



ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT BURNLEY COLLEGE



Sixth Form Centre



APPRENTICESHIPS



BURNLEY COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY COURSES



ADULT LEARNING

NORTH WEST
BUSINESS TRAINING
DISCOVER • EMPOWER • DEVELOP

FITNESS
EVOLUTION
elite | performance | leisure

Purpose

Mission and Purpose

Our mission at Burnley College is to 'Build Futures and Change Lives' through excellent education¹² that raises aspirations and motivates our communities into employment which benefits the economy. We achieve this through our Strategic Objectives, which are reviewed annually, and our goals which governors hold the College accountable to.

Strategic Objectives and Goals

Strategic Objectives

1. To develop mature and confident young people through excellent sixth form education with academic and vocational pathways
2. To significantly expand the local range of opportunities for university education while maintaining high standards
3. To make a significant contribution to the local and national economy through enhancing the personal growth, enterprise and employability of individuals
4. To maintain teaching and learning and all business support processes at an excellent standard
5. To promote a culture of excellence where all staff have high aspirations, a positive morale and are able to grow and develop through their contributions to the College's success
6. To assure stable financial health, value for money and environmental sustainability
7. To maintain outstanding equality of opportunity.

Key College Goals

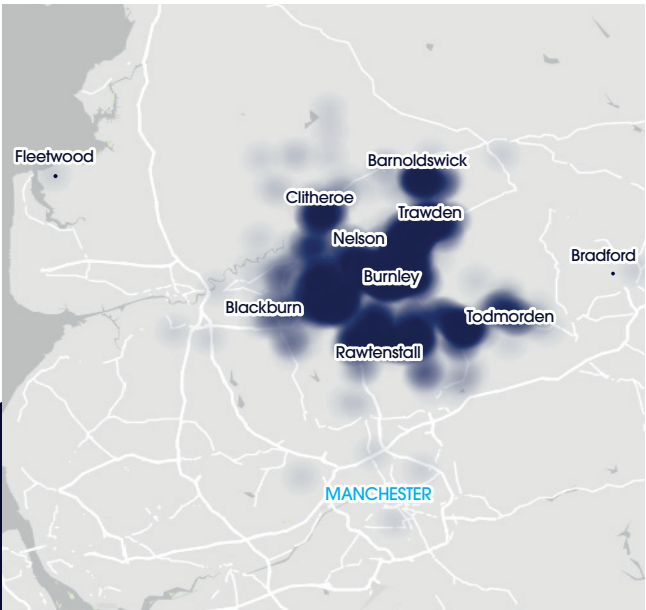
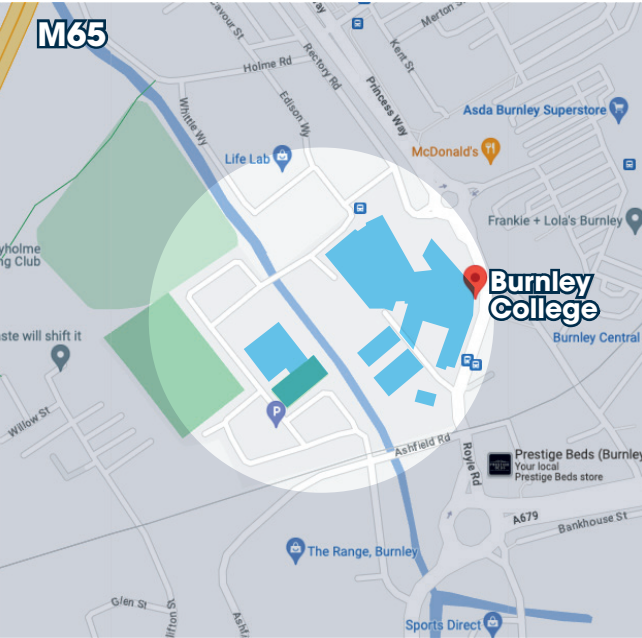
1. To achieve an excellent achievement rate of 90% or above with high levels of both retention and pass.
2. To ensure students achieve beyond their potential evidenced by a value added score of above +0.3
3. To achieve measured 'Effective' teaching grades in excess of 86% and within that more than 26% of measured sessions being identified as 'Bright Spots Best Practice'
4. To achieve planned targets in respect of the major funding streams for University Education, Further Education, Commercial activities and projects
5. To demonstrate a strong working relationship with employers by listening and responding to the business community
6. To demonstrate an innovative utilisation of College assets and practices in order to maximise opportunities for the organisation through our people
7. To demonstrate high levels of staff engagement, morale and support whilst maintaining a safe and secure environment as a basis for outstanding performance
8. To achieve the College budget while demonstrating value for money and environmental sustainability
9. To demonstrate equality of opportunity in achieving the above goals.

Context and Place

College Characteristics

Burnley College is a single campus General Further Education (GFE) College located in Burnley and serving communities in Lancashire and its surrounding areas, heat maps highlight our travel to learn area across Lancashire and adjoining counties.

The College recognises the significant role it plays in raising aspirations for, and ensuring success¹¹ in, education and skills for a community based in the eleventh most deprived¹⁵ area out of 317 local authorities in England and where secondary educational attainment has significant challenges¹⁶. The domains of deprivation cover income, employment, education, crime, health, barriers to housing services and living environment with the 2019 Index of Deprivation¹⁵ evidencing that Burnley is in the most deprived 10% in each of these measures. This means our learners face significant barriers to economic inclusion and social mobility.



Full Time Further Education

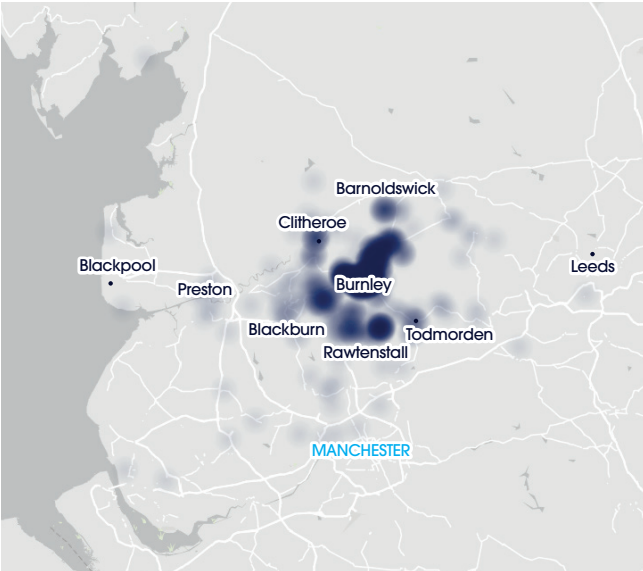
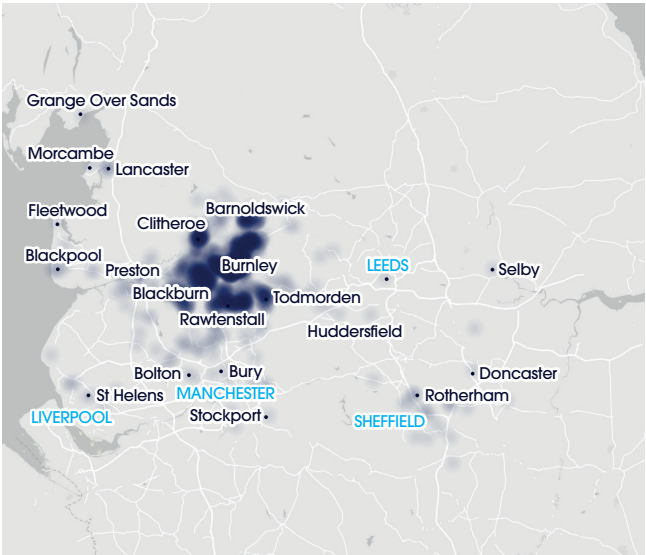
The College has 3,700 16-18 year old full time learners with over 1,000 studying A Levels, over 1,000 studying Advanced Vocational Qualifications or T Levels and over 1,500 on a ladder of progression (including resitting Maths and English GCSE's) through to Advanced Level.

At the age of 11, many of Burnley's young people choose to study out of area, due to low achievement rates in local secondary schools (2021/22, on average 38% of secondary school leavers gained 5 GCSE's including English and Maths at a grade 5, 10% below the Lancashire rate (48%) and 12% below the rate for England (50%))¹⁶. Conversely at the age of 16 Burnley College's high achievement rates¹¹ attract young people from Burnley and the surrounding areas with the College seeing year on year growth in 16-18 year old learners who primarily progress onto degree courses often at Russell Group Universities or onto a range of apprenticeships with local and regional businesses.



Apprenticeships

The College has around 1500 apprentices. This number is starting to return to the pre- Covid number of apprentices on programme as parents and young people's confidence in employment opportunities grow and businesses start to recruit more employees. Burnley College currently works with over 1,250 employers across the region with a large proportion sitting within East Lancashire⁹. Apprentices on programmes range from level 2 to level 6 in sectors such as Engineering, Construction, Health and Business Services. Apprentices are supported to develop maths and English skills alongside their vocational studies and undertake wider skills development to meet career aspirations and meet employers' skills requirements.



University Education

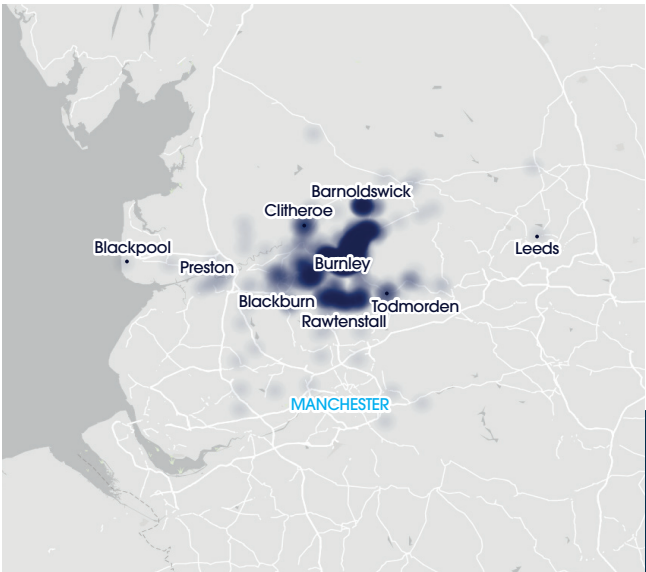
The 2021 Office for National Statistics Census¹⁴ identified that 24.4% of people in Burnley had no qualifications compared to a national rate of 18.2% and additionally only 18.6% of the working age population in Burnley had a degree level qualification compared to 28.4% in the North West and 31.6% nationally.

The College has over 800 University learners, over 70% of whom are aged 35 or above. A key strategic focus of the College is to facilitate university education for mature learners from the local area, many of whom have not previously had the opportunity to study at degree level and want to improve their attainment levels and career prospects, while still managing their family commitments or employment locally.

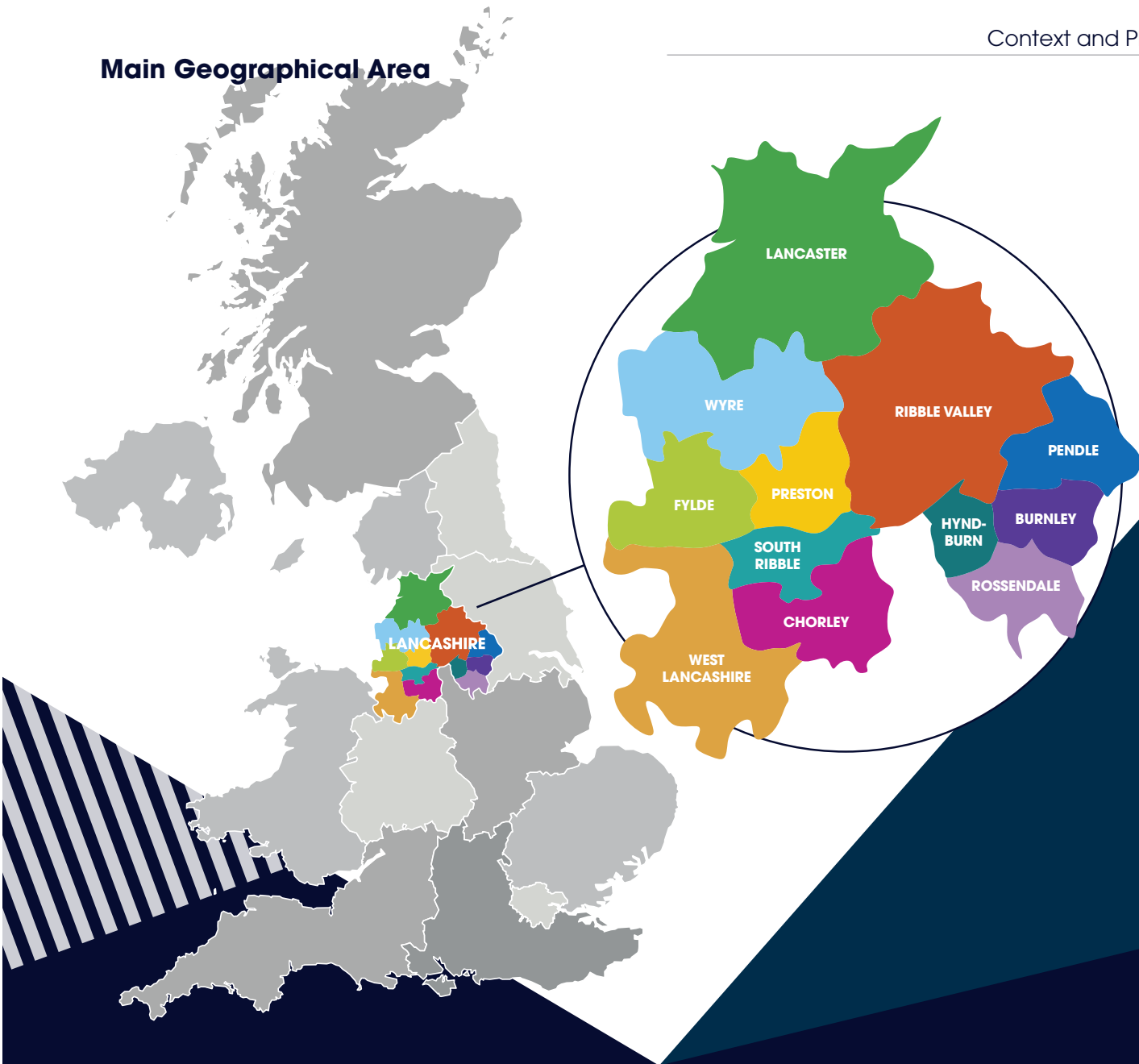
Adult and Bespoke Employer Courses

In the current Claimant Count (October 2022)¹⁵ Burnley (5.3% of working age adults) fell in the highest 8% of the UK rankings with 3,010 Claimants compared to a 3.6% UK Claimant Count. This is the second highest in Lancashire with Blackpool being the highest. Of those in work our residents have the 23rd lowest disposable income out of 180 areas across the country.

To help improve lifestyles the College provides education for over 3,000 learners studying Adult Courses to reskill to find work/improve their job role or studying bespoke employer driven courses to improve their performance/prospects at work.



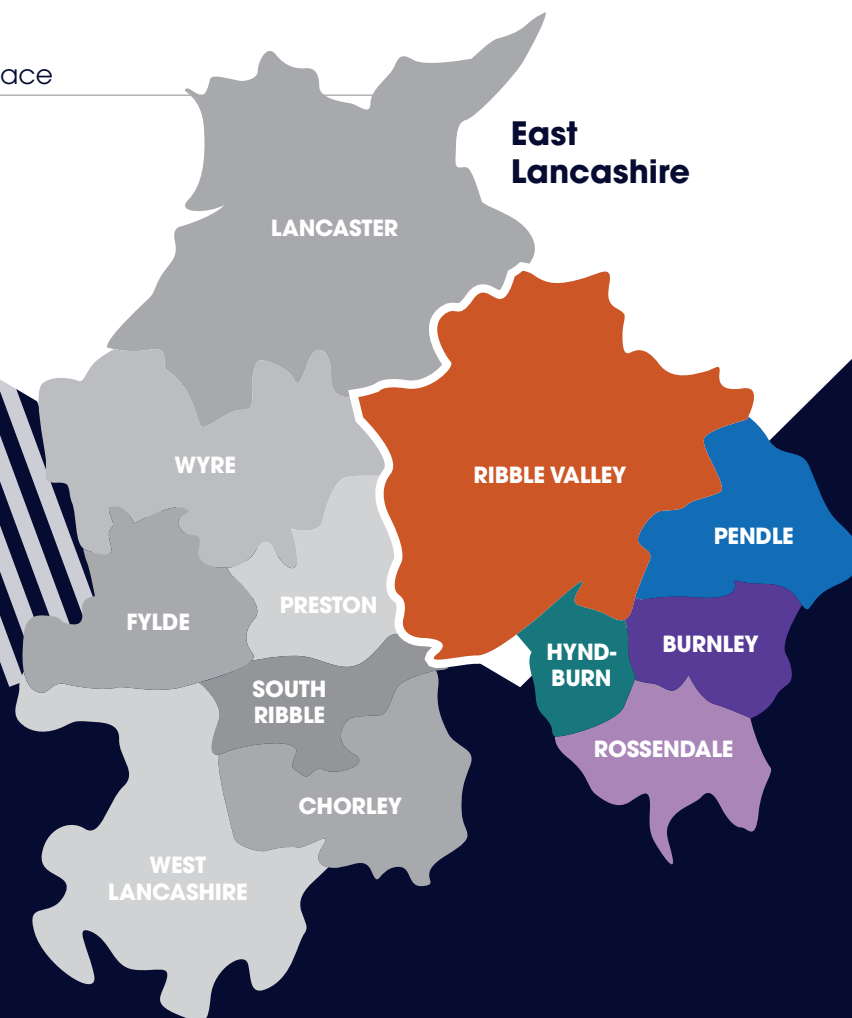
Main Geographical Area



Lancashire's geography, covering urban centres, coastal areas and rural countryside means there is a range of diverse populations, communities and skills requirements whose emerging priorities have been identified in the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP)². This is closely linked to the strategic framework³ set by the existing Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and covered by the Skills and Employment Advisory Panel (SAP).

Local Government in the County of Lancashire comprises of an upper tier authority, Lancashire County Council and 12 district authorities namely: Burnley, Chorley, Fylde, Hyndburn, Lancaster, Pendle, Preston, Ribbles Valley, Rossendale, South Ribble, West Lancashire, and Wyre. Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen are unitary authorities that do not come under county council control. Although under discussion a devolved authority has not yet been agreed.

The county's colleges have an existing collaborative body, The Lancashire Colleges (TLC) through which there is a highly successful track-record of working collectively and collaboratively to improve quality, enhance the curriculum and deliver programmes that respond to business and community needs⁴. This collaboration covers the whole LEP area including Lancashire County Council, Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen Unitary Authorities. Additionally, the College has worked with colleges and universities in Lancashire and Cumbria to successfully develop the Lancashire and Cumbria Institute of Technology.



East Lancashire¹⁰ is at the heart of a UK aerospace industry which is the largest in Europe. The region itself is one of the world's top four centres of aerospace production. The considerable aerospace heritage means the county is well positioned to benefit from the continued rapid growth of both the civil and defence markets, with world leading companies as well as a supply chain of over 400 Tier 1 to Tier 5 companies. Lancashire is the only UK location with the skills, resources and capacity for the end-to-end manufacturing and servicing of a complete aircraft for its entire life cycle.

A thriving hub of professional and business services, East Lancashire is home to employees operating in areas such as legal, accounting, back-office operations, financial services and insurance activities.

Burnley is recognised by Tech Nation as one of the fastest growing digital clusters in the UK and is home to many digital leaders. There are almost 19,000 employees in the digital sector in Lancashire, with the highest proportion working in Burnley and Pendle.

The East Lancashire Hospital Trust provides health care services to over 500,000 people from East Lancashire as well as Blackburn with Darwen. A major employer of 8000 staff who predict a staff shortage of over 1000 medical staff in the next 10 years.

While not among the LEP's growth pillars, Construction¹⁴ in Lancashire is the 7th biggest employment sector, with 39,000 people working in the sector, accounting for 5.8% of employment compared to 4.9% nationwide.

The growth of the industry has resulted in some innovative and key developments in construction methods, technology and software.

Innovations already making a difference include greater use of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to improve workflows and productivity, 3D printing and greater use of architectural timber and prefabricated construction. Investments in the infrastructure, energy and utility sectors, will continue to be significant drivers of the increase in total construction production.

Housing investment and delivery is vital to the economic prosperity of Burnley and East Lancashire. Burnley Council's 'Local Plan'¹⁰ outlines the proposals for development of 2000 new homes. The growth in employment in the regions, with more companies moving to the area has increased the need for new affordable housing which has had a positive impact on the construction industry.

Meeting National, Regional and Local Needs

College Curriculum

The College curriculum is carefully planned and reflective of the skills challenges and priorities nationally, regionally and locally.

Priorities

National Priorities

The national skills priorities, agreed across Government, are areas with high volumes of vacancies which are expected to increase; long term structural barriers to recruitment, retention, and progression issues; and are important in providing opportunities for employment in key growth areas such as green jobs, creative industries and science and technology (including AI and quantum computing).

These sectors are:

- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Digital and Technology
- Health and Social Care
- Haulage and logistics
- Engineering
- Science and Mathematics

The Skills Act¹⁷ has a clear focus on the pivotal role that further education has in helping people get good jobs now and in the future. It indicates colleges should prioritise delivery through a small number of high quality programmes that have been co designed with employers and have a strong track record of delivering good outcomes for learners such as T Levels, Apprenticeships, Free Courses for Jobs, Skills boot camps and Higher Technical qualifications.

Providers must still offer essential skills up to level 2 in English and maths and level 1 for digital.



Regional Priorities

The emerging Lancashire 2050 Vision has Employment and Skills as one of the eight strategic priorities with an ambition to ‘support people to develop their skills throughout their lives and attract business to the county because of a highly skilled workforce’. As it is finalised the Lancashire 2050 vision (which Burnley College is playing a part in developing) will inform future accountability statements.

Lancashire Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP)²

The emerging priorities identified from the LSIP include:

- Manufacturing & Engineering
- Construction
- Health and Social Care
- Transport and Distribution
- Hospitality, Leisure and Tourism
- IT & Digital
- Farming & Agriculture

And across cutting themes:

- Employability skills
- Green skills
- Awareness of courses on offer

Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework³

6 LEP Pillars of Growth

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Digital
- Tourism, culture & place
- Energy & low carbon
- Health
- Food & Agriculture

Underpinned by the future workforce, a skilled and productive workforce, an inclusive workforce and an informed approach.

Additionally, the Lancashire Technical Education Vision recognises the importance of a high performing technical education system to the Lancashire area, and the role that technical routes have in enabling people to develop technical skills to improve their job prospects and earning potential, whilst also boosting the productivity of businesses.

LEP Energy and Low Carbon Strategy⁷

The LEP Energy and Low Carbon Strategy provides a clear focus for Lancashire to use its significant strengths in the large-scale renewables sector, nuclear, and other large energy supply industries, all complemented by a cutting edge advanced manufacturing and technology sector to facilitate the decarbonisation of businesses and provide the expertise to manufacture components for the deployment of energy and low carbon technologies. All of this is underpinned by the Lancashire Skills data pack used extensively by Burnley College.

Lancashire Internationalisation Strategy⁶

The Lancashire Internationalisation Strategy shows Lancashire with one of the largest economies in the Northwest and a clear strategic ambition to:

- position Lancashire as being at the forefront of innovation
- build a globally competitive county
- promote the Lancashire brand more explicitly internationally
- establish Lancashire as a place which attracts, retains and grows both talent and investment.

Local Priorities

Burnley Council⁸ has identified the sectors that are currently being invested in locally:

- Advanced Manufacturing and Advanced Engineering
- Digital and Creative
- Fashion and Textiles
- Leisure, Retail and Tourism
- Logistics
- Education and Training

Curriculum Development

Burnley College has a strong commitment to positively build futures and change lives through excellence in education and employment. To fulfil this promise, our curriculum is constantly evolving and tailored to address the latest labour market trends⁹ and provide learners with viable pathways to sustainable and meaningful employment.

Our approach is collaborative and continuously reviewed, working closely with employers, local representative groups, local providers and other stakeholders (see external stakeholder list/ activities) to ensure that our offering is always effective for the needs of our community.

We are proud to offer clear line of sight courses, ranging from entry-level to degree level, which are supported by our investment in individualised learner support, extra curricular & “work ready” skills and pastoral care.

Our approach is founded on continued investment¹³ in our staff and facilities, allowing the College to continuously serve changing markets and evolving priorities.

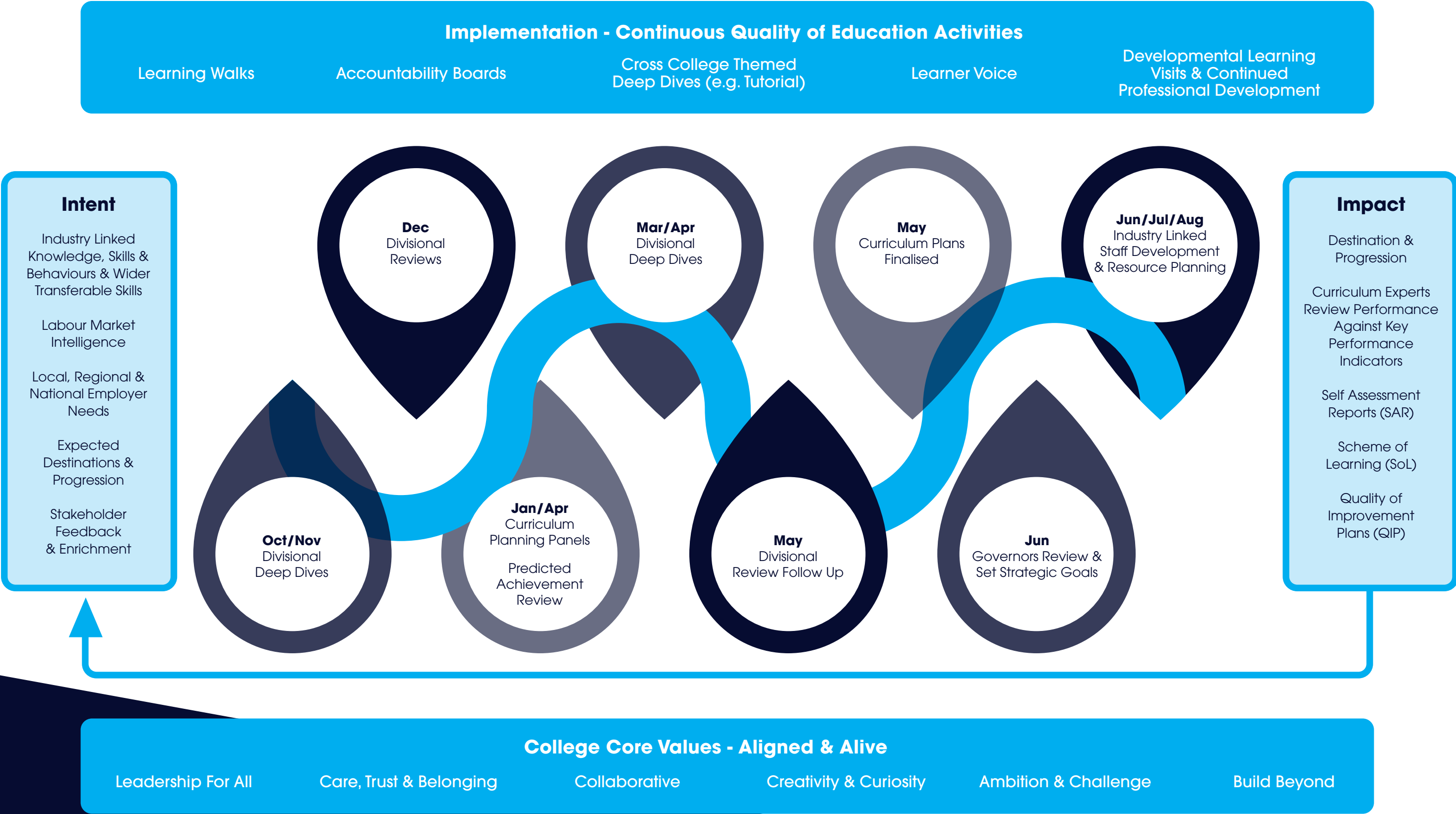
Central to our strategy is our commitment to align our curriculum with the reforms outlined in the Skills Act¹⁷, and to ensure that our provision aligns with local employment needs¹⁰.

To achieve this, our curriculum planning system provides a direct link between our chosen curriculum and the local demand, while also incorporating labour market intelligence data and data on the progress and destinations of our learners. This data (including the Lancashire Skills data pack¹ and that accessed via the Burning Glass Institute and Vector market intelligence data) facilitates a productive dialogue with our stakeholders and allows us to continuously improve the alignment of our provision with the needs of our community.

Our curriculum is also designed to reflect our focus on local, regional and national demand, allowing the College to remain responsive and aligned with the evolving needs of our community.



Curriculum Development



Key External Stakeholders

The wide range of stakeholders who support and work with Burnley College to ensure our curriculum remains pertinent, valid, comprehensive and aligned to employer demand includes:

Employers

- The College works with over 1,250 employers across East Lancashire including small, medium and large employers.
- The College also works with bodies representing employers, including East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce and subject sector groups
- The College is a key strategic partner in the Burnley Bondholders Group (a group of over 500 Burnley Based employers who network monthly)
- The College hosts curriculum specific Advisory Boards for all areas of the curriculum that meet regularly to specifically advise the College's curriculum areas on pertinent sector developments and requirements.

Civic

The College works in close partnership with many organisations including:

- Burnley Borough Council (Burnley College is a key member of the Burnley Economic Recovery and Growth Board)
- Lancashire County Council
- Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
- Lancashire Skill Improvement Plan (Burnley College sits on the Board representing East Lancashire)
- Job Centre Plus (Key partner in planning and delivering required skills)
- Burnley Strategic Growth Place, People and Business Groups.

Community

The College has a long-standing commitment to social responsibility and works with a wide range of community representative groups to ensure the College's offer and activity is collaboratively shaped by - and shapes - positive impact, opportunities and aspirations in the community. Partnerships with community representative groups include:

- Calico Enterprise
- Onward Homes,
- Burnley Town Centre Trust (Member of High Street Task Force Group)
- Pendleside Hospice
- East Lancs Healthcare Trust (working in partnership with the HR Director)

The College also works with the voluntary/third sector using industry specific skills on projects to support community developments.

Staff/Learners and Parents

- The College gathers information from and continuously reviews and acts upon information from learners of all ages through our Learner Voice activities and schools liaison activities.
- The College regularly consults with staff, ensures staff renew their industry knowledge/ experience and gathers information through surveys and communication processes.
- The College uses questionnaires, focus groups and informal methods to gather information from parents.

Engagement with Other Providers in the Area

Education Providers

Colleges

Burnley College has strong, collaborative relationships with the regional Colleges through The Lancashire Colleges Group (TLC). This includes a proven track record of delivering quality improvement projects for the direct benefit of learners across our region – see statement from TLC⁴.

One example is the 'Future U' project which is a collaboration bringing together universities, colleges, schools, and businesses from across Lancashire. The projects aim to empower learners with the knowledge and opportunities to succeed and helps learners overcome any barriers to their progression. Additionally, the College works in strategic educational partnerships such as the Princes' Trust. This work enhances life chances and facilitates the transition into education as the first steps towards enhanced social mobility for vulnerable residents.

The Skills Development Fund projects have seen The Lancashire Colleges work together to collaborate on low carbon, sustainability and digital projects⁵. Outcomes like Lancaster and Morecambe College focussing with their businesses on producing alternative energy and Burnley College focussing with their businesses on using alternative energy have resulted in shared resources, shared skilled teachers, better and integrated use of technology and more effective use of resources. This has led to the successful bid for the Lancashire and Cumbria Institute of Technology that Burnley College is a Director of.

Governing Boards

A series of meetings is being arranged to further encourage direct dialogue between governing bodies/Boards.

Universities

The College has strong, established partnerships with three university validating partners: University of Central Lancashire, University of Bolton, and Buckinghamshire New University. The College works with these providers to offer a suite of higher education provision which is ambitious, raising the aspirations and opportunities for university study in the local area, on courses that are employer informed and align with employer needs and demands at both a local and national level. The College also works with universities and higher education institutions nationally to gather information to ensure provision and skills improvement are kept dynamic and industry relevant, including Edge Hill University, Lancaster University and University Academy 92.

An example of the impact of this collaborative approach is our close work with UCLan on Cyber Security which has resulted in the development of a Security Operations Centre (SOC). This allows learners at all levels from foundation through to degree level to have relevant work experience and develop key, essential cyber security skills.

Schools

The College sits on the Burnley Schools Partnership and works closely with local secondary schools who are pushing to raise achievement. Additionally, the College runs revision sessions, taster sessions, science festivals and a Winter Wonderland for primary and secondary school pupils to enjoy.

Contribution to National, Regional and Local Priorities

Outcome	Contribution to National, Regional and Local Priorities	Measure	Link to Strategic Plan	Deadline
One To develop a pool of 'work ready' employees especially in shortage/high growth priority occupational areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction and Digital & Technology national priorities LEP priorities in Digital and Energy & Low Carbon pillars of growth LSIP identified priority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 learners to complete bootcamps 250 learners to re-skill by completing short courses in range of priority areas 100 apprentices to complete Green Skills project 150 learners to access 'matching' process 20 employers to report learners are more 'work ready' 10% increase in T Level Learners 	Strategic Objective 1	June 2024
Two To improve local skills gaps and low qualification levels in shortage/high growth priority occupational areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health & Social Care, Digital & Technology and Engineering national priorities LEP priority in Digital, Health and Advanced Manufacturing pillars of growth LSIP priority in Health & Social Care, IT & Digital, Manufacturing & Engineering Local priority in Burnley town plan and identified by Bondholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 learners to progress on to further study or into ambitious employment opportunities in identified areas Completion of university campus developments and Institute of Technology 100 learners to enrol on range of new Level 4/Level 5 university programmes in Health & Social Care, Digital, Cyber Security & Advanced Manufacturing. 100 learners to complete 'ladder' qualifications for progression on to Level 4/Level 5 university programmes in a range of priority areas 	Strategic Objective 2	November 2024
Three To operate at both a strategic and operational level to deliver new and emerging skills required by the current and future economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Skills Act helping people get better and more skilled jobs Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework LEP Energy and Low Carbon Strategy Lancashire International Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 employer forums to be held in range of new priority areas with active participation from all stakeholders Collaboration with 12 key industry leaders to further develop and enhance skills qualifications in the Institute of Technology (IoT) Develop and publicise the IoT 	Strategic Objective 3	December 2024
Four To actively seek, recruit and train staff who embody our commitment to excellence, driving academic and industry-leading skills within our organisation ensuring high standards are consistently achieved and surpassed.	Skills shortages in national, regional and local areas including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital & Technology Science & Mathematics Manufacturing & Engineering Energy & Low Carbon Education & Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All teaching staff to go into industry at least 2 times a year At least 3 Taking Teaching Further staff each year 10% reduction in staff turnover 3% reduction in staff absences 	Strategic Objective 4 and Strategic Objective 5	September 2024
Five For the College to further act as an anchor institution in the local community, supporting economic growth and community improvement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Skills Act ensuring people get better and more skilled jobs Burnley Local Economic Skills Plan LSIP cross cutter themes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 new community groups and organisations network and link through College collaborations Investment and new projects/initiatives launched 1000 students and businesses access resources and industry leading equipment that helps foster research, development and innovation. Local and regional priorities shaped through senior involvement in forums, boards and development organisations 	Strategic Objective 3 and Strategic Objective 6	July 2024
Six To provide equal opportunities for all to meet the National, Regional and Local priorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Skills Act ensuring people get better and more skilled jobs LSIP cross cutter themes Burnley Local Economic Skills Plan to boost skills of unemployed and inactive residents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Adults enrolled onto online learning programmes 500 learners achieve ESOL provision 10 additional extra-curricular activities for all brands 	Strategic Objective 7	July 2024

Corporation Statement

On behalf of the Burnley College Corporation, it is hereby confirmed that the College Plan as set out above reflects an agreed statement of purpose, aims and objectives as approved by the Corporation at their meeting on Wednesday 3 May 2023.

The Plan will be published on the College's website within three months of the start of the new academic year and can be accessed from the following link: www.burnley.ac.uk



Chair of Governors
Dated: 03/05/2023



Principal/Chief Executive and Accounting Officer
Dated: 03/05/2023

Reference to Relevant Supporting Documentation

- ¹ Lancashire skills data pack
[Lancashire-Local-Skills-Report-Annexe-A-2022-Final.pdf](#) (lancashireskillshub.co.uk)
- ² Lancashire's Local Skills Improvement Plans
[LSIP_Report_31 March 2022_Website_Publication.pdf](#) (lancashirelsip.co.uk)
- ³ Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework
[LancashireSkillsFramework_2021.pdf](#) (lancashireskillshub.co.uk)
- ⁴ The Lancashire Colleges' Statement of Engagement
See Annex A
- ⁵ Lancashire Digital Strategy
[FINAL-Lancashire-Digital-Strategy-September-2022_compressed \(2\).pdf](#)
- ⁶ Lancashire International Strategy
[2022-International-Strategy-Summary_compressed-2%20\(2\).pdf](#)
- ⁷ LEP Energy and Low Carbon Strategy
Energy and Low Carbon Strategy
- ⁸ Burnley's new economy – a strategy for recovery and growth
[RPP_Burnleys-New-Economy-17094.pdf](#)
- ⁹ Work and Invest in Burnley
Work and Invest in Burnley - Burnley
- ¹⁰ Burnley Council Local Plan
www.burnley.gov.uk
- ¹¹ National achievement Rate Tables
<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/further-education-and-skills>
- ¹² Ofsted Report
www.reports.ofsted.gov.uk
- ¹³ College's Annual Financial Report
[Burnley-College-Annual-Report-and-Financial-Statements-2021-22.pdf](#)
- ¹⁴ Office for National Statistics Data
www.ons.gov.uk
- ¹⁵ Deprivation Analysis
www.lancashire.gov.uk
- ¹⁶ Government's School Performance Tables
www.gov.uk/school-performance-tables
- ¹⁷ Skills and Post 16 Education Act
www.gov.uk



Annex A.1

The Lancashire Colleges (TLC) Statement of Engagement

Burnley College is based in Lancashire in the North West of England. Lancashire is one of the most diverse economic areas in the country, with no urban core but a polycentric set of towns and cities, rural and coastal areas, agricultural and industrial zones. With a population of 1.5m people, Lancashire's 54,000 businesses generate 637,000 jobs across a range of important and future-facing sectors from manufacturing and tourism to cyber, digital and low carbon. The thriving £34bn economy is home to globally leading firms with sector/supply chain clusters including the fourth largest aerospace cluster in the world. There is a pan-Lancashire labour market, particularly for technical and professional roles while workforce is also imported from and exported to neighbouring areas including Greater Manchester, Cumbria and the Liverpool City Region.

The emerging Lancashire 2050 Vision has Employment and Skills as one of eight strategic priorities with an ambition to 'support people to develop their skills throughout their lives and attract business to the county because of our highly skilled workforce' while the Local Skills Improvement Plan 2023 states that there is a genuine opportunity for providers to foster ongoing relationships with employers and work collaboratively with them to promote the variety of roles alongside the skills pathway. The College recognises the value of working with other education and skills providers in East Lancashire and the wider area to review how well our provision is collectively meeting local needs. Our shared ambition is to ensure that together we deliver a curriculum that serves the local community while building on individual strengths and specialisms to maximise collective impact and meet business needs.

The College is part of The Lancashire Colleges group (TLC); a collaborative network that we have invested in for over 25 years. TLC includes all of the Further Education and Sixth Form Colleges in the area including a specialist college and represents the diversity of the sector as a whole. Through TLC we have a successful track-record of working collectively and collaboratively to improve quality, enhance the curriculum and deliver programmes that respond to business and community needs.

Most recently, through a Strategic Development Pilot and Phase 2 programme, Burnley College has proactively worked with its neighbours, investing in a network of industry-standard education and training spaces, building on our specialisms and collaborating to develop new courses and curriculum that align with business needs. Through communities of practice and investment in joint CPD we have been able to jointly meet challenges and build on best practice to ensure our teaching remains high quality and keeps pace with technological and other developments.

TLC acts as an advocate and voice for the sector locally and works closely with key stakeholders including the Chambers of Commerce, Local Authorities and the LEP to drive recognition of the collective offer of its members and gather intelligence about emerging skills needs. TLC has been influential, informing and shaping the Lancashire LSIP and the College has actively engaged with our ERB helping them to engage local employers, capture intelligence and understand current and emerging skills needs. This will act as a catalyst for further curriculum changes and adaptations to provision planned for the coming year.

We will continue to work with our neighbours in Lancashire, supporting our Governing Body in effectively discharge its duty to review provision in the local area. We will, through TLC, enhance the collective understanding of how well college provision meets local needs and develop a shared evidence base to assist Governing Bodies in identifying strengths and specialisms within Lancashire. We will work towards the development of a shared action plan and consider what actions the colleges might take, individually or collectively, in order to better meet identified local needs.

A £9m Strategic Development Fund (SDF) Pilot Programme (2021-22) saw Lancashire's colleges collaborating with each other to help provide the skills businesses need as they respond to the challenges and opportunities presented by the shift towards net-zero carbon. This programme recognised the importance of Lancashire's Energy and Low Carbon sector as emphasised in the The Lancashire Independent Economic Review and supported and enabled businesses to respond to market and technological change, a priority highlighted in Lancashire's Technical Education Vision.

In just a short period the colleges collectively engaged over 800 local businesses and worked together with them to develop 37 new short and very-short courses that directly responded to their skills needs. We also identified at least eight courses where unnecessary duplication could be reduced through joint work. We worked with industry specialists to provide CPD to hundreds of tutors and teachers, ensuring their skills keep pace with technological developments. Across Lancashire at least 2,500 students immediately benefitted from access to new, industry-standard equipment and teaching facilities which are now being used by many thousands more.

A £2.75m Phase 2 SDF project (2022-23) allowed the colleges to continue our joint work on net-zero carbon curriculum development and also allowed a focus on cyber-security. The latter was in direct response not only the announcement that the National Cyber Force will be located in Lancashire, recognising the impact this will have on clusters and supply chain development, but also on feedback from SMEs that cyber-security is a significant area of concern.

Through an ESF 'Moving On' project (2016-23) the colleges across Lancashire have collaborated with private and third sector providers to support over 5,500 young people who were NEET/at risk of becoming NEET, a priority group for the Local Authorities and LEP. Nearly 60% of young people progressed or were retained in education, skills or employment as a result of this support.

The ESF 'Supporting Technical Education in Lancashire' project (2021-22) supported over 330 Lancashire-based SMEs to engage in technical education and training. This project directly responded to feedback from local employers that they needed more support to understand how they could engage in technical education through offering work placements or apprenticeships, by getting involved in designing curriculum and offering masterclasses.

A small pilot project (2021-22) saw the establishment of four Professional Development Networks bringing together over 130 teaching staff from across the colleges to develop their Level 4/5 subject and pedagogic content knowledge and create teaching and other resources. This helped to improve the quality of technical and professional curriculum design, teaching, learning and assessment across four local priority sectors: construction, health, sustainable energy and ecology/land-based.

Key statistics include:

- **9,000 Businesses Supported** - Lancashire's colleges have extensive networks of public and private sector partners and currently work with 9,000 businesses, supporting their staff in apprenticeships and other training. Lancashire's colleges achieve above average scores for employer satisfaction.
- **£288 million** - With a combined turnover of almost £288 million, Lancashire's colleges are major employers in their own rights, employing around 6,000 people, making a significant contribution to the local economy.
- **£1 = £15** - For every pound of government funding invested, Lancashire's colleges deliver over £15 in economic benefits over their students' lifetime, a substantial return.
- **82,000 Young and Adult Learners** - Lancashire's colleges provide education and training to over 82,000 young and adult learners each year from entry level to postgraduate and across a spectrum from the most disadvantaged to the most able.
- **Over 8,000 HE Students** - Over 8,000 or 12% of all higher education (HE) students based in Lancashire study at Lancashire's colleges compared with 4% of HE students being based in colleges nationally. Three of Lancashire's College are in the top ten largest HE in FE providers nationally.
- **£13 million external funding** - TLC has secured over £13 million of external funding in 2021/22 for the benefit of Lancashire.

Annex A.2

The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership statement of engagement

Lancashire has a thriving £33bn economy, with a population of 1.5m people, with over 55,000 businesses generating 728,000 jobs across a range of future-facing sectors from manufacturing, health and tourism to cyber, digital and low carbon. The Lancashire Local Authority Leaders recently launched Lancashire 2050, which sets out shared ambitions for the future of Lancashire against eight priorities including employment and skills.

The Lancashire Skills and Employment Board brings together industry and education, skills and employment providers and local authorities, and is responsible for driving forward the employment and skills theme in the locality. The board feeds into both the board of the Lancashire LEP and the Local Authorities Lancashire Leaders group, giving both an economic and inclusive lens to the priorities which are articulated in the local skills strategy, the Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework. The framework is underpinned by a robust evidence base of local labour market intelligence which is shared with the colleges to inform curriculum planning, this includes government data sets as well as novel data such as real time insights into vacancies and LinkedIn profiles. The Lancashire Skills and Employment Hub, the strategic body which supports the work of the board, are working in partnership with the Chambers of Commerce who are leading on the Local Skills Improvement Plan, so that the LSIP adds value to existing intelligence, providing additional insights from employers directly.

There is a strong partnership approach in Lancashire with the Lancashire College (TLC) group working in partnership with the LEP, the Lancashire Local Authorities, the Skills Hub and the Chambers of Commerce, with the colleges working collegiately to solve the skills challenges in the local economy.

Annex A.3

The Chamber of Commerce statement of engagement

The LSIP has worked closely with employers and providers to help develop a greater understanding of what employers require from the skills system. While working towards the full report by the end of May, the LSIP has produced an Emerging Priorities Report highlighting the key occupations employers are struggling to fill and skills shortages. Common across all sectors were concerns among employers about employability skills and getting people with the 'right attitude' to work and learning. The report also identified issues that many smaller companies are not sure how the move to net zero and digital transformation are going to impact their work, jobs and the skills needed to support them; supporting employers to understand and plan in these areas will be crucial.

During the next phase, the LSIP will continue to work closely with providers to improve collaboration between them and employers, to increase awareness of available training among employers, improve transparency of the skills system, and to support funding applications for programmes responding to employer needs.