

PROJECTS BULLETIN



As many of you are aware, at YLP we manage a number of apprenticeship & skills based projects to address local skills needs, or generate greater awareness of skills based programmes and we work with many of our members in the delivery of these projects.

This bulletin will provide a summary of the project successes so far, so you can see the great work the YLP team is doing with and on behalf of our members and the local, regional and wider skills sector.

- SME Project
- Skills Connect
- ASK Apprenticeships

The SME Engagement Project



The overview

DfE funding to encourage greater awareness & take-up of apprenticeships across SME's in West & South Yorkshire

To support *unengaged Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to develop awareness and understanding of the requirements of apprenticeships;
 Explain the benefits of employing apprentices, myth bust & breakdown barriers

Guidance through registering on DAS & accessing App funding

Buddy up through early stages of employing an apprentice & onboarding onto apprenticeships - first 90 days of ongoing support

8 LA areas - Leeds, Barnsley, Bradford, Doncaster, Kirklees, Rotherham, Wakefield, Sheffield

Four Sectors - Digital, Manufacturing, Adult Social Care and Construction

***unengaged - not recruited an apprentice on the DAS in last 24 months**

The project runs for 2 years (with a possible 3rd year extension) and has 3 elements of delivery -

Stage	Percentage split	Evidence Required
Engagements	25%	Eligibility check & positive initial response
Onboarding	50%	Completed onboarding checklist & discussed apprenticeship commitments & standards
Starts	25%	ILR recorded start, cohort accepted on DAS & referred back to YLP



Yorkshire
Apprenticeship
Service

We are keen to work with our members and their BD teams as you are at the forefront of business engagement - all we ask is if you speak to an eligible business that they complete the project form and we can fund your activity. We have partnership & referral schemes in place so please get in touch for more info.

The breakdown of employer engagements by district -

B R A D F O R D	13%
B A R N S L E Y	9%
D O N C A S T E R	7%
K I R K L E E S	7%
L E E D S	34%
R O T H E R H A M	6%
S H E F F I E L D	23%
W A K E F I E L D	1%

The breakdown of employer engagement by size -

11 - 50 employees	38%
1 -10 employees	55%
51 - 200 employees	7%

Skills or recruitment needs most commonly discussed at engagement stage (to start mapping apprenticeship starts)

- Business Admin
- Installation / Fenestration
- Support for carbon neutral / net zero
- Plumbing
- Sales
- Electrical
- Digital Marketing
- Higher Level engineering
- Roofing
- Leadership & Management

We are working with a wide range of business networks and support organisations and we have 3 partnership arrangements in place to develop collaborative approaches and campaigns to support businesses in construction, engineering & manufacturing. Partnership campaigns in place with The Construction Network, Next Gen Makers, & E3R Recruitment.

We are also completing a range of networking events and activities, with organisations like the FSB, The Yorkshire Powerhouse, Barnsley College, SYMCA and WYCA and we have a schedule of roaming roadshows across all WY & SY local authorities coming soon.

When speaking to businesses we are keen to find out what the barriers or reasons for not engaging with apprenticeships are or have been. From the discussions, these can be categorized into 4 themes –

- Poor caliber of applications
- Bad experience with a training organization / college
- Internal arrangements not sufficiently in place to support a young person (mentoring, H&S< shadowing etc)
- Inflexible delivery arrangements – such as block release or ability to flex apprenticeship due to units

Much of the work our advisors do with businesses is to myth bust some of the historic attitudes to apprenticeships and discuss the great approach to blended learning, the flexibility within standards and support improved ways for businesses to write job adverts so they sound interesting, accessible, inclusive and attractive. As well as ensuring businesses know apprenticeships are not just for young people, school leavers or the non – academic!

Lots more to do over the next 2 years but so far so good!



Skills Connect - WY



What a year it's been for our great Skills Connect Provider team! Massive thanks to them below:

Octavia – Volunteer Pathway to Care

Talented Training – Advanced Skills for Carers & Health & Social Care Passport

Luminate – Introduction to General Practice

Calderdale College – First time manager programme for Hospice workers

Pathway Group - Health & Social Care Passport

ITI Ltd / Positive Echo - Health & Social Care Passport

So far, we have achieved 50% of the starts for the programme which equates to 530 learners with another 18 months to go! We are currently operating at a success rate of 82%!

We have exceeded our BAME engagement target of 16% achieving 67% through the excellent partnerships and working relationships established out in the districts by our providers.

We are proud that for a predominantly female sector we have achieved 24% males onto our programmes too!



It's been a great journey with learners identify this programme as a great learning experience with many in work able to showcase how they have been able to implement their learning straight away and improve services in the GP practice which they are working and the progression this is opening up for the next stage of their career.



“The background knowledge I have learnt on this course really helped with my progression to the nursing team”

Carrie, Nurses into General Practice

SKILLS CONNECT

West Yorkshire | Tracy Brobin Mayor of Leeds | Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership | Courses delivered by: **luminato**

Those who are unemployed and wanting to gain the insights to the sector identify how supported they have felt on the first steps in their learning journey, having been out of learning for a significant amount of time.



“I would encourage anyone in my position to do this course, I have learnt so much already”

Anonymous, Health & Social Care Passport

SKILLS CONNECT

West Yorkshire | Tracy Brobin Mayor of Leeds | Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership | Courses delivered by: **TALENTED**



Volunteers have been making the transition from volunteer to paid employee through the skills they have learnt and confidence they have gained through learning.

“I would definitely recommend the course to others in a similar situation, or even wanting to start out in a career in care as lots of good advice and tools are given on the course.” **Karen, Volunteer Samaritans**

We have more courses in the pipeline (titles a work in progress) including:

- Training Talent
- Clinical Skills for Carers
- Mentoring the future workforce
- End of Life Skills for Practitioners
- Trauma Training for frontline staff
- Neurodiversity for Inclusive practice



And we are open to more! If you have a programme idea/need identified for the H&SC sector we want to hear from you - contact kelly.townend@wylp.org.uk to take the conversation further.



ASK Project



The Apprenticeship Support & Knowledge for schools and colleges programme (ASK), is funded by the Education Skills and Funding Agency, part of the Department for Education.

The ASK programme offers every educational establishment in West Yorkshire with students in years 10 – 13 access to a free, bespoke support package to transform apprenticeship and vocational education awareness activities so that students, parents and carers, teachers and careers advisers, and governors can be informed about the wonderful opportunities available.

We have been delivering ASK in WY for the past 8 years & in that time have been instrumental in increasing knowledge and awareness of apprenticeships with young people & schools – but the challenge is never over! As schools are recovering from the pandemic, many are not back to full attendance in any year group, the anxieties with returning to work, and hybrid working for parents of young people, it has never been more important to have a school support offer than now.

We can deliver up to 4 sessions in each school we engage (6 sessions for Bradford schools) and the sessions can include –



Awareness Assemblies



Find an App registration workshop



CV & Application workshops



Teacher CPD sessions



Careers Events



Parents Evenings

Although the funding has been cut over the past 3 years due to the pandemic, we are as committed as ever to supporting schools and raise awareness of apprenticeships.

We have developed a series of short videos on different apprenticeship pathways working with The Army, NHS, Prince Trust, plus promoting the new teacher training standards, coding, cyber security, and construction. With more in the pipeline to be developed.

We also share a monthly bulletin with all school careers leads with the latest vacancies by district and any updated information on T-levels or apprenticeships (such as the new career starter apprenticeships).

Our feedback from schools is consistently high, with all valuing the time & effort we put in to raising the profile and awareness of apprenticeships.

Breakdown of ASK activity over the last 12 months -

Schools Engaged	114
Activities Completed	261
Students Engaged	over 42,000
Teachers Engaged	350
Parents Engaged	26,000
Registrations Completed	over 200

Breakdown of ASK activity by district -

Bradford	25 %
Calderdale	14 %
Kirklees	19 %
Leeds	29 %
Wakefield	13 %

Feedback

"Feedback from students was excellent, as many staff mentioned how students were discussing their future careers in classes 7 corridors. Our students were also excited at gaining more knowledge just by attending the fair"

"Really spot on this morning - information our pupils really haven't had to date in recent years!"

"Thank you for your time & we look forward to working with you again in September!"

As we progress into the final year of ASK (as we know it) we want to encourage more of our members to support us in school activities and interventions. Whether you can commit to supporting a particular district, or local area or specific days or activities we would love to know! Please get in touch as we are starting our 23/24 activity planning right now!



Additionally...

Don't forget we also support our members with a series of forums, free CPD & Webinars, networking conferences, thematic roundtables, reduced rates & offers and a HUGE provider support service that covers everything from quality to compliance to strategy development and much much more!



2023 is an exciting year for YLP as we turn 20 years young in December and we have big celebration plans for members & stakeholders in January 2024 - we are also about to launch the Yorkshire Apprenticeship Service in July, a dedicated members App in the Autumn for all the latest updates, news & access to information, a dataset portal and your own private members group on LinkedIn is already up & running.

