

Appendix 1

2026-27 Employability & Skills Workplan			
Strategic Priority (link to Corporate Plan)	In-year deliverable(s)	How will you measure success (KPIs and Targets)	Budget
Support access to sustainable employment opportunities and improve skills levels for target groups to drive Inclusive Growth.	Delivery of Employment Academies (into work) - targeting Inclusive Growth cohorts - within sectors with high job demand/good jobs or sustainable self employment options such as caring professions, service sectors, practical sectors and professional services, in line with business demand	675 participants (predicated on level of resourcing from LMP - which is subject to change - as well as recognising that the cost pp increases with the skill level required - numbers will be amended proportionate to changes within these factors) 90% of participants successfully completing 2025 Digital Badges issued as a minimum 75% of those completing gaining employment/self employment	LMP: £691,719 Revenue Budget: £806,250
	Scoping sectors such as the green economy, creative industries and manufacturing, to identify opportunities to build inclusive pathways - through Employment Academies - to jobs for those who would otherwise not be able to access		Revenue Budget: £30,000
	Work with partners to deliver Upskilling Academies targeting those working in low paid sectors to achieve higher level qualifications and gain a better job, in line with business demand		Revenue Budget: £40,000
	Complete the 2026/27 quality improvement cycle within the QA Framework, where self-assessments are undertaken, QA visits held and quality improvement plans produced and implemented		-
	Undertake an external evaluation of Employment Academies to ensure the model is 'evidence-based' and to critically examine how outcomes can be optimised.		-
	Issue Digital Badges to all participants successfully completing.		-
	Create new Open Framework to provide flexible and agile procurement options for E&S deliverables		-
Support the management and development of the Belfast Labour Market Partnership	Convene and chair up to six Labour Market Partnership meetings, to identify key labour market challenges and co-design solutions and co-ordinate delivery of agreed programmes of work	6 meetings held	LMP Budget: £2,800
	Work with partners to progress the 'Health & Work' agenda, influencing policy direction on intergating health and employability/employment systems	Attendance at Transformation Bid design sessions Membership of oversight group/commission	-
	Design of the Belfast Employer Hub driven through a working group with key partners including EPIC Futures, DfC, DfE, Invest NI etc. This will include the design and implementation of an AI solution for employers as well as a costed business and implementation plan to establish an Employer Hub	6 Working Group meetings to co-design solutions Tech solution created and tested Employer Hub implementation plan completed	LMP: £100,000 Ufl: £225,000
	Develop an three year LMP Action Plan 2027-2030 underpinned by a strategic assessment of supply, demand, policy and provision	2027-2030 LMP Action Plan produced	LMP Budget: £5,200
	Host localised jobs fairs/meet the employer events in partnership with Jobs and Benefits Offices and explore other jobs and skills events	4 jobsfairs/meet the employer events held	LMP Budget: £8,832
Deliver social value while supporting the wider employability and skills ecosystem	Consolidate the Employability and Skills Provider Network to focus on engaging groups and organisations within local community infrastructure as well as those supporting target groups for those with barriers to work. This will include acting as the convenor across the E&S ecosystem	30 new members 6 Newsletters produced for members 8 localised events held on opportunities	Revenue Budget: £30,000
	Continue to operate as an RSA City of Learning, hosting other providers to be able to create/issue badges and working with other cities to enhance the functionality and ease of use of Digital Badging for the benefit of residents gaining vocationally-specific credentials	10 other providers creating/issuing badges 1 functionality improvement implemented	Revenue Budget: £45,000
	Ensure Employability and Skills considerations are included within Developer Contributions by providing statistical data and analysis on labour market shortages. Review and recommend interventions regarding Skills Plans where applicable	3 Skills Assessment completed 3 E&S Plans reviewed	-
	Provide guidance to contractors to meet their Social Value job requirements and support inclusive recruitment practices on current labour market issues	3 BCC contractors supported	-