



SKILLS STRATEGY August 2023

CAREER FOCUSED, INDUSTRY READY

Through strong partnership and collaboration, empowering people and businesses to develop the skills to succeed in our local and regional economy.

A skills hub that engages with students of all ages and backgrounds. Developing the competencies and skills to be industry ready.

A skills hub that builds and develops our strategic partnerships with employers, local authorities, local providers, schools and higher education institutions to ensure fair access to excellent education, training, careers support and guidance.

A skills hub that provides opportunities for those who are looking to upskill, retrain or return to the workforce. Developing English, Maths and Digital Skills alongside industry ready programmes of learning.

1 Serving Our Communities:

We provide accessible, high-quality education and training. We acknowledge the unique challenges and opportunities within each geographical area that we serve. Our programmes are designed to address the specific needs of our communities as detailed in our [Annual Accountability Statement](#).

2 Engaging with stakeholders:

We work with employers, local councils and educational institutions to ensure that our curriculum is responsive to the skills demands of the economy. Our apprenticeship and vocational programmes, developed with employer input, target skills gaps in the identified (LSIP) priority areas.

3 Engaging with stakeholders:

We understand the economic landscape of Berkshire, Surrey and the surrounding areas. Our provision in sectors such as health and social care, engineering, digital and technology, green skills and construction, life sciences, creative industries, land-based provision, travel and aviation are designed to meet the major economic skills needs in our region. Our commitment to offering pathways for both young people and adults ensures a skilled workforce that meets current and future demands.

4 Skills Priority Targets and Actions:

We have set clear targets and actions for each skills priority area, aiming to enhance curriculum planning, offer progression routes and utilise strategic funding to develop resources that support the delivery of high-quality education. Examples of this can be seen in the development of Screen Industry careers and facilities, green retrofit, AI skills courses and digital skills. Our initiatives are focused on ensuring that students and apprentices are equipped with the qualifications and skills needed for successful careers in their chosen fields.

OUR NEXT STEPS

We will continue to develop and refine partnerships with industry and higher education institutions to ensure curriculum relevance and alignment with emerging trends.

We will continue to invest in state-of-the-art facilities and technologies that enhance real world and industry current learning experiences for students.

We will expand initiatives focused on sustainability and environmental stewardship to prepare students for careers in green industries.

We will strengthen outreach and support services for underrepresented and disadvantaged groups to ensure broader access to vocational education and training opportunities.