

Learning 2008/09 Quarter 2 Performance Update	Reference	LN-1a
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Improvement Priority	Lead Officer	Organisation	Overall Progress Rating
Enhance the skill level of the workforce to fulfil individual and economic potential.	Paul Stephens and Anne Craven Learning and Skills Council	Leeds C C	Amber

Overall assessment of progress

The latest comparative data indicates a fall in the proportion of the adult workforce qualified at both Level 2 and Level 3 in Leeds. Factors such as the current downturn in the economy and changes in the Train to Gain programme can be viewed as a risk to achievement of the PSA targets and the Leeds LAA target. This is reflected in the 'amber' overall progress rating; it is possible that the rating will move to red at the next review, once the full impact of policy and funding changes, made since the agreement of the targets, are known.

PI Ref	Definition	Comments	Baseline	2008/09 Target	Year to Date Performance	RAG Rating	Data Quality
NI-163 - LSP Government Agreed	Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 2 or higher.	The 2007 figures for both NI 163 and 164 show a significant decline, probably caused by higher recorded numbers for the working age population, rather than a decline in the number of people with qualifications. As a result, the baseline figures in the LSP should be updated and consideration given to the revision of the targets.	70.6% (2006)	73.0%		Amber	No data concerns
NI-164 - LSP Government Agreed	Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 3 or higher	See comment above	50.5% (2006)	53.0%		Amber	No data concerns

Improvement priority progress	Risk / Challenges	Key Actions	Contributory Officer	Timescale	Other Information
The LSC is driving forward the merger of three colleges across Leeds. The merger between Leeds Thomas Danby, Leeds College of Technology and Park Lane College Leeds & Keighley has been agreed by all three institutions and approved by the Secretary of State. The merger will make the choices available to local students and businesses clearer than ever before and avoid confusing duplication; it will also raise achievement levels in the city, offer more courses to suit the needs of everyone from school leavers to employers, and enhance the facilities to be amongst the best in the country	Change on this scale may cause challenges until the new 'single' entity is established.	Progress the merger.	Anne Craven	Ongoing	
Jobcentre Plus is engaged in partnership activity with the LSC in respect of customers moving into employment and accessing Train to Gain through Local Employment Partnership Activity. Lone parents are being supported to access LSC provision up to NVQ Level 2 through the Service Level Agreements in place between the Leeds Colleges and Jobcentre Plus. This enables Jobcentre Plus to fund childcare costs, travel expenses and a weekly training premium to lone parents of £15.00 per week. Customer awareness of NVQ Levels 2 and 3 is being increased through working with Next Steps sub-contractors to deliver Information, Advice and Guidance within Jobcentre Plus sites.		The development of a Call Centre Routeway in Leeds, supported by the Leeds Skills Board.	Diana Towler	Ongoing	
Extra support is proposed for small businesses to train their staff, with the budget of Train to Gain rising by 16% nationally. A further sum of investment is being made to help support better co-operation between small businesses and local training providers. The budget also outlines an increase in funding for adult learning with the priority fixed on delivery and achievement at full level two and full level three.		National policy on skills remains resolute with a determination to achieve the national PSA targets that this improvement priority relates to, in addition to securing 80% in employment by 2010.	Mandy Crawford-Lee	2010	
Notwithstanding the challenging nature of achieving the targets, Learning and Skills Council funding in 2009/10 will give extra investment to tackle the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET). This is in addition to the cash injection of £1 million to address NEET in Leeds currently.	Targets not met despite funding.	Use funding to help ensure that at least 82% of 18 year olds will achieve the equivalent of five good GCSEs (equivalent to a full level two) and at least 54% attain the equivalent of two A-levels (full level three).	Mandy Crawford-Lee	Ongoing	

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The importance of establishing effective progression routes can not be understated in Leeds. Investment of £830,000 in Skills for Jobs to support pre-employment engagement, together with Sector Routeway programmes worth over £2.3 million of skills development and training at entry-level one and level two, will facilitate demand for higher level learning. Similarly, Leeds College of Building is using an additional £230,000 to engage offenders in the community in pre-employment and work experience activity with training in Skills for Life and vocational skills at levels one and two.		Increase demand for higher level learning by supporting pre-employment engagement. Engage offenders in the community in pre-employment and work experience activity.	Mandy Crawford-Lee		
Raising the demand for skills especially from employer organisations is now critical. Extending the impact and influence of the Leeds Skills Board and of the Leeds Initiative and its partners has become all important given the slowing down of the economy and the threat to reducing the level of commitment to workforce development including re-skilling and up-skilling.	Slowing down of the economy. Threat to reducing the level of commitment to workforce development including re-skilling and up-skilling.	Raising the demand for skills especially from employer organisations. Extend the impact and influence of the Leeds Skills Board and of the Leeds Initiative and its partners.	Mandy Crawford-Lee		
The Library service supports this Improvement Priority through the provision of Information, Advice and Guidance sessions in libraries, and the provision of 1:1 learning sessions, tailored to individual needs. A large event was held in the Town Hall to celebrate Adult Learners week, with smaller events being held across the city during the week.	Resource issues: 1:1 sessions are time intensive and funding for community based learners is under threat. There is a need for increased awareness of the role libraries can play.	Investigate partnership working. Continued promotion of libraries as a place to learn.	Ann Day	Ongoing	
Leeds Skills board is actively promoting the Skills pledge - in particular to Leeds Chamber members. A major event was held with ministerial attendance	Employer take up.		Gary Williamson	Ongoing	

Leeds CC Contributory Officers	Leeds CC Directorate	Contributing Organisations	Contributory Officer
Chris Edwards	Education Leeds	Learning Skills Council	Anne Craven
Catherine Blanshard	City Development	Job Centre Plus	Ian Hunter/Diana Towler
Stephen Boyle	Environment & Neighbourhoods	Leeds Colleges	Carolyn Wright
		Chamber of Commerce	
		VCFS	Richard Norton/Richard Robson