

## **Draft Year 4 Sustainability Report – Construction & the Built Environment (CBE) Sector**

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### **Context**

To explore the potential for supporting progress of the WYLLN CBE Sector Group into the 4<sup>th</sup> year as part of a sustainable plan with consideration of a range of funding options and achievable outcomes.

The membership of the sector group is quite broad including five sector skills councils – Summit Skills, EU Skills, Proskills, Asset Skills and Construction Skills – professional institutions, intermediaries and employer groups include Constructing Excellence, Chartered Institute of Building Services Engineers, Institute of Civil Engineers, Chartered Institute of Building, the UK Resource Centre for Women, West Yorkshire Police (Estates), Asda, Southdale Homes, Why Waste, Construction Knowledge Exchange, Construction Sector Network (CSN) linked to Yorkshire Forward (to launch early 2010), Experian linked to the Construction Skills Network predicting four year employment patterns and Y&H LMI, Build and NG Bailey. The majority of WYLLN HEI & FE partner institutions that provide CBE courses are also represented.

Furthermore at least three of these partners would consider offering financial support towards a fourth year extension to the CBE Sector Group additional to WYLLN funding. One on the sustainability agenda, one linked to the CSN and one linked to support offered through curriculum development and progression agreements. In addition the emergence of the Construction Sector Network led by Construction Knowledge Exchange and developed by Yorkshire Forward offers an opportunity for a Yorkshire and Humberside role for the group within the fourth year.

### **Rationale for Continuance**

All sector group members have been involved in developing the links to a sustainable low carbon industry for the future, maximising environmental impact through employer engagement and innovative approaches. No curriculum map exists linked to sustainability and the environment as the curriculum coverage is currently sporadic locally, regionally and nationally but the agenda and demand is international.

The focus of the curriculum development has included construction environment and sustainability, facilities management, Civil Engineering, Building Services and Environmental Engineering, Architectural Technology and Design as well as modern and traditional methods of construction, management and maintenance. The levels covered include Foundation Degrees and Higher Nationals through to a Masters. These developments are already impacting upon 6 or 7 existing institutions enabling learners to progress locally on a range of new exciting curriculum. The work started by WYLLN relating to these developments will need to be continued beyond the Summer 2010 to ensure that the various elements of development are joined together across the region offering clear credit and progression opportunities.

For the region as can be seen from the options analysis of this report, the recommendations and from the survey feedback from members the group has made an clear impact and started to get all partners working together for a common good namely employers, sustainable construction, employability and higher level skills, broadening the opportunities and participation for all levels of students at college, university and in the workplace, and additionally raising awareness of progression, IAG and innovative approaches to securing employer-based credit. Survey feedback relating to continuation to a fourth year for the group included *to assist in the promotion of what has been developed; as a sector we have improved progression routes but there is still a great deal of work to be done in meeting industry needs, for example alternative technologies and building services, continue excellent cross-sector collaboration.*

## Options Analysis

### Year 4 Options WYLLN CBE Sector Group

The table below offers an overview clarifying the potential roles of the CBE Sector Group with a variety of levels of input and commitment based upon one of three funding models:

- £10,000 WYLLN funding support**

(i) For a continued West Yorkshire focus for one day per week of input from a Sector Officer acting as a gatekeeper for the range of strategic partnerships and developments that have progressed over the first three years of the Sector Network. Two Sector Group meetings per annum, continued support for and links to various WY networks, extended development of progression agreements (PAs), a common West Yorkshire CBE CPD framework across professional institutions and continuation of the annual Green Vision Sustainability Conference event.
- £20,000 WYLLN funding support**

(ii) For a continued West Yorkshire focus for two days per week of input from a Sector Officer acting as a gatekeeper for the range of strategic partnerships and developments that have progressed over the first three years of the Sector Network. Four Sector Group meetings per annum, continued support for and links to various WY networks, extended development of progression agreements, a common West Yorkshire CBE CPD framework across professional institutions and continuation of the annual Green Vision Sustainability Conference event.
- £20,000 WYLLN funding support plus some potential funding support from CSN**

(iii) For a fuller Yorkshire & Humberside remit for two days per week of input from a Sector Officer together with further funding from the CSN would see extension of networks for a range of strategic partnerships including curriculum development, audit and mapping across the county. Four Y&H Group meetings per annum, support for and links

to various Y&H networks, extended development of progression agreements, a common Y&H CBE CPD framework across professional institutions and continuation of the annual Green Vision Sustainability Conference event.

Key Element	1. West Yorkshire Lifelong Learning Network proposal managing shared services with a 'gatekeeper' role	2. Fuller role linked to Yorkshire & Humberside and developing alongside the Construction Sector Network
Strategic Partnerships	Link with the Work and Skills Boards to develop and share initiatives and innovation relating to the new higher level skills linked to the low carbon economy. Continued expansion of strategic partnerships across WY.	Exciting agenda items linked to the new CSN/YF with a Y&H wide approach with the WYLLN model utilised across the region as one of the key arms for the Construction Sector Network.
Progression Agreements	Create new progression agreements for a range of stakeholders linked to CBE. Ensure curriculum developments and PAs underway are implemented (completed) as intended and fully developed for all stakeholders. Analyse and review successes of IAG sustainability and the strength or otherwise of the Progression Agreements	Excellent opportunity to move forward a major suite of progressions for non-traditional learners across Y&H and beyond further enhancing the widening participation agenda - support from all Construction & Engineering Y&H HEIs and FEC's delivering CBE
Curriculum Development	Finalise curriculum development materials, manage and share with partner institutions. Clear curriculum and resource auditing, mapping, and development from FE levels 2 & 3 through to Masters for both full and part time options.	Major curriculum development work on-going that could make an impact for 2010; specific environmental and sustainable construction audit moved forward for 2011.
Marketing and Employer Engagement	Excellent marketing support from WYLLN. Events will continue to engage employers from a variety of backgrounds including SMEs. Professional Institute Booklet 2010 and common CPD calendar to follow for 2011 for all stakeholders	Identify low carbon economy priorities for the region through SSCs, employers, CSN Network, Experian and LMI predictions & support National Skills Academy work. Legacy Annual Green Vision/Green Solutions Conference – need for continuing vigilance linked to statutory awareness and compliance with a move towards 2016. Link to 2011 Skill Olympics
Credit	Strengthen APL, APEL and EBTA	Major support and links to

	work across CBE where the potential is vast for work on credit accumulation and transfer	CSN across Y&H to strengthen APL, APEL and EBTA work across CBE
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## Recommendations

- Move forward with one of the proposals set out in the Options analysis depending upon the funding model utilised for the CBE Sector Group.
- Confirm sector specific targets and outcomes for the fourth year to enable clear plans to be established for the CBE Sector Group.
- Continue the excellent and effective communication and collaborative working with sector skills councils, employer groups, and employers along with partner institutions.
- Work with Work and Skills Boards to align closely to their strategies associated with high level skills and a higher skilled economy.