**Our 7 Priority Sectors for future employment.**

**What is LMI?**

Labour Market Intelligence is the term used to describe a wide range of information that helps inform decisions about work and training. From the recent LMI report 7 priority sectors have been identified for this area of Lancashire.

**What are the 7 Priority Sectors?**

These are the industries with exciting job opportunities due to investment and a growing demand for young people in the sector. The sectors that have been identified as the 7 key sectors for Lancashire are:

1. **Advanced Manufacturing.**

Lancashire is one of the UK’s leading centres for Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering – with products manufactured in Lancashire being exported all over the world. There are lots of exciting career opportunities in the sector due to the ageing population and growing demand for products that are made in the UK. This is creating a high demand for young people with Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths qualifications.

1. **Construction.**

Lancashire is home to a thriving construction sector driven by major planned and ongoing commercial and residential developments including Preston and South Ribble City Deal and the Enterprise Zone sites. The sector is one of the most diverse in terms of careers offered, regardless of age or experience – with more than one hundred job roles across the construction industry.

1. **Creative and Digital sector.**

The creative and digital sector in Lancashire accounts for 6% of the workforce and has a growing demand for educated, skilled and artistic young people. Due to the ever-changing world of technology, demand for digital skills remains extremely high and the county’s colleges and universities are helping to address this skills gap.

1. **Energy and Environmental Technologies.**

The Energy and Environmental Technologies sector includes roles in gas, electricity, renewables, nuclear, water, waste management and environmental technologies – as well as the supply chains for these industries. Lancashire has well established facilities and supply chains in nuclear, waste recovery and offshore wind, oil and gas, as well as growing capabilities and new developments in onshore gas and green energy production and storage.

1. **Financial and Professional Services.**

Lancashire has a thriving financial and professional services sector, supporting businesses across the county and beyond. From accountants and law firms, financial advisors and insurance brokers, specialist property related consultancies and recruitment agencies through large business process outsourcing organisations. Many of the jobs in the sector are based in the county's major urban centres of Preston, Blackpool, Burnley and Blackburn.

1. **Health and Social Care.**

Like the rest of the UK, Lancashire has an ageing population (with the number of people over 65 set to rise by 23% in a decade) and more people with complex care needs living longer. Also, Lancashire’s residents are generally less healthy than the national average. This means that demand for health and care services is set to continue rising – creating a range of employment opportunities for young people.

1. **Visitor Economy.**

In Lancashire the visitor economy (tourism) contributes £3.7bn per year to the county’s economy, and Lancashire has a vision to be ‘one of the top 5 English counties for a short break or family holiday'. The continued growth of the sector is creating opportunities for young people within the sector – with jobs throughout the county in locations such as Lancaster, Ribble Valley and the Forest of Bowland but particularly in Blackpool, Lancashire’s number one visitor destination.