

SUPERCHARGE YOUR LOCAL SKILLS IMPROVEMENT PLAN (LSIP)

The Local Skills Improvement Partnership
www.lsip.net



Local Skills Improvement Plans aim to improve the performance of the local skills system. They are three-year plans to align training provision to employer needs, usually led by an Employer Representative Body (ERB)

5 Reasons to Support Local Skills Improvement Plans

1. Close the skills gap in the long-term

- **The value of long-termism and stability in local skills planning is significant.** Labour market plans will always need to be updated and aligned with economic development priorities.
- **The LSIP Trailblazer evaluation conducted by DfE found strong examples of high-quality employer engagement** to inform high-value provision; and increased employer confidence in the responsiveness of the skills system.

2. All the parts of the local skills system are part of the LSIP process

- Employer Representative Organisations, Education and Training Providers and Local Authorities are sitting on a goldmine of experience and local economic insight. LSIPs are the mechanism to **channel that expertise** and **to create a robust plan**.
- **LSIPs create a focus for conversation about employment and skills.** They engage with a broader range of employers.

3. Deliver real wins for your community: fuel a stronger economy

- LSIPs help to ensure that education and training **align better with the real-world demands** of local employers. Taking a system-level view, and a partnership with employer and skills community, local skills planning gets shaped around what's feasible within current funding and delivery frameworks.
- **Keep in touch with economic and employment issues affecting your constituencies:** LSIPs can provide authoritative insights on this.

4. Unite the players: be the catalyst for change

- **Bringing together the key players** means that all of the essential parts of the local skills system collaborate.
- LSIPs provide the **neutral ground** and **evidence-based framework** to unite employers, businesses, and education providers. The economy is dynamic – skills needs are constantly shifting. Everyone can be part of the conversation and drive the necessary adaptations.

5. Employer-led skills need education and training providers and local authorities on-side

- **Employer-led skills development needs education training providers and local authorities to be the architects of change and provision** given their role in skills funding and delivery.
- **LSIPs provide the means to get ahead of the curve on future employer needs**, with robust evidence and analysis to guide plans for long-term skills needs.

The Best LSIPs Have These 5 Qualities

Our own extensive experience, and findings from evaluation and guidance concludes that the best LSIPs have:

1) Extensive Business and Employer Engagement

- Use the connections and role of the Chambers of Commerce and other business representative employers
- Include large public and private employers
- Qualify and probe employer responses, asking for causal factors
- Use a range of engagement methods

2) Engage With and Discuss Critical Trends

- Confront, derive evidence, views and conclusions on the implications of key megatrends such as:
 - Climate change
 - AI
 - Military conflict
 - Resource and supply chain issues
 - Demographic change
 - Changing global trade system

3) Intelligence, Not Just Information: Tells us What the Statistics Mean

- Key insights
- Learning points
- What's new, what's changed?
- What are the implications?
- What can we do about them?
- There's a logic chain between the report's conclusions and the statistics and findings
- Simply mounting data on websites and systems, and publishing graphs and tables is not analysis or interpretation

4) Cite, Analyse and Relate to Existing Research and Reports

- Interpose insights and findings from their reports with the results from LSIPs
- Use specialist studies' findings to develop insights and a narrative for sectors
- Use LSIPs to validate where trends, features and causal relationships found in national studies reflect local conditions

5) Create a Skills Community and Knit the Local Skills System Together

- Yields the greatest long-term influence and impact
- Use the LSIP to bring the local skills system and community together
- Encourage engagement and participation
- Encourage often 'hidden' business and stakeholder views to come to the fore
- Set up a regular set of events and outputs
- See the LSIP as a continuous process

The Local Skills Improvement Partnership is a consortium of experts

Seasoned Professionals: Our consultants – Glenn Athey, Mike Spicer, and Hannah Lazarus – each have **over 20 years** of applied experience in labour markets, skills, and economics. They have held senior roles in influential organisations and possess a deep understanding of the UK landscape.

Proven Track Record: We have a demonstrable history of success in developing effective skills strategies and action plans across the UK, from South Yorkshire to Cambridgeshire.

Let's talk about making your LSIP a resounding success. Contact us today at www.lsip.net/contact / Email: boost@lsip.net



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