

GREATER MANCHESTER WORK AND SKILLS STRATEGY 2016-2019 CONSULTATION

The Greater Manchester Work and Skills Strategy has been developed in order to establish an integrated, responsive work and skills system with the needs of our learners and employers at its heart.

This Strategy seeks to shape future work and skills activity across the city region, and to bring cohesion and focus to a rapidly evolving and crowded landscape. It focuses on the central challenges which must be addressed in order to deliver our vision, as well as identifying ten key priorities which will form the building blocks of a sustainable and productive Greater Manchester economy.

Name

Job Title

Organisation

Email

QUESTIONNAIRE:

1. Are you answering this consultation as:

- a representative of an organisation/business working or based in Greater Manchester
- a representative of an organisation/business working or based elsewhere
- a resident of Greater Manchester
- a resident elsewhere

2. What type of organisation do you represent (if any)?

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employer – private sector | <input type="checkbox"/> College | <input type="checkbox"/> Faith-based organisation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employer – public sector | <input type="checkbox"/> Private training provider | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Enterprise/Not for Profit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> University/HEI | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School | <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary and Community Sector | |

3. Objectives

Six overarching objectives have been identified to underpin our vision for an integrated work and skills system:

1. **employers** will be at the heart of our skills and work system and be incentivised to invest in, and utilise, the skills of their workforce
2. **residents** will be given support, whenever they need it, to make informed choices about their employment and career progression options
3. **young people** will leave compulsory education well prepared for the world of work and further study
4. **further education and training providers** will progress more people in to intermediate and advanced level skills in areas linked to Greater Manchester's growth sectors
5. **locally commissioned work and skills initiatives** will provide integrated support targeted at the unemployed and those furthest from the labour market
6. **health commissioning** will be integrated with skills and work support to capitalise on the fact that 'good work is good for your health'.

3.1 Do you feel that these objectives reflect the needs of Greater Manchester's employers and residents?

- Yes No Don't Know
- Comments:

Alongside these objectives, a number of key trends have been identified which must shape Greater Manchester's skills provision during the coming years:

1. Gaps in basic and generic skills which run across sectors
2. The need to shift skills delivery to higher levels across (principally level 4) across most of the key growth sectors
3. The need to understand the specific skills needs and dynamics of GM's main growth sectors
4. An exclusive focus on reforming the skills supply system will be insufficient: supporting businesses to move up the value chain will also enable skills performance.

3.2 In your opinion, are there other significant skills trends which must be taken into account within this Strategy in relation to Greater Manchester's skills provision?

Yes No

If 'Yes', please explain with reference to the relevant evidence base.

4. Greater Manchester Work & Skills Priorities

Ten work and skills priorities have been identified for the period 2016-2019 in order to focus activity and resources in ways which will add most value and optimise the impact of local investment and initiatives:

1. **Improving careers education, information, advice and guidance** (CEIAG) to support informed decision-making.
2. **Reforming the work and skills system to focus on outcomes not inputs**, with an outcome framework which will underpin all future commissioning of provision.
3. **Developing GM's work and skills infrastructure to meet the needs of the economy**, working through the Area Based Review, JCP's Estate Review and the One Public Estate programme.
4. **Improving attainment from compulsory education**, improving achievement of 5+ GCSEs at age 16 and ensuring more young people achieve a Level 3 equivalent by age 19.
5. **Strengthening employer engagement**, developing a comprehensive approach which puts employers at the heart of the system, from entry level employment to higher level skills.
6. **Growing the quality and quantity of Apprenticeships**, harnessing the opportunities around improved CEIAG, improved employer engagement and activity linked to the Apprenticeship Levy.
7. **Developing higher level skills**, ensuring a seamless system which supports young people and adults to progress routinely to degree-level equivalent skills, and to retain that talent.
8. **Redesigning universal support provision**, providing an integrated and personalised support offer with a view to sustainable job outcomes.
9. **Developing specialist support for hard-to-reach groups**, utilising Working Well and the Work and Health programme to support adults who have been outside the labour market for long periods.
10. **Ensuring GM commissioned programmes have a skills and work focus**, working with partners across the ESF, business support and health landscape to ensure all commissioning activity supports delivery of GM's work and skills priorities.

4.1 Do you agree that these ten priorities will enable us deliver the integrated work and skills system set out within the Strategy?

Yes No (please give reasons below) Don't Know

Comments:

4.2 Are there any significant additional matters not currently covered which you believe are required to support delivery of the Strategy?

4.3 Any additional comments on the ten priorities?

5. Are there any other suggestions or comments that you would like to make regarding the Greater Manchester Work and Skills Strategy?
