Science and Mathematics

The College will continue to embed Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) and Digital Skills within its vocational curriculum. We will also continue to grow our Construction, Health & Social and Engineering course provision, establishing T-Levels, Apprenticeships and Higher technical Qualifications as appropriate.

As specialist Land-based provider, we will continue to drive the national demand for skilled staff in land-based industries including Agriculture, Land-based Engineering, Horticulture, Environmental Studies, Animal Management and Equine Studies. We will work closely with our Landex partner colleges to ensure that viable cohorts of students can be recruited nationally for specialist sub-sectors such as Pig Production and Precision Agriculture.

### **3. Approach to Developing the Accountability Statement**

The College continues to work with the relevant Employer Representative Bodies (ERBs) responsible for coordinating Local Skills Improvement Plans (LSIPs) including the Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of Small Businesses and the West & North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce. This activity has involved regional meetings and workshops with employers, colleges and training providers and the relevant LEPs: the Hull & East Yorkshire LEP; the York & North Yorkshire LEP, and the Greater Lincolnshire LEP. Additional

activity included employer surveys, sector-based focus groups (eg Rural Economy) and one to one employer interviews.

College staff were consulted along with employers at a specially convened 'Sustainable Futures' event which explored the employers' current and future skills needs. The draft Accountability Statement was shared with staff and governors and subsequently revised in accordance with the feedback.

College Strategic Planning Workshops which included student representation were held with both governors and senior staff to agree the College's mission, vision and strategy.

Other educational institutions were consulted on LSIPs via a number of regional Principals' meetings with draft Accountability Statements being shared to identify gaps in provision and areas of overlap. This approach has been extended for the 2024/25 Accountability Statement, with providers working together to produce the Shared Statement for Greater Lincolnshire (Appendix A) and Hull & East Yorkshire (Appendix B), identifying how providers within the LSIP areas are collaborating to meet local and regional skills priorities.



*Figure 2 Riseholme College Campus*



#### **4. Meeting National, Regional and Local Needs**

Bishop Burton College is land-based specialist college with both campuses providing skills required nationally to secure the future workforce in agriculture, equestrian and animal care industries. We utilise our 800-acre farm at Bishop Burton campus, and the 500-acre Riseholme Park farm - in collaboration with Lincoln University - to ensure high quality education and training in these key areas. The College delivers 66% of the land-based provision offered regionally.

We also use our space positively to offer a broader curriculum. This, in turn, supports our Sports Academy, offering significant enrichment, opportunities to build resilience, tenacity and transferable skills in our students across all curriculum areas; and for many, the opportunity to progress into further study or work in sport or sport related industries. The level of competitive opportunities within the academy attracts students nationally, regionally and locally and brings close working relationships with both Hull City FC and Lincoln City FC, bringing industry engagement into the College. The Academies enable young people on sports talent pathways to undertake vocational education and training, at the same time as pursuing a high level of sports coaching and playing. Within the region, the College delivers 18% of post-16 sport provision offered.

The College works with local providers to offer apprenticeships which fill regional skills gaps, including butchery apprenticeships with Cranswick, Agricultural Engineering with AGCO, Horticulture, alongside apprenticeships in Agriculture and Equine. The College also offers a range of courses in national skills shortage areas such as Health & Social Care and Construction.

The College offers Education and Training at Level 4 and above to support the development of the local and regional workforce needs with higher level skills, to close the gap between the two regions and England.

The Bishop Burton campus is part of the Yorkshire and Humber Institute of Technology (IoT), focussing on the Agri-tech and Precision Farming at level 4 and above. The requirement for Agri-tech skills delivery has been identified in the region through the Hull and East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), where AgriTech is identified as one of the key industrial sectors with great potential to drive productivity, innovation and higher skilled employment in the region.

The Riseholme campus is part of the Lincolnshire IoT, providing Level 4 and above education and training in Food Production. This area is critical to regional economic growth, with the Lincolnshire LEP identifying that, 'between 2015 and 2019 the agriculture, food production and food services sector in Greater Lincolnshire were responsible for almost 50% of all local jobs growth' and '50% of future jobs in the food sector will require employees with a Level 4 qualification'.

## 5. Key Stakeholders

The College works closely with a number of key regional and national stakeholders to develop its curriculum offer and ensure this is fit for purpose. The College campuses do not currently sit in areas devolved to a mayoral combined authority, therefore works with a variety of stakeholders to ensure regional skills needs are met. These include:

- East Riding Local Authority
- Hull City Council
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Yorkshire & Humber Institute of Technology
- Lincolnshire Institute of Technology
- The Royal Agricultural Society
- Landex; the membership organisation for Land-based colleges, using peer engagement to ensure that curriculum design, delivery and resources provided are supporting the development of skills for the future of farming, equine and animal
- Association of Colleges
- Hull and East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (HEY LEP), which will be bridging the space between Skills Advisory Panels and Employer Representative Bodies, working closely with the Chamber of Commerce on Local Skills Improvement Plans (LSIPs)
- Employment and Skills Board (HEY LEP)
- Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership (HEY LEP)
- Greater Lincolnshire LEP
- York & North Yorkshire LEP
- Hull and Humber Chamber of Commerce
- West & North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce
- Lincolnshire Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), on the LSIP for the Greater Lincolnshire region
- Humber Principals' Group
- York & North Yorkshire Principals
- Federation of Lincolnshire Colleges
- Yorkshire Agricultural Society
- Lincolnshire Agricultural Society
- Team Lincolnshire
- University of Hull
- University of Lincoln
- Royal Agricultural University

Some of the College's key employer partners:





### Collaboration with Other Providers in the Area

The College has strong working relationships with other local providers through a number of initiatives;

As a partner in the Yorkshire and Humber IoT Bishop Burton College works closely with York College, Askham Bryan College, Selby College, Craven College, East Riding College, Scarborough TEC, Hull University and York St John University. Within the IoT partnership there are clearly defined roles and areas for delivery ensuring that Level 4 and above skills are delivered by specialist providers in the area, managing both the market share and quality of the provision. Bishop Burton is proud to continue its long heritage of delivering Agri-tech and Precision Farming within the IoT.

The Riseholme campus is similarly a partner in the Greater Lincolnshire IoT, working with Boston College, DN Colleges Group, Grantham College, TEC Partnership, Lincoln College, Lincoln UTC and Lincoln University, specialising in offering Level 4 and above qualifications in Agri-food technology, delivering skills in agriculture and food production, which accounted for almost 50% of job growth in Greater Lincolnshire between 2015-2019.

The College works closely with local Higher Education Institutions to ensure strong progression routes into Level 4 and above where occupations are available within the specialist industries we serve. We currently work with Hull University, Lincoln University and the University of Huddersfield for a number of Foundation, Bachelors and Masters degrees to provide a comprehensive and complimentary provision. The provision is offered across both campuses and compliments the offer available in the wider skills delivery network whilst making best use of its excellent resources.

The College has strong links with other colleges, working collaboratively through the Humber Principals' group and the Yorkshire and Humber Association of Colleges networks.

#### 6. Key Aims and Priorities for 20 24/25

Key Aims and Priorities for 2024/25	Contribution towards National, regional and Local Priorities for Learning and Skills	College Strategic Aim	Timescale
1. Ensure over 90% of students achieve a relevant and sustained positive destination in 2023/24	<i>Enable our students to succeed in their chosen technical or vocational studies, ensuring progression to Higher Education or filling skills gaps within our specialist sectors</i>	Economy & Students	Jan 2025



<p>4. Drive curriculum towards systematic embedding of sustainability. Exploit funding opportunities to reduce the carbon footprint of the College estate to achieve net zero by 2030.</p>	<p>Develop student knowledge to ensure they are embedding sustainability into their work practices, utilising bespoke tools developed for Land-based industries and reviewing curriculum and specifications to ensure sustainability is part of the fabric of delivery.</p> <p>Access funding through LSIF, Salix and other sources to enable a more sustainable estate and access cutting edge technology to reduce the carbon footprint of agriculture, sharing this practice with staff students and stakeholders.</p>	<p>Economy Students &amp; Future</p>	<p>July 2025</p>
<p>5. Review the Higher education offer ensuring this is fit for purpose (L4 and above academic qualifications and Higher Level Apprenticeships)</p>	<p>Reviewing the curriculum in preparation for the lifelong learning entitlement launching in 2025, developing higher technical qualifications and more flexible modes of study to ensure greater access to skills development as and when employees require them.</p> <p>This activity will address the need for more bite-size and modular provision aligned to key competencies as identified within the LSIP</p>	<p>Economy &amp; Students</p>	<p>Sept 2025</p>
<p>6. Use partners to support and upskill staff to ensure our students are upskilling on cutting-edge, industry relevant technology</p>	<p>A refreshed digital strategy which identifies emerging technologies within curriculum specialisms and provides a roadmap to upskilling staff, students and stakeholders to ensure they are at the forefront of technologic advances within their field.</p>	<p>Economy &amp; Students</p>	<p>July 2025</p>

## 7. Local Needs Duty

The curriculum is required to serve a range of stakeholder within the context of the College's specialist Land-based status; the needs of the communities we serve, Local Skills improvement Plan priorities in both Hull and East Yorkshire and in Greater Lincolnshire to reflect the skills priorities of the counties we serve, which requires consideration at both campuses, against the policy landscape emerging from the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022.

The College's strategic position is to offer curriculum relevant to its mission and vision, informed by policy changes including Technical Occupational Qualifications, Level 2 and below qualification reform, the Learner Loan Entitlement and the opportunities and challenges this will present in terms of Higher Education delivery. We will continue to work with other key local providers to collectively review and prioritise our offer to ensure we meet the regions needs and serve our local communities.

Work has been carried out across 2022/23 and 2023/24 to inform ongoing developments to curriculum, to keep pace with employer needs and changes to education policy. A continuous cycle of qualification review between the College and its employers and other key stakeholders has resulted in a number of changes to qualifications offered by the College for 2024/25 ensuring defined pathways into jobs and higher education.

When planning for the curriculum offer in 2024/25, a key consideration has been on recruitment of 16-18 students studying in Subject Sector Area 3 (SSA3), ie: in Land-based subjects. This was identified as a focus for growth by the Corporation and Executive team at the 'Strategic Sprint' in November 2023 and identified as an emerging skills priority for the York & North Yorkshire LSIP.

Devolution in both areas is planned for 2026, which will also impact on the qualifications funded for adults in line with the skills priorities of the Mayoral Combined Authority in Hull and East Yorkshire and the Mayoral Combine County Authority in Greater Lincolnshire. The College will continue to engage with Future Humber and Lincolnshire County Council to influence the development and funding of skills delivery for each area, whilst reviewing the curriculum offer to meet the needs of local communities.

The College was inspected in May 2023 where the inspection outcome demonstrated strong contributions to meeting skills needs. The College will continue to engage with a wide range of employers within the local regions through a variety of methods to ensure the curriculum design and offer remains fit for purpose whilst utilising the College's specialist resources.

The oversight of the curriculum design and development is the delegated responsibility of the Corporation's Curriculum and Quality Enhancement Committee (the **Committee**). The Committee continues to develop its approach to oversight through presentations, challenge and discussion with key operational leads and informed discussion with stakeholders. The Committee also receives a Curriculum Offer and Review Report which, in response to the introduction of the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022, sets out the operational activities informing the 2024/25 curriculum design. The work of the Committee is, in turn, overseen and supported by upward reporting to the Corporation as a whole (including as part Strategic Sprint and Training Days) to ensure it continues to provide a strong contribution to skills needs.

## **8. Corporation Statement**

We are committed to complying with our duty under a new section 52B of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 to review provision in relation to local needs, as proposed in the Skills and Post-16 Education Bill 2022.

On behalf of the Bishop Burton College Corporation, it is hereby confirmed that the plan as set out above reflects an agreed statement of purpose, aims and objectives as approved by the Chair of the Corporation by delegated authority on 25 June 2024.

**Signed**



Chair of Governors



Principal & CEO

Date: 25 June 2024

Date: 25 June 2024

**9. Supporting Documentation**

LSIPs

Strategic Plan

LMI data

College prospectus

Greater Lincolnshire Collaborative Annual Accountability Statement (Appendix A)

Hull & East Yorkshire Collaborative Annual Accountability Statement (Appendix B)



Figure 3 Aerial View: Bishop Burton Campus

# Greater Lincolnshire

## Collaborative Annual Accountability Statement

May 2024

### Introduction

Providers in Greater Lincolnshire see collaborative working as an important and essential aspect of how they (as individual entities) and how we (as a region) meet the skills needs of Greater Lincolnshire's communities and stakeholders. This is evidenced by the many successes that have been achieved through joined-up bidding for essential capital and resource funding that has benefited our learners and further contributed to closing the skills gap.

### Place

Greater Lincolnshire has a population of approximately 1.13m people and is largely made up of hamlets, villages, and market towns, with just one city, Lincoln. Jobs density is 0.79 compared to the national average of 0.87 which does present challenges in linking labour supply to demand. The areas rural nature and spread, twinned with transport challenges, can make accessing education difficult in some areas. Despite this, the county boasts a strong and growing mixed economy with ambitions to add £3.2bn to GVA by 2030. SOURCE: GL LSIP Report - FSB

### Partners

The colleges making up this region are:

- Lincoln College
- Bishop Burton College
- Grantham College
- TEC Partnership
- IEG Group
- Boston College
- John Leggott College
- Franklin College
- DN Colleges Group

### Collaborative projects

Examples of how providers in the region have worked together to address skills needs include the following examples.

#### Institute of Technology (LIoT)

Led by the University of Lincoln, this partnership has provided funding to deliver higher technical qualifications in automotive, computing and electronics. Employers like Krypto Kloud, Halfords, and the NHS have supported the development of the LIoT and Professional Skills Centre training.

#### Lincolnshire Federation of FE Colleges

Led by Lincoln College, this group brings together seven colleges in the region to enhance and coordinate its approach to skills in Lincolnshire.

#### Higher Technical Qualifications

Supported by successful consortia bids (SIF1 and SIF2) the region has developed a range of Higher Technical Qualifications which are underpinned by formal agreements with multiple Universities including the University of Lincoln, the University of Hull, the University of Derby and Bishop Grosseteste. These agreements recognise the skills and expertise of respective members of the partnership and that alignment of activity is critically important in shaping the region's curriculum offer and supporting the IoT.



### T levels

As a Wave 1 adopters of T levels, Franklin College, TEC Partnership, IEG Group, and Grantham College were able to access CDF funding to expediate their ability to take T Levels to market. Other partners whilst not accessing this funding, we're also early to market with these priority qualifications including DN Colleges Group.

### Local Skills Improvement Fund

Led by TEC Partnership, the Local Skills Improvement Fund (LSIF) has been a key opportunity for collaborative activity between providers. Based on LSIP recommendations, the area has focused on three key priority areas to address through LSIF funding:

- Employability
- Digital
- Engineering

### Strategic Development Fund (SDF)

Led by TEC Partnership and involving all college providers in the region, the Skills Development Fund was a key contributor to the region's skills development activities, focusing mainly on Low Carbon/Green Energy.

### Lincolnshire Healthcare Pipeline Group

Led by Lincoln College, providers came together to articulate its collective offer for the NHS in order to support progression choices and careers aspirations in the region. This also helped to identify gaps in curriculum and aided in shaping curriculum planning.

### Humber Freeport Skills and Offshore Wind Cluster membership.

Providers including TEC Partnership, DN Colleges Group, John Leggott College, and Franklin College are members of many Humber-specific groups. This ensures that provision meets the needs of the current, emerging, and future activity expected in the jobs market, both north and south of the river and particularly in green energy.

### Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP)

Led by the Federation for Small Businesses, partners are involved in phase two of LSIP activities that are focussing mainly on:

- Work Readiness and Essential Skills
- Digitalisation
- Construction
- Engineering
- Decarbonisation and Green Skills
- Local Socio-Economic Conditions
- Leadership and Management
- Local Skills System Actions

We expect future collaborative work to include:

- Building on LSIF progress to make most effective use of innovation and new technology to transform the curriculum.
- How networked technology could help greater Lincolnshire with shared teaching and curriculum development in light of staffing challenges.
- Supporting the development of nuclear facilities within the region, the renewable energy sector, and bids for high quality equipment to support new provision through LIoT.

# Hull & East Yorkshire Collaborative Annual Accountability Statement

May 2024

## Introduction

Colleges and independent training providers within the Hull and East Yorkshire area and wider Humber region have for many years collaborated on projects designed to meet the needs of local people and industry. The importance of collaborative working has long been recognised as a means of leveraging the capital and revenue funding to develop the learning resources required to meet the skills needs of the regional economy.

Projects such as the Strategic Development Fund (SDF) and more recently the Local Skills Improvement Fund (LSIF) have demonstrated how collaboration between providers and employers can successfully build the training capacity required to respond to the rapidly changing job market and the need for higher level technical skills.

## Provider Partners

The partners serving this region are:



DN COLLEGES GROUP



## Place

Over the past five years, Hull and East Yorkshire's employment rate has decreased and remains below the national rate and the regional rate of Yorkshire and Humber. There is significant variance in the employment rate by local authority with the East Riding of Yorkshire standing at 77% whereas the Hull rate is 70%. The working age population is shrinking and is expected to account for 58% of the population by 2030.

Overall, the region comprises 20,945 businesses, with 32.5% in Hull and the remaining 67.5% in the East Riding of Yorkshire. Significant sectors were identified as being Construction (14%) and professional, scientific and technical (12%). The region has a strong micro-business base, with approximately 75% of businesses employing 4 or less members of staff and 13% employing 5 to 9 members of staff.

SOURCE: HEYLSIP REPORT

## Collaborative projects

Examples of how providers in the region have worked together to address skills needs include the following:

### Strategic Development Fund (SDF)

Led by TEC Partnership and involving all college providers in the region, the Strategic Development Fund was a key contributor to the region's skills development activities, focusing mainly on Low Carbon/ Green Energy.

### Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP)

Led by the Chamber of Commerce, providers are working together to support the delivery of the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) which has identified 5 key themes:

- i) Technical Skills
- ii) Educational Professionals
- iii) Employability & Behaviours
- iv) Careers Guidance
- v) Accessibility

In terms of Technical Skills, 5 sectors were prioritised:

- Construction
- Engineering Construction
- Manufacturing
- Agri-tech
- Health & Social Care

The provider partners work with private sector employers on aspects of skills development through LSIP Quarterly Forums and LSIP sector specific Working Groups which encourage open discussion and create new relationships.

### Local Skills Improvement Fund (LSIF)

Led by Bishop Burton College and supported by Hull College, the Local Skills Improvement Fund (LSIF) has been a key opportunity for collaborative activity between providers. Based on the LSIP recommendations, the area has focused on two main projects:

- a) Technical Transformation, and
- b) Digital Transformation

### Yorkshire & Humber Institute of Technology (YHloT)

Founded in 2019, the YHloT has provided funding to deliver higher technical qualifications in STEM-based occupations including Agri-tech, Engineering, Construction and Computing. Strategically aligned with colleges' universities and employers, the aim of the YHloT is to empower the region's businesses through the provision of higher-level skills training.

### Humber Principals Group

Currently chaired by Bishop Burton College, this group brings together all of the colleges in the Humber region to enhance and coordinate its approach to skills.

### Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership

The colleges contributed to the Humber Local Digital Skills Partnership which was initiated by the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to raise the digital skills level in the region. One of the outputs from this activity was the publication of the HEY Digital Skills Prospectus 2023 which showcases the courses and opportunities available to businesses and individuals.

### Curriculum Development

Collaborative project working across the provider network has accelerated the development of a range of new provision designed to strengthen careers pathways and meet skills needs including Apprenticeships, T-Levels, Boot Camps and Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs). Much of this work is took place in partnership with the Hull & East Yorkshire LEP (now the Hull & East Yorkshire Business, Growth & Skills Hub).