

Item 8b - DfE Skills Bootcamps

WLEP BOARD RECOMMENDATION

- Note Worcestershire LEP's bid to the Department for Education for year 2 Bootcamps within the region and discuss.

8.1 Background

As part of the National Skills Fund investments, the government launched a second year in 2020 a range of Skills Bootcamps designed to expedite individuals into careers with recruitment shortages and support those out of work to retrain.

8.2 Skills Bootcamps – What are they

Skills Bootcamps are flexible courses of up to 16 weeks, which can provide individuals and employees with the opportunity to build up sector-specific skills. The aim of the programme is to help individuals source the skills needed for employment and for businesses to ensure their staff gain relevant skills for life, supporting the business to continue growing.

8.3 Bootcamp Aims and Objectives

- To deliver flexible training programmes lasting up to 16 weeks, based on employer / sector 'in-demand' skills needs which may be either regulated (i.e. qualification based) or non-regulated (e.g. based on alignment with industry standards) enabling adults to do training around work and other commitments, looking to gain work, additional responsibilities, or access new opportunities and will offer a guaranteed job interview (in the case of a new job) to individual participants on completion of the course.
- To address the needs of adults (19+) who are full-time and part-time employed, unemployed, returning to work after a break or self-employed, and provide individuals with wider access to opportunities to retrain, update or formalise their skills or acquire specialist skills
- To address the needs of employers and the wider economy, to deliver targeted interventions to meet short-medium term demand to fill vacancies and drive productivity. They will help fill medium-higher level vacancies and bring individuals closer to better jobs, by linking them with line of sight to a job/ different role, additional responsibilities or new opportunities/contracts
- To help fill vacancies and bring individuals closer to better jobs (including those currently in employment), by linking them with line of sight to a job / different role, additional responsibilities or new opportunities / contracts
- To ensure that training is available in areas of the country that stand to benefit from the skills bootcamp model where provision isn't (or is limited) available.
- Delivery is between 60 Guided Learning Hours and 16 weeks and maps to a Level 3 qualification although exemptions can be made around Construction Trades.
- Delivery has to be associated to an employer and over 75% of those on programme must move into employment.
- Timescale is a 12-month programme

8.4 Worcestershire Delivery Plan

Partner	Title of Bootcamp
Hereford & Ludlow College	Accelerated Path to Nursing Apprenticeships Policing
TDM	Digital Data Support Tech,Networking and Cyber Software developer Digital Bespoke
Kidderminster College	Green Construction – Retrofit Health and Care
HOW College	Construction - Craft Skills (brickwork, carpentry & joinery, plumbing, painting & decorating) Care
BOSCH	Installation and maintenance of heat pumps
WGTA	Welding, Lean Manufacturing, Manufacturing Practices

8.5 Next Steps

Working with the DfE, the next phase will be to implement both more learners onto programmes and secure outcomes for the learners on programme. Alongside this working to develop the Quality Assurance process of the DfE to assure the learning quality within the county.

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