

Unique resources for LEP skills strategy development

The National Skills Academies (NSAs) and Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) have a wealth of data, knowledge and resources that can help LEPs to shape new skills strategies for local economies. Working with the Federation for Industry Sector Skills & Standards can help you to access any of the services or resources below, or create bespoke resources and services to meet your specific needs.

Detailed Labour Market Intelligence (LMI)

All of the SSCs have a range of information of both the economic drivers and skills needs of whole industries and their sub-sectors. Available now to LEPs, this sectoral intelligence, allied to significant employer engagement by both SSCs and NSAs, can help you to define existing and future skills needs and to see the qualifications pipeline being developed by SSCs to support industries and meet local skills gaps.

Federation in Action – knowledge base

The 18 SSCs focus on specific industries. The Federation can help you access industry data. See www.fisss.org for contact details.

Defining competencies and skills by sub sector/job

Together we work with over half a million employers each year to help them identify the competencies needed for existing and new jobs and to develop appropriate training/qualifications. We can help you to marry competency and skills needs with relevant qualifications and training programmes in your region.

Joint Action – employer base

NSAs and SSCs can help you access employer inputs from your locality where they have contacts to help inform your skills strategy development.

Developing Apprenticeships to meet local needs

Apprenticeship frameworks are developed nationally, but delivery can be flexed to meet local needs. SSCs and NSAs can work with you, local training providers and your employer base to develop an Apprenticeship framework to meet your local circumstances.

Joint Action – Green Skills Alliance

Green Skills Alliance was developed by three SSCs to create skills needed to meet the government's Green Deal policy for energy efficient buildings. Over 1,274 Green Deal Advisors have now been certified.

Delivering Apprenticeships regionally and nationally

SSCs can help you to support the delivery of quality Apprenticeships through training providers, Apprenticeship and/or Group Training Associations. These employ the Apprentice on behalf of a group of businesses, providing business growth, sustainability and flexibility to meet local demand.

SSCs in Action – Apprenticeships

In the last year, 280,000 Apprentices have received their certificates from SSCs.

Access to an experienced, quality assured provider base

NSAs have developed quality training provider bases for each of the 18 industry sectors they serve, providing you with access to industry specialists with a proven track record of skills development honed to the current needs of employers. A robust quality assurance review of each training provider ensures continuing quality improvement.

NSAs in Action – retail provider base

The NSA for Retail has worked with local providers to develop a retail skills shop network across the country delivering what the industry wants at the standard it requires

Encouraging career pathways

Both SSCs and NSAs have developed searchable careers websites that allow young and old alike to find out more about specific careers and to connect with the skills training and qualifications they may need – a potentially powerful outreach for any LEP skills strategy.

NSAs in Action – Tasty Careers

The Tasty Careers website produced by the NSA Food and Drink provides excellent content for anyone considering a career in the food and drink industry: www.tastycareers.org.uk

Best practice recruitment

Many of the SSCs and NSAs have funded engagement and training programmes aimed at encouraging individuals and specific target groups like young people, women and ethnic minorities to re-enter the labour market, building invaluable intelligence on best practice recruitment strategies.

Joint Action – Apprenticeships

Over the next two years Creative and Cultural SSC and NSA will deliver 1,600 Young Apprenticeships, 2,900 Apprenticeships and 2,000 paid internships.

Engagement with unemployed/NEETS

Working through pre-employment training and directly with employers, NSAs and SSCs have had considerable success locally and sectorally. The Traineeships programme will be critical in enhancing success further and could form a useful part of any LEP skills-gap development plan.

NSAs in Action – Employment Academies

People 1st have set up 14 Employment Academies resulting so far in 862 new jobs with local employers.

Working Together

There are numerous examples of SSCs and NSAs working collaboratively to develop skills to meet specific sectors. The Federation can help you to explore how you can work with SSCs and NSAs to meet your local needs.

NSAs and SSCs in Action – Gate to Plate

Gate to Plate collaboration between Lantra, Improve and People 1st involves the supply chain working together to develop relevant skills from farm to restaurant.

Contact us

To find out more about how the SSCs and NSAs can help you to inform and develop a cost-efficient LEP skills strategy using the latest intelligence and proven providers, contact the Federation today:

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Visit the website www.fiss.org for a list of the individual SSCs and the industries they cover.

or

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For a list of individual NSAs and the industries they cover visit:

www.mps-academy.co.uk/network