

# **North West Strategic Analysis**

## **Cumbria Sub Regional Report**

**November 2007**

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## SECTION:1 INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

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### 1.1 Background and Purpose

- 1.1.1 In 2006 the NW Statement of Skills Priorities for the period 2007/08 to 2009/10 was published by the Regional Skills Partnership (RSP). The purpose of the Statement of Skills Priorities is to provide the region with a sound basis and rationale to guide the planning and purchasing of skills provision to meet the needs of employers and the economy in general. The Statement also articulates how the RSP will support the delivery of the Regional Economic Strategy.
- 1.1.2 As part of the work, we have produced a Regional Strategic Analysis, which is the quantitative evidence base that underlies the NW Statement of Skills Priorities. It also acts as the evidence base for ESF prioritisation and supports the LSC planning cycle and the regional strategic commissioning document, which is due for completion in November 2006.
- 1.1.3 This report presents an updated version of the sub-regional Strategic Analysis or evidence base for the Cumbria sub-region produced in 2006. It is primarily a quantitative report, with analysis conducted at the sub-regional and district level, where appropriate. Its purpose is to highlight the issues which are of particular importance for the area.

### 1.2 Policy Background

- 1.2.1 The Regional Strategic analysis sets out the national policy context and the recent focus on skills as being vitally important to improving productivity levels in the UK. This can be summarised as:
- Leitch;
  - Economic Development;
  - Worklessness
  - Economic development and skill priorities in the area.
- 1.2.2 The LSC's Statement of Priorities 2007 sets out our priorities and key actions 2008/09 to 2010/11. Our three national priorities are to:
- **Priority 1: Create Demand for Skills.** Collectively, we have to create a culture where young people, adults and employers demand skills and qualifications because they recognise the social and economic benefits that they bring.
  - **Priority 2: Transforming FE.** The last 18 months have seen some fundamental changes to the learning and skills landscape. Not only the publication of Lord Leitch's report on skills and the Government's response, but also the creation of two new departments – the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) and the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) – who share responsibility for learning and skills at all ages. One of the key developments arising from this is the intention to transfer 16–18 funding from the LSC to local authorities and the review of post-19 skills delivery. The Statement of Priorities sets out our duties up to that transfer coming into effect.
  - **Priority 3: Better Skills, Better Jobs, Better Lives.** These changes represent a significant opportunity to put skills at the top of the political agenda and to demonstrate how they contribute to wider government goals to reduce child

poverty, promote social mobility, improve innovation and business productivity, and support higher levels of sustainable employment.

1.2.3 The LSC has responded to this changing landscape in several ways and is set out in more detail in the Regional Strategic Analysis

### **1.3 LSC Area Priorities**

1.3.1 In addition to working towards national Learning and Skills Council (LSC) priorities, each Local LSC produces a Local Annual Plan that focuses on issues that are specific to their areas. For Cumbria, the Plan for 2007/08 highlights a number of local priorities and challenges to be addressed and these are:

#### **Young People**

- Increase 16-18 participation in learning (focussing on 17 year olds)
- Increase the number of young people that progress from Young Apprenticeship to Apprenticeship
- Formalise and implement the September Guarantee
- Improve the quality and re-structure the model of e2e to attract more young people onto the programme
- Increase the take-up of EMA in Cumbria – working with Connexions Cumbria and the 14-19 Partnerships to improve intelligence and marketing
- Increase the number of young people with LLDD that can live and learn in Cumbria. Develop with providers more effective methods of self-declaration
- Reduce the number of young people in jobs without training; by increasing e2e progressions into learning, working with TUC Learning Rep and employer engagement partners
- Raise Level 2 and Level 3 at 19 attainment, with particular attention on achievements between ages 16 and 19

#### **Adults and Skills issues**

- All providers need to be clear about and articulate their unique contribution to sector needs;
- Providers need to be responsive to employers' needs and be clear about employer-facing provision, maximising the use of Train to Gain. FE colleges, in particular, need to further develop their capability and capacity to respond to sector/employer and regeneration needs;
- Success rates need to show further improvement – particularly within sector subject areas and for all employer-facing provision. The LSC is introducing new Minimum Levels of Performance for success rates and expects all success rates to be well above these levels and increasing;
- LSC funded provision should be focussed on level 2, level 3 and Skills for Life. Providers need to ensure that 80% of all Skills for Life provision counts towards targets in 2007/08;
- Providers need to ensure that strategies are in place to target those people without a first full Level 2 qualification. Community-based and 'non-priority' provision will be focussed on first steps in developing the skills that are needed in local communities/areas and that clear progression routes are in place for those taking part;
- Relevant opportunities need to be in place for individuals to progress to and participate in higher level qualifications – specifically within the CoVE network, to address the needs set out in the Regional Statement of Skills

Priorities and through on-going work with the Sector Skills and Productivity Alliances; and

- The need to make sure that the network of further education providers has effective strategies in place for achieving their fee income targets – in response to Raising our Game.

## SECTION:2 ECONOMIC CONTEXT

### 2.1 Introduction

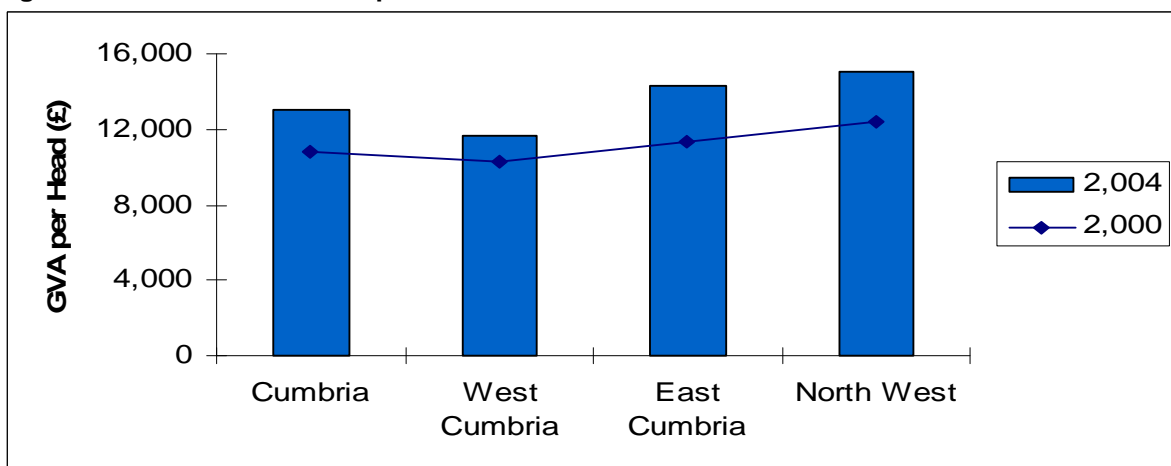
2.1.1 This section contains a brief description of the economic context in Cumbria, focusing on productivity levels and enterprise as key drivers of productivity. The other key drivers of skills, economic activity and employment are covered in detail later in the report

### 2.2 Productivity

2.2.1 Productivity in the economy is measured in terms of Gross Value Added – the value of the output produced. Gross Value Added per head gives an indication of the level of economic wealth of an area. Although GVA per head in the North West has increased substantially over the past six years, there remains a significant gap (14.3%) when compared to the England average. If levels of GVA per head could be raised to the England average, residents of the North West would be, on average, £2,593 better off than they are today.

2.2.2 In comparison to the North West and England the GVA per head in Cumbria is lower. It is below the regional level by 13% and 26% below the England average. However, the rate of growth has been improving and was 1.2 percentage points higher than the North West rate of growth in the last year. The graph below shows GVA per head across the sub-region. Across the area, East Cumbria has the highest rate of GVA per head and has increased at a higher rate than the North West and the rest of the sub-region over the last four years.

Figure 1: Gross Value Added per Head 2000 and 2004



Source: NUTS3 ONS GVA

2.2.3 GVA per head is determined by a number of factors, including:

- The industrial base;
- The relative size of the working age population compared to the dependent population;
- Activity levels within the working age population;
- The skills levels of those in employment; and
- The number of hours worked by those in employment.

## 2.3 Enterprise

2.3.1 An important determining factor in the economic success of an area is the level of enterprise, or the rate of new business start up. This is typically measured by the rate of new VAT registrations. The table below shows VAT registrations per 10,000 people in the North West. Cumbria as a whole continues to have a lower rate of new business start ups than the North West and England, and compared to the previous year there were slightly fewer (0.8%) start-ups. Of the districts, South Lakeland has by far the largest start up rate and is similar to the national rate, whilst Barrow-in-Furness has a rate roughly half the regional rate, and West Cumbria has been identified in the Energy Coast document as having a major issue with regards to enterprise education.

**Figure 2: Business Start Up Rate (New VAT Registrations) 2005**

2005	New Starts		
	Total	Per 10,000 adult pop'	Per 10,000 working age pop'
England	155,635	39	51
North West	17,500	33	43
Cumbria	1,180	30	41
Allerdale	225	30	41
Barrow-in-Furness	85	15	20
Carlisle	290	36	48
Copeland	110	20	26
Eden	155	38	51
South Lakeland	315	37	53

Source: NOMIS VAT Registrations, ONS Crown Copyright Reserved

## 2.4 Summary Implications for the Learning Skills Sector

2.4.1 Economic performance across the sub-region remains relatively weak. The gap in the productivity rate compared with the region and nationally persists. However, the annual rate of productivity growth has been increasing of late and is higher than the regional rate. In addition, the rate of new firm formation remains low, and in absolute terms there were fewer start-ups compared to the previous year.

## SECTION:3 THE DEMAND FOR SKILLS

### 3.1 Introduction

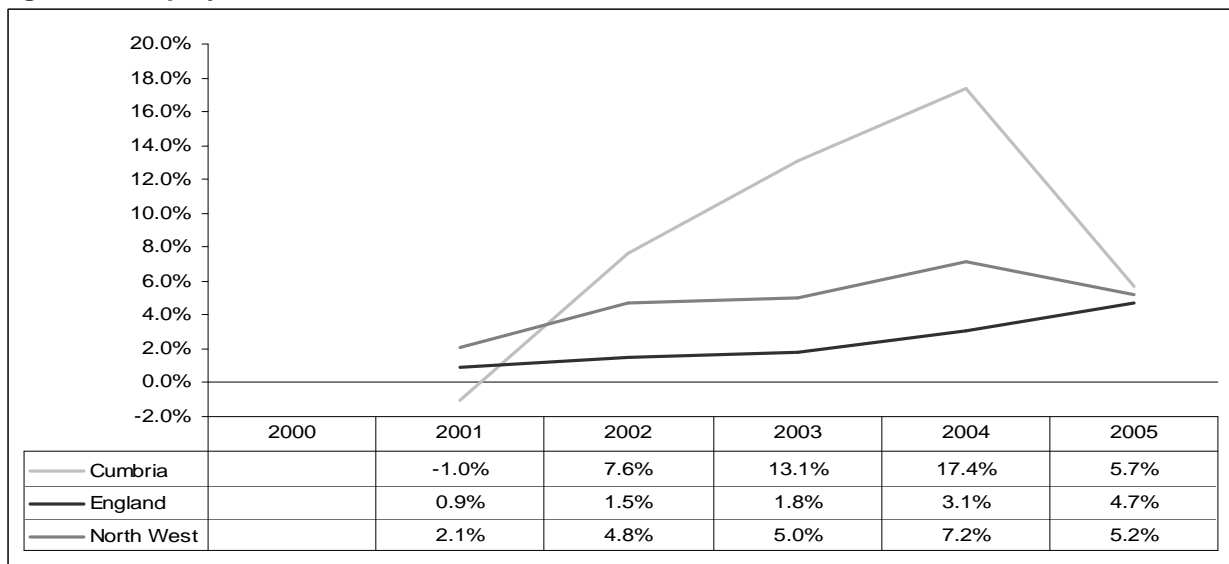
3.1.1 This chapter looks at the demand for labour in [insert area], both in terms of the volume of people needed for employment and the required occupation and skill levels. It considers:

- Historical changes in employment, and forecast changes;
- Employment levels within industrial sectors and geographies;
- The occupational structure of the workforce; and
- Economic development and skill priorities in the area.

### 3.2 Employment

3.2.1 The most recent figures on employment show that there are over 194,200 people employed in Cumbria, an increase of 10,500 since 2000. Over the last five years employment in the sub-region has grown by on average 1.1% per which was similar to regional and national levels.

**Figure 3: Employment Growth 2000 to 2005**



Source: *Annual Business Inquiry*, ONS Crown Copyright Reserved

### 3.3 Employment by Sector

3.3.1 There are some significant differences in the sector profile of employment when compared to England. In particular:

- the high proportion of people employed in manufacturing (15.9% v 11.2%);
- the high proportion of people employed in hotels and restaurants (12.0% v 6.7%); and
- the low proportion of people employed in real estate and business activities (8.1% v 17.6%).

**Figure 4: Employment by Broad Industrial Group 2000 to 2005**

	Cumbria				England	
	2000	Flags	2005	%	2005	%
Agriculture, hunting and forestry	400	0.2%	400	0.2%	50,100	0.2%
Manufacturing	39,800	21.9%	30,600	15.9%	2,545,900	11.2%
Construction	8,700	4.8%	9,700	5.0%	1,030,000	4.5%
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods	35,900	19.7%	38,500	20.0%	4,041,800	17.8%
Hotels and restaurants	17,100	9.4%	23,100	12.0%	1,526,200	6.7%
Transport, storage and communication	9,600	5.3%	11,300	5.9%	1,403,000	6.2%
Financial intermediation	3,900	2.1%	2,700	1.4%	913,500	4.0%
Real estate, renting and business activities	14,400	7.9%	15,600	8.1%	3,983,600	17.6%
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	8,900	4.9%	8,400	4.4%	1,193,000	5.3%
Education	14,900	8.2%	15,100	7.8%	2,149,400	9.5%
Health and social work	20,900	11.5%	26,200	13.6%	2,669,500	11.8%
Other community, social and personal service activities	7,600	4.2%	11,100	5.8%	1,175,200	5.2%
Column Total	182,100	100.0%	192,700	100.0%	22,681,200	100.0%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, ONS Crown Copyright Reserved

3.3.2 The table below shows the ten industry sectors in Cumbria which have experienced the largest proportion of employment growth between 2000 and 2005.

**Figure 5: High Growth Industrial Sectors 2000 to 2005**

Industry	2005 (000)	2000(000)	% change	Volume Change(000)
Extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas; service activities incidental to oil and gas extraction excluding surveying	5	2	150.0%	3
Computer and related activities	1036	429	141.5%	607
Recycling	18	9	100.0%	9
Real estate activities	893	502	77.9%	391
Air transport	5	3	66.7%	2
Electricity, gas, steam and hot water supply	26	17	52.9%	9
Water transport	12	8	50.0%	4
Post and telecommunications	188	131	43.5%	57
Other business activities	2776	1956	41.9%	820
Supporting and auxiliary transport activities; activities of travel agencies	220	162	35.8%	58
Recreational, cultural and sporting activities	733	560	30.9%	173

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, ONS Crown Copyright Reserved

3.3.3 In Cumbria the industry which has experienced the largest growth is the extraction of gas and petroleum, which has grown by 150 per cent between 2000 and 2005. As with other sub-regions manufacturing has not seen large volumes of growth.

3.3.4 The table below shows the ten industries that have experienced decline between 2000 and 2005.

**Figure 6: Declining Industrial Sectors 2000 to 2005**

Industry	2005 (000)	2000(000)	% change	Volume Change(000)
Insurance and pension funding, except compulsory social security	11	29	-62.1%	-18
Manufacture of wearing apparel; dressing and dyeing of fur	15	35	-57.1%	-20
Tanning and dressing of leather; manufacture of luggage, handbags, saddlery, harness and footwear	4	9	-55.6%	-5
Mining of coal and lignite; extraction of peat	5	11	-54.5%	-6
Manufacture basic metals	10	22	-54.5%	-12
Mining of metal ores	1	2	-50.0%	-1
Research and development	23	34	-32.4%	-11
Other service activities	457	623	-26.6%	-166
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	273	362	-24.6%	-89
Other mining and quarry	46	58	-20.7%	-12

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, ONS Crown Copyright Reserved

3.3.5 As the table above shows insurance and pension funding sector has shown the largest volume of employment decline over the five year period, falling by -62.1 per cent. As with other sub-regions the mining and manufacturing sectors have shown large decline, with the mining of coal and metal ores falling by -54.5 per cent and -50 per cent respectively.

### 3.4 Occupational Structure

3.4.1 The table below shows the number of people employed in different occupations in Cumbria in 2006, and compares this to the profile for England. Key differences between the Cumbria and England profiles are as follows:

- There is a lower proportion of higher skilled jobs in Cumbria than in England. This is especially true for the Professional and Associate Professional categories – the share of employment accounted for by these categories is 2% points and 3% points below the national average respectively.
- Similarly, there is a higher proportion of lower skilled jobs in Cumbria (elementary occupations and plant & machine operatives).

Figure 7: Employment by Occupational Group, 2006

	Cumbria		England	
	2006	%	2006	%
Managers and senior officials	31,700	13.7%	3,645,700	15.4%
Professional occupations	24,600	10.6%	3,114,300	13.1%
Associate prof & tech occupations	28,200	12.2%	3,425,400	14.4%
Administrative and secretarial occupations	29,400	12.7%	2,882,600	12.2%
Skilled trades occupations	34,500	14.9%	2,563,400	10.8%
Personal service occupations	18,900	8.2%	1,884,200	7.9%
Sales and customer service occupations	18,700	8.1%	1,807,100	7.6%
Process, plant and machine operatives	18,800	8.1%	1,702,300	7.2%
Elementary occupations	26,800	11.6%	2,692,500	11.4%

Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS Crown Copyright Reserved

Figure 8: Employment Change by Occupational Group, 2004-2006

	Cumbria		England	
	Difference	%	Difference	%
Managers and senior officials	1,700	5.4%	49,000	1.3%
Professional occupations	1,100	4.5%	155,400	5.0%
Associate prof & tech occupations	2,200	7.8%	145,800	4.3%
Administrative and secretarial occupations	5,300	18.0%	-104,600	-3.6%
Skilled trades occupations	3,500	10.1%	-58,300	-2.3%
Personal service occupations	3,000	15.9%	98,100	5.2%
Sales and customer service occupations	-900	-4.8%	-7,200	-0.4%
Process, plant and machine operatives	-6,200	-33.0%	-33,400	-2.0%
Elementary occupations	-6,400	-23.9%	-3,600	-0.1%

Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS Crown Copyright Reserved

### 3.5 Employment Forecasts

3.5.1 The 2006 Working Futures report produced by the Institute of Employment Studies gives some insights into the projected sector and occupational mix of the Cumbria economy to 2014. The economic model which underpins Working Futures is trend based, and so the model will miss significant regeneration or other initiatives underway or planned in specific areas. We address this in a separate section below through qualitative analysis of major projects underway or planned in the sub-region.

3.5.2 The Working Futures forecasts show employment growth in Cumbria of 1.7% between 2004 and 2014 (cumulative growth), which translates into 4,000 new jobs. However, this growth rate is the lowest of any of the sub-regions and therefore below that predicted for the North West region as a whole (3%).

**Figure 9: Employment Growth Forecasts 2004 to 2014**

Total employment (000s)	2004	2014	% Change
England	25,517	26,694	4.6%
North West	3,358	3,459	2.9%
Cheshire & Warrington	537	559	4.0%
Cumbria	235	239	1.7%
Lancashire	666	680	2.0%
Greater Manchester	1,318	1,365	3.4%
Greater Merseyside	602	617	2.3%

Source: Working Futures 2

3.5.3 The table below shows forecast employment in Cumbria by sector to 2014. The key points are:

- Employment declines that have been experienced in the manufacturing sector and primary & utilities sectors are forecast to continue.
- Despite the employment growth experienced in the construction sector between 1996 and 2004, the forecast is for employment to decline, and at a faster rate than regionally.
- The highest employment growth rate is predicted to be in the business and other services sector, 7.7%. However, even this is almost 4% behind the forecast growth rate for the North West as a whole.

**Figure 10: Employment Growth Forecasts by Sector 2004 to 2014**

	Numbers (000s)			%		% change
	2004	2014	2004-2014	2004	2014	2004-2014
Primary sector & utilities	6	5	-1	2.4%	2.1%	-9.9%
Manufacturing	42	38	-3	17.9%	16.1%	-8.2%
Construction	14	13	-1	5.8%	5.2%	-7.6%
Distribution & transport	82	85	3	34.7%	35.4%	3.7%
Business & other services	39	42	3	16.5%	17.7%	8.6%
Non-marketed services	53	56	3	22.7%	23.5%	5.1%
All industries	235	239	4	100.0%	100.0%	1.7%

Source: Working Futures 2

3.5.4 The table below shows forecast employment in Cumbria by occupational group to 2014. Key points to note for Cumbria are that:

- The highest skilled occupations, managers and senior officials, and professionals, are forecast to experience employment opportunities growth, although both at lower rates than regionally (6.1% and 17.4% versus 8.4% and 18.4% respectively).
- Both personal services, and sales and customer services employment is predicted to grow and at faster rates than for the North West region as a whole. The growth rate is significantly above that of the region for personal services at 31.6% compared to 19%.
- Reductions in employment are expected across all manual occupations, including skilled trades, and employment opportunities for each occupation type are expected to fall at faster rates than in the wider region.

**Figure 11: Forecast Employment Change by Occupational Sector 2004 to 2014**

Cumbria: All industries Employment Levels (000s)	Changing Composition of Employment by Occupation			
	2004	2004 - 2014 Net Change	Replacement Demands	Total Requirement
Managers and Senior Officials	33	2	12	14
Professional Occupations	23	4	9	13
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	29	1	10	10
Administrative, Clerical and Secretarial Occupations	27	-1	11	10
Skilled Trades Occupations	29	-2	10	7
Personal Service Occupations	19	6	8	13
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	24	4	8	13
Transport and Machine Operatives	22	-2	8	6
Elementary Occupations	30	-7	11	3
<b>Total</b>	235	4	85	89

Source: Working Futures 2

3.5.5 The table below shows forecast employment in Cumbria by gender and employment status to 2014 (part time, full time, self employed). Key points to note for Cumbria are that:

- Male employment in Cumbria is expected to fall between 2004 and 2010 by 2.5% compared with regional growth of 4.5%.
- Female employment is expected to rise by 6.2% - almost 5% points more than regionally. This is predominantly accounted for by part time

employment and may be reflecting the increase in personal services and sales and customer services opportunities.

- Self employment is forecast to decline by 18.5%, 6% points higher than the regional figure.
- Overall, full time employment in the sub-region is expected to decline, which is at odds with the 5% increase projected for the region. This is likely to reflect the forecast shift in occupation structure towards customer services, sales and personal services.

**Figure 12: Employment Structure by Gender and Status 2004 to 2014**

	2004	2014	2014 Employment %	2004-2014 change
Male full-time	89	91	38.3%	2.7%
Male part-time	14	13	5.6%	-2.6%
Male self-employed	19	14	5.8%	-33.6%
<b>Male Employees</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>49.8%</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>
Female full-time	43	39	16.4%	-8.3%
Female part-time	63	73	30.4%	13.5%
Female self-employed	8	8	3.4%	1.3%
<b>Female Employees</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>50.2%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>
Total Employment	235	239	100.0%	1.7%

Source: Working Futures 2

### 3.6 Major Developments

3.6.1 Key projects currently planned or underway in Cumbria which may have an impact on employment growth and skills priorities include:

- University of Cumbria. A transformational initiative with implications for the whole of Cumbria. The initiative will have specific benefits in terms of employment, skills development and retention/attraction of the young. It is planned that the benefits will be felt county wide, particularly with campuses/access points situated in Carlisle, Barrow, Workington, Kendal, Penrith and Ambleside. Current limited provision of Higher Education in the area hinders retaining and attracting young people to assist the economy to move to higher value-added employment.
- The nuclear sector. The sector remains vitally important to sustaining the economy in Cumbria. The scale of investment in Sellafield and through associated contractors is high and benefits for local businesses are also created. See case study below.
- Carlisle Renaissance. A project to redevelop the city centre after the floods will cost more than £180 million from 2006 -2010 and will create up to 1,600 jobs.
- Cumbria Vision projects. Cumbria vision is the Regeneration vehicle for the area. The plans for redevelopment are numerous and include:
  - Barrow Masterplan, expected to lever in £100 million of private sector investment and will result in the creation of a mixed used development including a major employment park focused on technology-base business; and

- On the West Coast, the development of Derwent Forest, market towns, redevelopment of Maryport, West Lakes science and technology park, Whitehaven and Workington.

### **3.7 Sub regional case study: Nuclear Decommissioning**

- 3.7.1 The major initiative which is expected to have an effect on learning and skills requirements in Cumbria is the decommissioning of the Magnox nuclear power stations including Sellafield. The location of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) in West Cumbria will have an offsetting effect to the anticipated reduction of direct and indirect employment through Sellafield. Employment levels on the site are forecast to remain steady until about 2012, and then decline rapidly to a third of previous levels (about 4,000) by 2018.
- 3.7.2 There will be a Nuclear Academy which will link to the NDA and be the North West delivery arm of the National Skills Academy for Nuclear. It will provide a range of training and education programmes for the sector. There will also be a national nuclear laboratory for research at the West Lakes Science and Technology Park
- 3.7.3 The LSC Sector Skills Team are working with NSAN to develop what the skills needs for the industry are.
- 3.7.4 In Cumbria, learner volumes will be 6,000 annually over three years, which will include 500 at NVQ4, 4,500 at NVQ3 and 500 NVQ2. The size of the workforce (client and contractor combined) is 8,000, excluding employment in SMEs. In the Nucleus Centre itself it is planned that new learner volumes will be 3,500 annually from September 2008, including 500 apprenticeships and 3,000 at NVQ3. Of these, 500 will be non SME and 3,000 will be SME - the aim is to provide vocational qualifications to the entire workforce. It is also planned that 750 people will be trained who are currently working at BAE Systems Barrow. Types of training received will range from NVQ2 to Master degrees

### **3.8 Summary Implications for the Learning Skills Sector**

- 3.8.1 Demand for labour in Cumbria is forecast to slow within the region and will rely on significant regeneration activities through Cumbria Vision and Carlisle Renaissance with a continued reliance on the nuclear sector. The manufacturing sector remains a significant sector but has been losing jobs and this is forecast to continue. Hotels & Restaurants is a significant sector and has continued to grow. However, Real Estate, Renting & Business Activities and Financial Intermediation remain significantly underrepresented.
- 3.8.2 In terms of occupations there are relatively fewer high skilled jobs in Cumbria, particularly Professional and Associate Professional jobs, and relatively more low skilled jobs. Forecast for the future are that there will be a growth in higher skilled occupations of managers, senior officials and professionals and a reduction in all manual occupations. Personal service, sales and customer service occupations are expected to grow at a faster rate than the region.

## SECTION:4 THE SUPPLY OF SKILLS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This chapter looks at the supply of labour in Cumbria, both in terms of the volume of people available for work, and their skills levels. It considers:

- Historical changes in demographics, and forecast changes;
- Economic Activity rates according to people's characteristics;
- The qualification profile of the working age population; and
- Employer training behaviour.

### 4.2 Demographics – Population Growth

4.2.1 The table below shows the total population between 1996 and 2006 down to district level in Cumbria. It is evident that the population in England has grown substantially by 5 per cent over the ten year period in comparison to a slight increase of 2 per cent in Cumbria.

**Figure 13: Total Population 1991 to 2005**

	1996 Total	2006 Total	Volume Difference	Growth
England	48,519,100	50,762,900	2,243,800	5%
North West	6,809,600	6,853,200	43,600	1%
Allerdale	94,500	94,300	-200	0%
Barrow-in-Furness	72,600	71,800	-800	-1%
Carlisle	102,000	103,300	1,300	1%
Copeland	70,500	70,300	-200	0%
Eden	47,800	51,700	3,900	8%
South Lakeland	99,400	104,800	5,400	5%
Cumbria Total	486,800	496,200	9,400	2%

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved Nomis

4.2.2 Population growth is varied at district level with an increase of 8 per cent in Eden in contrast to a fall of -1 per cent in Barrow & Furness.

4.2.3 The table below shows the age profile of the working age population in Cumbria at district level in 2001, taken from the latest census data.

**Figure 14: Age Profile of Working Age Population 2001**

	16-19	20-24	25-34	35-49	50-retirement age
North West	363,700	423,300	815,600	1,461,100	1,041,600
Cumbria	23,400	24,700	51,900	106,000	84,200
Allerdale	5,500	3,100	7,500	24,300	14,900
Barrow-in-Furness	4,200	3,500	6,300	14,700	14,100
Carlisle	6,500	7,100	10,900	20,400	15,600
Copeland	1,400	5,000	8,600	14,800	11,900
Eden	1,900	1,200	5,900	12,500	9,000
South Lakeland	3,900	4,800	12,800	19,300	18,700

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved Nomis

4.2.4 As can be expected there is great disparity between age groups of the population classified to working age. The working age profile in Cumbria shows the largest proportion of the population is aged between 35 and 49, 36.5 per cent of the total working age population. It is important to note that the districts of Barrow-in-Furness and South Lakeland have proportionately high volumes of the working age population aged 50 and upwards.

4.2.5 The table below shows the expected population change between 2005 and 2020 across Cumbria. The North West Region is expected to show growth of 4.4 per cent over the 15 year period.

**Figure 15: Population Change 2005 to 2020**

	2005	2010	2015	2020	% Change 2005 – 2020
Allerdale	94,600	95,100	95,600	96,400	1.9%
Barrow-in-Furness	71,700	71,300	71,000	70,800	-1.3%
Carlisle	102,900	104,900	106,900	109,000	5.6%
Copeland	69,800	69,400	69,300	69,300	-0.7%
Eden	51,900	54,100	56,000	57,900	10.4%
South Lakeland	105,100	108,300	111,400	114,800	8.4%
Cumbria	496,100	503,000	510,200	518,100	4.2%
North West	6,842,700	6,938,800	7,043,300	7,156,200	4.4%

Source: Revised 2004- Population Projections, ONS

4.2.6 It is evident that the sub-region of Cumbria is expected to grow by 4.2 per cent, - 0.2 per cent less than the North West average. As shown there is great disparity of population change at district level in Cumbria. The district of Eden has the largest population growth of 10.4 per cent. There are two districts showing overall decline across the decade; Barrow-in-Furness is predicted to fall by -1.3 per cent and Copeland by -0.7 per cent.

4.2.7 The table below shows the population change by age group between 2005 and forecasted to 2020. The North West has seen a decrease in the proportion of 0-24 year olds and 35 to 44 year olds between 2005 and 2020

**Figure 16: Population Change by Age Group 2005 and Forecast 2020**

	0-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Allerdale	-16.7%	-7.6%	1.0%	-39.6%	3.6%	9.5%	27.3%
Barrow-in-Furness	-19.1%	-14.3%	9.3%	-45.3%	3.1%	4.0%	21.7%
Carlisle	-8.2%	-9.6%	10.4%	-24.4%	4.0%	17.6%	26.3%
Copeland	-18.8%	-19.4%	-4.0%	-43.4%	0.0%	16.4%	26.2%
Eden	-7.7%	3.8%	5.7%	-35.6%	11.6%	20.8%	34.2%
South Lakeland	-9.5%	-5.0%	7.7%	-29.3%	8.7%	13.4%	31.1%
Cumbria	-12.8%	-8.9%	5.3%	-34.7%	5.3%	13.7%	28.4%
North West	-4.3%	-10.5%	13.7%	-18.5%	8.2%	11.6%	21.0%

Source: Revised 2004- Population Projections, ONS

4.2.8 It is evident that there is expected decline in 0-24 year olds across Cumbria with the exception of Eden in which there is an expected 3.8 per cent rise in the 15 to 24 age group of the population. The 35 to 44 population age group is also forecasted to decline across Cumbria. There is disparity of growth at district level between the population age groups. It is important to note that the 0-14 age group in Cumbria is forecasted to decline by -8.5 percentage points more than the Regional average, with a smaller population decline in the 15 to 24 age group. The population of 65 year olds and upwards is expected to increase by an average of 28.4 per cent in Cumbria, 7.4 percentage points greater than the

Regional average. This may become an issue for Cumbria with comparatively large growth of the population at retirement age and a falling proportion of the working age.

### 4.3 Economic Activity

4.3.1 The table below shows the change in the economic activity rate by district between 2005 and 2006 in Cumbria.

**Figure 17: Economic Activity by District, 2005 and 2006**

	2005 (%)	2006 (%)	% Change
Allerdale	79.0	77.4	-2.1%
Barrow-in-Furness	74.8	74.2	-0.8%
Carlisle	81.0	79.5	-1.9%
Copeland	76.0	79.7	4.6%
Eden	85.7	90.8	5.6%
South Lakeland	80.0	81.6	2.0%
Cumbria	79.3	80.0	0.9%
North West	76.6	76.7	0.1%
England	78.4	78.6	0.3%

Source: Annual Population Survey

4.3.2 As the table above shows the area of Cumbria has seen slight increase in the rate of economic activity, growing by 0.7 percentage points over the year. Although the rate has remained relatively static Cumbrias rate of economic activity is 1.4 percentage points above the national average and 3.3 percentage points above the regional average in 2006.

4.3.3 The economic activity rate varies greatly at district level in Cumbria. Eden has a substantially high proportion of economically active in 2006, 12.2 percentage points above the national average. Barrow-in-Furness has the lowest economic activity at 74.2 per cent in 2006, -4.4 percentage points below the national average.

4.3.4 The table below shows economic activity by age group in 2006 and compares the districts in Cumbria to the regional and national average

**Figure 18: Economic Activity by Age, 2006**

	16-19	20-24	25-34	35-49	50-retirement age	over retirement age
Allerdale	52.5	89.1	85.0	86.5	65.5	6.6
Barrow-in-Furness	34.5	83.0	93.3	81.6	67.6	5.4
Carlisle	73.3	75.9	86.7	86.1	70.0	16.5
Copeland	77.5	85.4	79.5	83.8	72.5	9.0
Eden	100.0	!	100.0	97.0	79.4	17.9
South Lakeland	30.5	84.4	91.9	93.0	72.7	7.5
Cumbria	56.8	81.0	88.9	87.8	70.7	10.2
North West	53.2	77.8	83.2	84.3	68.6	8.9
England	54.9	76.4	83.7	85.2	73.7	11.2

Source: Annual Population Survey

4.3.5 The economic activity rate in the North West is similar to the national average up until the age of 50 and above. The North West has a much lower proportion of the economically active population over retirement age than the national average, a total of -2.3 percentage points less.

4.3.6 As the table above shows, Cumbria has a high proportion of 20-24 year olds counting towards the economic activity rate, and is currently 4.6 percentage points greater than the national average. Economic activity rates in Cumbria is

higher than the national proportion with the exception of those aged between 50 and retirement age.

4.3.7 At district level the proportion of the economically active varies greatly by age group in comparison to the national and regional averages. In South Lakeland 30 per cent of 16-19 year olds are economically active in comparison to 100 per cent in Eden.

4.3.8 The table below shows the rate of economic activity in Cumbria by gender in 2006.

**Figure 19: Economic Activity by Gender, 2006**

	Male (%)	Female (%)
Allerdale	79.7	74.9
Barrow-in-Furness	74.9	73.3
Carlisle	79.7	79.3
Copeland	84.4	74.5
Eden	92.3	89.1
South Lakeland	82.8	80.4
Cumbria	81.6	78.1
North West	80.6	72.5
England	83.6	73.3

Source: Annual Population Survey

4.3.9 As the table above shows, the North West has a slightly lower proportion of economically active males (80.6 per cent) compared to the national average, a total of -3 percentage points less. The proportion of economically active females in the North West is substantially lower than the proportion of males, and is currently -0.8 percentage points below the number of females in England.

4.3.10 As expected there is great disparity across Cumbria in the proportion of the population that are economically active. Eden has the highest proportion of economically active males (92.3 per cent) compared to 74.9 per cent in Barrow-in-Furness. Eden also has the highest proportion of economically active females (89.1 per cent), in contrast to Barrow-in-Furness (73.3 per cent).

4.3.11 The table belows illustrates the rate of economic activity by disability in 2006

**Figure 20: Economic Activity and Disabled, 2006**

	working age (%)	disabled (%)	DDA & also work-limiting (%)	DDA only disabled (%)	work-limiting only disabled (%)
Allerdale	77.4	51.3	39.7	90.1	!
Barrow-in-Furness	74.2	50.9	33.5	100.0	61.4
Carlisle	79.5	51.2	30.8	79.3	62.9
Copeland	79.7	35.8	!	79.7	!
Eden	90.8	70.8	62.4	100.0	!
South Lakeland	81.6	52.9	45.1	100.0	53.6
Cumbria	80.0	52.0	38.5	88.6	56.4
North West	76.7	48.1	31.3	84.0	70.7
England	78.6	55.4	38.8	83.9	74.4

Source: Annual Population Survey

4.3.12 Cumbria has a low percentage of the working age population who consider themselves as having a disability, -3.4 percentage points below the national average. A total of 56.4 per cent of the disabled population in Cumbria consider themselves to have work-limiting disability, this is 18 percentage points below the national average.

## 4.4 Qualifications

4.4.1 It is not just the number of people available for work which affects the supply of and demand for labour in the North West region. The quality of the labour force, in terms of expertise and skills available to employers, is also crucial especially so given the occupational profile that is emerging from recent employment growth.

4.4.2 Qualifications are also used as a proxy indicator for the skills of the workforce. The following table shows the qualification profile of the working age population in the North West, local area and at district level. Whilst the qualification profile of Cumbria is similar to the profile in the North West there is great variation at district level.

**Figure 21: Qualification Profile of the Economically Active Population, 2006**

	Economically Active Population (000's)	Economically Active qualified to at least level 4		Economically Active qualified to at least level 3		Economically Active qualified to at least level 2		Economically Active adults without a level 2 qualification	
		Number (000's)	%	Number (000's)	%	Number (000's)	%	Number (000's)	%
England	23,541	7,225	31.5%	11,832	51.0%	16,827	72.1%	6,715	27.9%
North West	3,068	897	29.4%	1,525	50.4%	2,188	72.2%	880	27.8%
Cumbria	225	65	28.7%	117	51.9%	165	73.3%	60	26.7%
Allerdale	42	13	30.2%	21	51.4%	29	69.7%	13	30.3%
Barrow-in-Furness	30	9	28.8%	17	55.2%	22	73.0%	8	27.0%
Carlisle	45	12	27.6%	23	51.1%	35	76.7%	11	23.3%
Copeland	33	7	20.6%	16	50.1%	24	71.9%	9	28.1%
Eden	27	7	26.4%	14	51.7%	19	71.6%	8	28.4%
South Lakeland	49	17	35.0%	25	52.2%	37	75.2%	12	24.8%

Source: Annual Population Survey

4.4.3 As the table above shows, the area of Cumbria has a higher proportion of the economically active population qualified to a level 2 and 3 in comparison to the regional average, a total of 1.1 and 1.5 percentage points respectively. Cumbria also has a lower proportion of the economically active population with no qualifications, -1.1 percentage points below the Regional average. However the area figure hides noticeably low figures in Copeland, Eden and Allerdale.

4.4.4 Qualifications of the economically active population vary greatly at district level. South Lakeland has a substantially high proportion of the economically active population qualified to level 4, at 35 per cent, 5.6 percentage points above the regional average. There are only 2 districts in Cumbria with a higher proportion than the Regional average of the economically active population qualified to a level 4. Although there is a low proportion of the population qualified to a level 4 in Cumbria, there is a large proportion qualified to level 2 and 3 in comparison to the regional average.

4.4.5 The qualifications of the economically inactive are shown in the table below. The key point to note is the lower qualifications levels of people who are inactive. In the North West 49 per cent of the economically inactive population do not have a level 2 qualification.

**Figure 22: Qualification Profile of the Economically Inactive Population, 2006**

	Economically Inactive Population (000)	Economically Inactive adults without a level 2 qualification	Economically Inactive qualified to at least level 2	Economically Inactive qualified to at least level 3	Economically Inactive qualified to at least level 4
England	7,127	46.5%	53.5%	30.9%	15.4%
North West	1,037	49.0%	51.0%	28.4%	11.7%
Cheshire/Warrington	114	44.6%	55.4%	34.3%	18.1%
Cumbria	65	45.6%	54.4%	30.3%	12.2%
Greater Manchester	387	52.6%	47.4%	24.6%	10.5%
Lancashire	217	49.9%	50.1%	28.7%	11.6%
Greater Merseyside	254	56.0%	44.0%	21.9%	8.8%

Source: Annual Population Survey

4.4.6 As the table above shows Cumbria has a high proportion of the economically inactive with a level 2 qualification in comparison to the National and Regional averages. The proportion of the economically inactive population without a level 2 is 3.4 percentage points less than the Regional average, and those with a level 4 qualification is 12.2 per cent, 0.5 percentage points above the regional average.

4.4.7 Low skills have an impact on the employment opportunities; this is evident in the table below which shows the qualification attainment of those employed in 2006

**Figure 23: Employment Rate by Qualification Attainment, 2006**

	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1	No Qualifications
England	86.7%	76.6%	73.8%	71.5%	48.4%
North West	86.0%	78.0%	73.3%	69.9%	44.3%
Cumbria	86.5%	81.0%	78.9%	71.0%	45.2%
Allerdale	82.1%	86.7%	76.0%	74.1%	28.0%
Barrow-in-Furness	85.3%	70.8%	67.3%	75.0%	41.1%
Carlisle	84.1%	78.8%	79.8%	62.5%	47.5%
Copeland	91.5%	96.2%	75.4%	75.0%	44.1%
Eden	95.9%	94.8%	93.3%	91.5%	50.0%
South Lakeland	86.3%	65.1%	82.2%	61.9%	63.0%

Source: Annual Population Survey

4.4.8 As the table shows a low proportion of the Cumbria population in employment have no qualifications (45.2 per cent), -3.2 percentage points less than the National average. The employment rate of those with qualifications is varied across all qualification levels in comparison to the Regional and National averages. The employment rate in Cumbria of those qualified to a level 2 and 3 is above the regional average, and in line with or below in levels 4 and 1.

4.4.9 It is important to note that there is a positive correlation across the area and region connecting increased employment rates with higher qualification attainment. The high levels of qualifications in Cumbria vary at district level. Areas including Copeland and Eden have a higher proportion of the employed population qualified to a higher level (3 and 4) in comparison to the regional average. The employment rate of the population in Cumbria with no qualifications varies greatly at district level; Allerdale has the lowest proportion at 28 per cent in contrast to South Lakeland with the highest at 63 per cent.

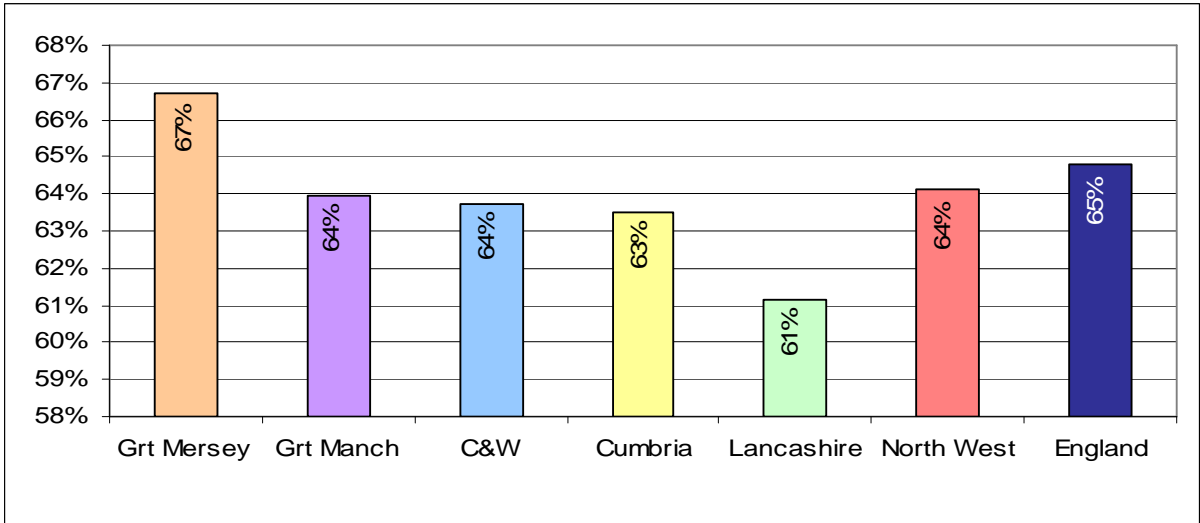
**4.5 National Employer Skills Survey (NESS)**

4.5.1 This section uses data from the National Employer Skills Survey 2005 to describe the training behaviour of employers in Cumbria, particularly with regard to the skills gaps they identify in their workforce, and skills related recruitment difficulties they face.

4.5.2 The National Employers Skills Survey 2005 (NESS 2005) was commissioned by the Learning and Skills Council together with the Department for Education and Skills and the Sector Skills Development Agency. Its purpose is to provide a detailed analysis of the extent and nature of skills gaps, recruitment problems and training activity.

4.5.3 The chart below shows the proportion of employers who provided training during the previous twelve months. At 63% of employers, the Cumbria figure is slightly below the England and North West average.

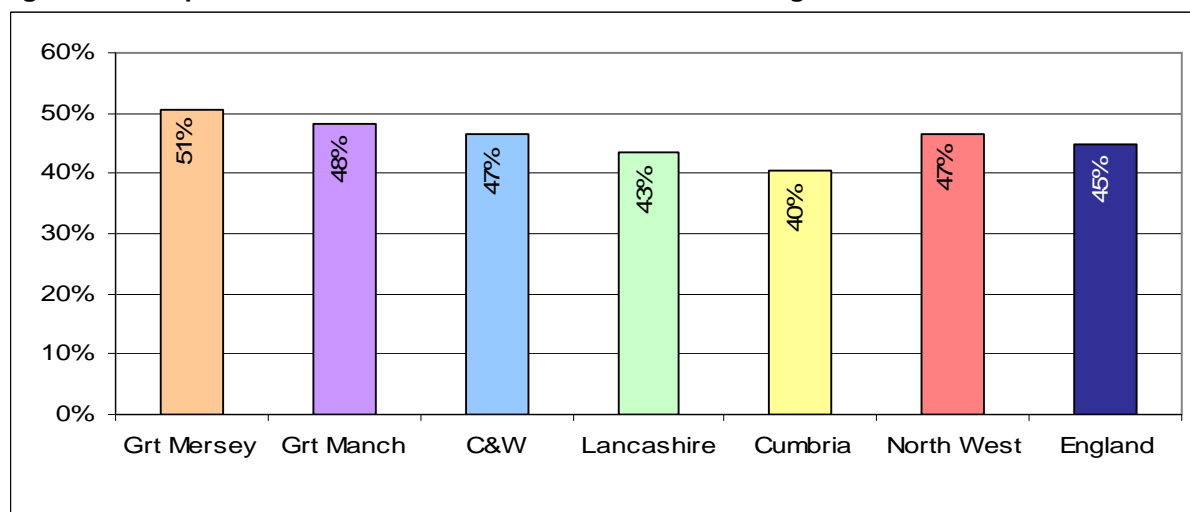
**Figure 24: Proportion of Employers providing Training in the past 12 months**



Source: NESS 2005

4.5.4 The figure below shows the proportion of employers with a formal training plan – this figure is 40% in Cumbria, the lowest rate of all the North West sub-regional figures and five percentage points below the national average.

**Figure 25: Proportion of Establishments with a Formal Training Plan**



Source: NESS 2005

4.5.5 The NESS surveys employers about vacancies that they find difficult to fill due to skills deficits in candidates – skills shortage vacancies (SSVs). The table below shows the distribution of SSVs by occupation, in Cumbria and in the North West.

**Figure 26: Distribution of SSVs by Occupation, Cumbria**

	Cumbria		North West	
	Number	%	Number	%
Managers	60	4%	947	4%
Professionals	127	8%	1,611	6%
Associate professionals	166	11%	5,102	19%
Admin/clerical	53	4%	1,220	5%
Skilled trades	328	22%	6,027	23%
Personal service	120	8%	2,130	8%
Sales/customer service	170	11%	4,056	15%
Machine operatives	247	16%	2,358	9%
Elementary	227	15%	2,550	10%
Unclassified	0	0%	222	1%
Total	1,498	100%	26,223	100%

Source: NESS 2005

4.5.6 At the regional level, the distribution of skills shortage vacancies is more concentrated for the occupations of: associate professionals; skilled trades; sales/customer services; and elementary occupations. Furthermore, Cumbria has relatively high proportions of skills vacancies in higher skilled occupations; managers and associate professional categories.

4.5.7 The survey also asks employers about the skills lacking in their current workforce. The proportion of employers in Cumbria reporting skills gaps is shown in the table below.

**Figure 27: Distribution of Skills Gaps by Occupation, Cumbria**

	Cumbria		North West	
	Number	%	Number	%
Managers	1109	8%	14890	9%
Professionals	186	1%	6,156	4%
Associate professionals	3187	23%	9,361	6%
Admin/clerical	892	6%	17,144	10%
Skilled trades	951	7%	16,139	10%
Personal service	532	4%	10,817	7%
Sales/customer service	1127	8%	31,498	19%
Machine operatives	3988	28%	24,242	15%
Elementary	2133	15%	34,738	21%
Total	14105	100%	164984	100%

Source: NESS 2005

4.5.8 In the North West, the highest levels of skills gaps are reported in elementary and sales/customer service occupations (21% and 19% of employers respectively). The picture for Cumbria is very different, with the incidence of skills gaps being greatest in the associate professional and machine operative categories. The former is particularly notable, given that almost four times as many employers report skills gaps as regionally. This suggests a significant shortage of intermediate and higher level skills in the sub-region.

## 4.6 Summary Implications for the Learning Skills Sector

- 4.6.1 Change in population across the North West is extremely important when considering competition for jobs, the volume of workers available, and the proportion of those needing skills development. The area of Cumbria has seen varied population growth at district level between 1996 and 2006, but is -3 percentage points below the National average.
- 4.6.2 As in England as a whole the issue of an ageing population will impact on Cumbria in future years. The proportion of the population over 65 year olds in Cumbria is forecasted to increase at a higher rate between the years 2005-2020, 7.4 percentage points above the regional average. It is likely that an increasing number of people in this age category will remain in employment post retirement age.
- 4.6.3 The economic rate of activity in Cumbria has shown slight growth between the years 2005-2006, remaining 1.4 percentage points above both the national average. The area has a lower proportion of the population who are economically active between the ages of 50 years old and retirement age in comparison to the national average.
- 4.6.4 The qualification rates of the economically active population in Cumbria are similar to the national average. The proportion of the economically active population without a level 2 qualification is -1.2 percentage points below the national average. Rates of economic inactivity are higher amongst those with no qualifications, it is important to note that Cumbria has a higher proportion of the working age population without a level 2 qualification, and a lower proportion with a level 4 qualification.
- 4.6.5 Data from the National Employer Skills Survey suggests that Cumbria employers have a culture of workforce development on which to build. Although training is in place Cumbria has slightly lower level of employers with formal training plans in comparison to the national average. Although training opportunities are evident in Cumbria there remains skills shortages in associate professionals and

machine operatives, and a high proportion of job vacancies in high skilled occupations. This would suggest that continued development in training is required at both a high and low skill level in order to fulfil the skills gaps

## SECTION:5 PROVISION AND PARTICIPATION

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 This chapter looks at participation in learning and skills development in Cumbria, and the quality of provision, as measured by success rates and inspection grades. It focuses on learners whose main learning aim is a long course (greater than 24 weeks). The focus of this section is on post-compulsory education for young people and adults, excluding higher education which is covered in Chapter 10.

### 5.2 Young People

### 5.3 Post-16 Participation

5.3.1 The proportion of young people who remain in full time education or training after leaving school aged 16 is 58 per cent in Cumbria, -2 percentage points lower than the North West. The table below shows figures for Cumbria Local Education Authority (LEA).

**Figure 28: Post-16 Participation in Education and Training 2005**

	17 year olds							
	Full-time education					WBL %	Part-time education %	Total Education and WBL %
	Maintained schools %	Independent schools %	Sixth form college %	Other FE %	Total %			
England <sup>6</sup>	23	6	9	25	63	8	5	76
North West	17	4	14	26	60	11	5	76
Cumbria	30	4	5	18	58	15	9	81

Source: DFCSF SRF 22/2007

5.3.2 Participation in full time education in Cumbria is lower than both the regional and National rate; this appears to be counter-balanced by a higher proportion of part-time learners (9 per cent). In full time education there is a much greater proportion of learners in maintained schools than elsewhere in the region, and a lower proportion in Sixth form colleges in Cumbria. WBL rates in Cumbria are also substantially higher than the North West by 7 percentage points at 15 per cent. The area has a particularly high proportion of 17 year olds in full time education and WBL courses, 5 percentage points above the national and regional average of 76 per cent.

### 5.4 FE Participation Rates

5.4.1 The table below shows how participation of young people in the FE sector in Cumbria has changed over the last three years. For Cumbria as a whole participation has increased by 5.2 per cent since 2004/05.

**Figure 29: FE Participation: Number of Learners Aged 16-18**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	111,262	115,621	119,950
Cumbria	5,889	6,406	6,199
Allerdale	826	1,047	1,066
Barrow-in-Furness	1,748	1,783	1,694
Carlisle	1,124	1,203	1,129
Copeland	832	894	907
Eden	293	351	289
South Lakeland	1,065	1,127	1,114

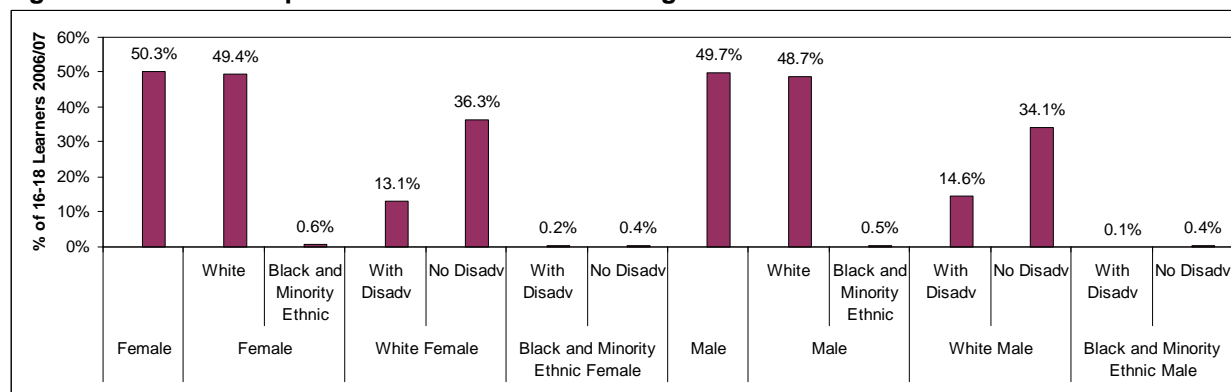
Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

5.4.2 Participation has increased by 3.7 per cent since 2005/06 following a steady trend of year on year growth. Cumbria experienced a rapid growth of 8.7 per cent between 2004/05 and 2005/06 which was reflected across the area at district level. Between 2005/06 and 2006/07 Cumbria participation rates have fallen and are now -3.3 per cent, equating to 207 learners.

5.4.3 The reduction of participation in Cumbria is varied at district level. Allerdale and Copeland experienced small growth on last year compared to other districts which saw a reduction of participants. The two most noticeable changes are Barrow in Furness which fell by 89 learners (-5 per cent) and Carlisle by 74 learners (-6.2 per cent).

5.4.4 The table below shows young peoples participation rates by characteristics in 2005/06. The data taken from the Residency Platform provides success rates by gender, ethnicity group (White and Black and Minority Ethnic group), and disadvantages.

**Figure 30a: FE Participation: Number of Learners Aged 16-18**



Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

5.4.5 As shown in the table above participation rates vary greatly by characteristic in Cumbria. It is important to note that there are a slightly higher proportion of females participating in FE courses in comparison to males, totalling a difference of 0.6 percentage points. For both male and female participants there are a substantially high proportion of white learners in comparison to black and minority ethnic groups; in the black and ethnic minority group there are 0.5 per cent and 0.6 per cent respectively.

5.4.6 The proportion of those with a disadvantage is similar for both males and females groups, with a greater proportion of learners without a disadvantage. Only 0.2 per cent of black and minority ethnic females with a disadvantage are participating in an FE course in comparison to 0.1 per cent of males in the same group.

## 5.5 FE Success Rates

5.5.1 Success rates is a qualification based measure which calculates the number of qualifications achieved as a proportion of qualifications started. Success rates are generally higher for short courses (less than 24 weeks) than long courses (greater than 24 weeks duration). Success rates for long course qualifications taken by 16-19 year olds in FE institutions in the North West are displayed below.

**Figure 31: Young People Aged 16 to 18 FE Long Courses Success Rates by Level 2005/6**

	Full Level 2			Full Level 3		
	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
Cumbria	59%	62%	66%	55%	63%	68%
Lancashire	61%	66%	71%	59%	63%	66%
Greater Merseyside	54%	58%	64%	55%	57%	64%
Greater Manchester	60%	65%	69%	57%	64%	66%
Cheshire and Warrington	59%	66%	70%	63%	62%	67%
North West	59%	64%	69%	58%	62%	66%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

5.5.2 As shown success rates in Cumbria have grown at a slower rate than the regional average in full level 2 and are currently -3 percentage points below the North West. Success rates in full level 3 are 2 percentage points above the regional average and have increased substantially by 13 percentage points since 2003/04.

## 5.6 Work Based Learning

5.6.1 The table below shows how participation of young people in the WBL sector has changed over the last three years in Cumbria.

**Figure 32: WBL Starts: Number of Learners Aged 16-18**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	20,906	17,723	18,007
Cumbria	1,973	1,463	1,719
Allerdale	391	244	290
Barrow-In-Furness	520	314	387
Carlisle	350	357	360
Copeland	339	229	315
Eden	130	120	119
South Lakeland	242	199	248

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

5.6.2 WBL participation for young people has risen by 1.6 per cent since last year in the North West, and fallen by -13.9 per cent over the three year period. Participation in Cumbria follows the Regional trend as the number of starts fell by -25.9 per cent between 2004/05 and 2005/06 and increased by 17.4 per cent in the following year. At district level changes are varied with Copeland starts increasing by 37.5 per cent (86 learners) compared to a slight fall of -0.2 per cent in Eden since 2005/06.

## 5.7 Work Based Learning Success Rates

5.7.1 WBL success rates are calculated in a similar way to FE success rates. Success rates for qualifications taken by 16-18 year olds in WBL are shown below for Apprenticeships (level 2) and Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3).

**Figure 33: Young People Aged 16 to 18: WBL Success Rates by Level 2004/05 to 2006/07**

	Level 2			Level 3		
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	51%	58%	65%	58%	68%	72%
Cheshire & Warrington	49%	56%	68%	57%	65%	73%
Cumbria	55%	56%	67%	58%	77%	73%
Greater Manchester	53%	56%	64%	58%	66%	66%
Greater Merseyside	44%	58%	63%	51%	63%	73%
Lancashire	56%	64%	71%	66%	72%	78%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

5.7.2 As the table shows success rates in Cumbria are above the Regional average for both Apprenticeships (level 2) and Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3). Success rates in Cumbria have experienced steady growth since 2004/05, and have improved by 12 percentage points in level 2 and 15 percentage points in level 3.

## 5.8 School Sixth Form

5.8.1 The table below shows how participation of young people in school sixth forms in Cumbria has changed between 2004/05 and 2005/06.

**Figure 34: School Sixth Form Participation: Number of Learners Aged 16-18**

Learners District	2004/05	2005/06
North West	34459	36197
Cumbria	4283	4518
Allerdale	1002	1025
Barrow-In-Furness	24	51
Carlisle	983	1090
Copeland	693	708
Eden	578	604
South Lakeland	1003	1040

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

5.8.2 Cumbria has seen a 5.4 percent increase in school sixth form participation in line with a 5 percent rise in the Region. This increase is also evident at district level throughout Cumbria, with the largest increase in Barrow-in-Furness (102.5 per cent) equating to 27 learners. Carlisle has also seen a large increase of 10.8 per cent, equating to 107 learners.

5.8.3 The table below shows the education routes of young people as a proportion of all 16-18 year olds in education in 2005/06.

**Figure 35: Proportion of Young People in Education & Training by Route 2006**

	SSF	FE	WBL
North West	20.1%	64.4%	15.6%
Cumbria	32.9%	47.0%	20.2%
Lancashire	14.0%	70.0%	16.0%
Greater Manchester	11.3%	73.9%	14.8%
Greater Merseyside	29.8%	54.4%	15.8%
Cheshire and Warrington	30.6%	55.5%	13.9%

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

5.8.4 As the table shows Cumbria follows a different trend to that of the Region with an extremely high proportion of learners in School Sixth forms and low participation in FE (47 per cent). Cumbria has the highest proportion of learners in WBL, 4.6 per cent points above the regional average.

## 5.9 Adults

### 5.10 FE Participation Rates

5.10.1 The table below shows how participation of adults in the FE sector has changed in Cumbria over the last three years.

**Figure 36: FE Participation: Number of Adult Learners**

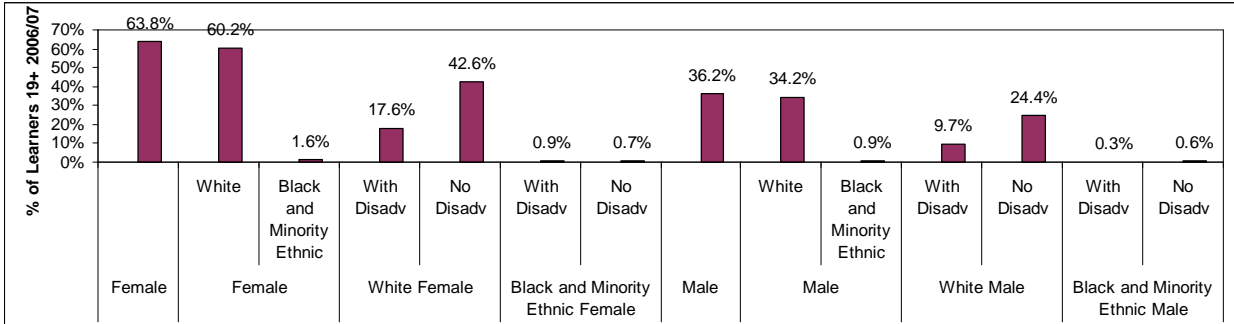
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	396,602	332,914	238,521
Cumbria	26,192	22,340	16,330
Allerdale	5,018	4,575	2,974
Barrow-in-Furness	4,240	3,347	3,109
Carlisle	5,079	4,672	3,276
Copeland	3,691	2,867	2,405
Eden	2,027	2,104	1,266
South Lakeland	6,127	4,770	3,300

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

5.10.2 Adult participation has fallen dramatically in the North West over the last three years by -40 percent. Cumbria participation has followed the trend in the North West and fallen by -37.8 per cent over three years, equating to 9,862 learners. Within Cumbria decline on 2005/06 figures has been varied at district level. All districts have experienced a negative change, Barrow in Furness decreasing by -7.2 per cent (238 learners) and -39.9 per cent in Eden (838 learners).

5.10.3 The table below shows adult participation rates by characteristics in 2005/06. The data taken from the Residency Platform provides success rates by gender, ethnicity group (White and Black and Minority Ethnic group), and disadvantages.

**Figure 37a: Adult FE Course Participation Rates by Characteristic**



Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

5.10.4 As the table shows there are a substantially higher proportion of adult females participating in an FE course in comparison to males, equating to 27.6 percentage points more. The proportion of adult black and ethnic minority groups participating towards an FE qualification is extremely low. There remains a substantial difference between the proportion of white learners and ethnic minority groups, 58.6 percentage point difference for females and 33.3 percentage point difference for males.

5.10.5 There appears a great difference between those with and without a disadvantage across all groups. A relatively high proportion of adult FE learners are white females with a disadvantage (17.6 per cent). The proportion of female black and ethnic minority groups with and without a disadvantage is similar, 0.2 percentage

points more adults from a black or ethnic minority group without a disadvantage than with. The difference between males from a black or ethnic minority group with and without disadvantages is greater than females, at 0.3 percentage points.

## 5.11 FE Success Rates

5.11.1 Success rates for long course qualifications taken by adults in FE are shown below.

**Figure 38: Adult FE Long Courses Success Rates by Level 2003/04 to 2005/06**

	Full Level 2			Full Level 3		
	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
Cumbria	60%	69%	73%	54%	65%	65%
Lancashire	62%	65%	69%	50%	52%	62%
Greater Merseyside	54%	60%	63%	56%	61%	63%
Greater Manchester	52%	59%	66%	53%	59%	63%
Cheshire and Warrington	59%	68%	72%	55%	62%	63%
North West	57%	62%	67%	53%	59%	63%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

5.11.2 Although adult participation has fallen, the success rates in long courses have increased rapidly over three years. Full Level 2 success rates in Cumbria have increased by 13 percentage points and are currently 6 percentage points above the North West average. Full level 3 success rates have increased by 9 per cent since 2003/04 and are the highest in the region, 2 percentage points above the North West.

## 5.12 Work Based Learning

5.12.1 The table below shows how participation of adults in WBL in Cumbria has changed over the last three years.

**Figure 39: WBL Starts: Number of Adult Learners**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	13,925	12,255	13,477
Cumbria	919	801	894
Allerdale	163	126	140
Barrow-In-Furness	143	133	163
Carlisle	236	211	193
Copeland	100	87	105
Eden	96	89	88
South Lakeland	181	155	205

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

5.12.2 Participation in the region has risen by 9.9 per cent between 2005/06 and 2006/07. The change in starts in Cumbria has followed the regional trend with a reduction in learner numbers between 2004/05 and 2005/06 and an increase of 11.6 per cent in the following year.

5.12.3 Train to Gain was introduced in 20 LSC areas (the former Employer Training Pilots) across all 9 regions in April 2006. The remaining 27 LSC areas and the National Employer Service introduced Train to Gain in August 2007.

5.12.4 The aim of the service is to increase the responsiveness of the learning and skills sector by offering flexible mechanisms for identifying and providing training to meet business needs. This will then drive up the demand for skills training from

employers and contribute additional skills for life and full level 2 qualifications towards national Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets.

5.12.5 The table below shows the Train to Gain starts in Cumbria in 2006 at Period 12, with the breakdown between Skills for Life and Level 2 & 3.

**Figure 40: Train to Gain starts in 2006**

	2006/07 Period 12		
	Train to Gain Level 2 & Level 3	Train to Gain SFL	Total
Allerdale	432	0	432
Barrow-In-Furness	394	14	408
Carlisle	521	7	528
Copeland	237	4	241
Eden	156	2	158
South Lakeland	275	6	281
Cumbria	2,015	33	2,048
North West	26,069	2,315	28,384

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

5.12.6 As the table above shows 12.9 per cent of the North West regions Train to Gain level 2 & 3 starts are in Cumbria, and only 1.4 per cent of Skills for Life (SFL). As the table shows there is great disparity in the number of starts across the area, with Carlisle contributing the largest volume of 528 learner starts in comparison to 158 in Eden.

## 5.13 Work Based Learning Success Rates

5.13.1 WBL success rates are calculated in a similar way to FE success rates. Success rates for qualifications taken by adults in WBL are shown below.

**Figure 41: Adults: WBL Success Rates by Level 2004/05 to 2006/07**

	Level 2			Level 3		
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	54%	60%	70%	51%	58%	70%
Cheshire & Warrington	53%	58%	70%	52%	60%	69%
Cumbria	58%	62%	69%	57%	64%	70%
Greater Manchester	54%	60%	69%	53%	58%	68%
Greater Merseyside	52%	57%	68%	46%	56%	71%
Lancashire	56%	65%	73%	53%	60%	74%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

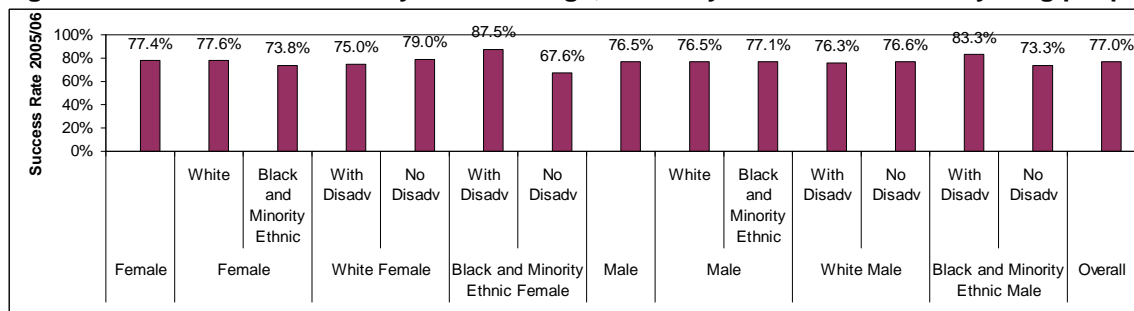
5.13.2 .The North West has seen a substantial improvement in success rates over the last three years. Success rates have increased by 16 per cent in Apprenticeship qualifications (level 2) and 19 per cent in Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3).

5.13.3 Cumbria has experienced a steady increase in full level 2 participation and is currently -1 percentage point below the regional average, improving by 11 percentage points over three years. Full level 3 success rates are in line with the North West at 70 per cent, increasing by 13 percentage points in three years.

## 5.14 Learner Success Rates

5.14.1 The purpose of this section is to investigate the extent to which FE success rates vary by learner characteristics by age group including gender, ethnic group and disadvantage.

**Figure 42: FE Success Rates by Disadvantage, Ethnicity and Gender 2005/6-young people**

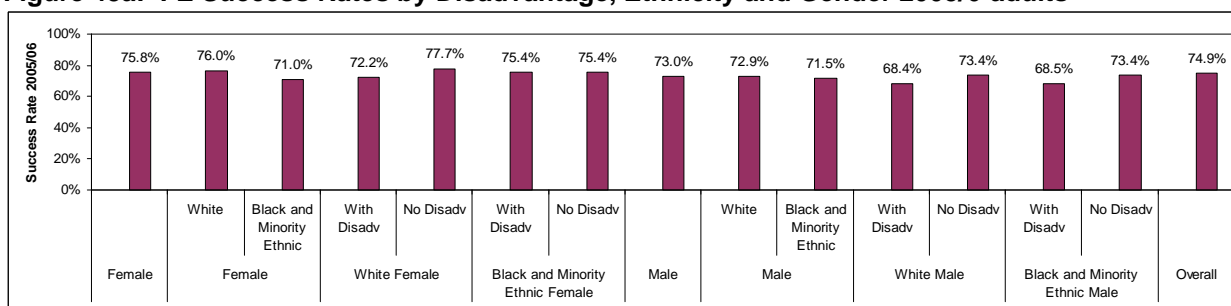


Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

5.14.2 The key points to note from the table above are that overall 16-18 female success rates are higher than male by 0.9 percentage points. The group with the highest success rates are female black and ethnic minority learners with a disadvantage, with 87.5 per cent. The group with the lowest success rates are female black and ethnic minority groups without a disadvantage, with 67.6 per cent. This trend differs from other sub-regions where the majority of lower achieving learners are in one of the male sub-groups.

5.14.3 The table below shows Adult FE success rates by learner characteristics including gender, ethnic group and disadvantage.

**Figure 43a: FE Success Rates by Disadvantage, Ethnicity and Gender 2005/6-adults**



Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

5.14.4 As shown in the table overall female success rates are higher than male rates by 2.8 percentage points. The highest achieving group are white females with no disadvantage (77.7 per cent). The group with the lowest success rates are white males with disadvantages (68.4 per cent).

## 5.15 Independent Quality Assessment: Inspection

5.15.1 The Regional Strategic Analysis contains further analysis of FE College inspection scores from 2005/06 to 2006/07. Ofsted inspect colleges across the year assessing curriculum areas, quality, standards and management. The table below shows the number of Colleges in Cheshire and Warrington and the assessment results. Throughout the North West only two Colleges were deemed 'inadequate', and were also the only provision to rate as 'poor' in curriculum areas.

**Figure 44: FE Inspection Grades**

	Overall effectiveness	Capacity to make further improvements	Achievement and standards	Quality of provision
Outstanding	0	0	0	0
Good	1	3	1	2
Satisfactory	2	0	2	1
Poor	0	0	0	0

Source: Ofsted

5.15.2 Cumbria has no 'poor' or 'inadequate' provision. All colleges have been assessed as 'good' or 'satisfactory' with all rated as having good capacity to make further improvements. Across the curriculum areas Cumbria provision has been assessed as either 'good' or 'satisfactory'.

5.15.3 As off this year WBL providers are now being inspected by Ofsted. We have recently reduced the number of WBL providers which we contract with by removing poor quality provision; as a result the quality of the sector has improved, as highlighted by the significant improvements in success rates.

5.15.4 Due to the recent take over of Ofsted only 7 WBL providers have been assessed this year between July and November, all of which have been rated as outstanding, satisfactory or good.

## 5.16 Summary Implications for the Learning Skills Sector

5.16.1 Participation and performance across the sub-region remains strong, varying greatly by district. WBL for young people is evidently one of Cumbrias strengths, with the largest proportion of young learners in WBL in the region. Participation in WBL has reduced across the North West as a result of the removal of poor provision; however learner numbers appear to be stable in Cumbria with only a small reduction on last years participation volumes. Success rates in the area are continuing to grow steadily and are above the North West average. Adults taking WBL courses are also performing well with only a small reduction in learner numbers, which varies greatly by district. Adult success rates are not as prominent as those of 16-18 year olds, but are near if not in line with the regional average. It is vital that performance in WBL continues to improve in the area. As a result of the Commissioning Spending Review (CSR) there is increasing focus away from growth in FE and School Sixth Forms and towards WBL and Leitch ambitions.

5.16.2 Cumbria is the only sub-region in the North West to experience a reduction in participation volumes of young people studying for an FE qualification. Adult participation has been an issue across the region with a steady decline of learner numbers; this decline has been evident in various districts across Cumbria. Although learner numbers have fallen success rates are continuing to see improvements across both age groups and are in line with or above the North West average. These improvements in FE are supported by good and satisfactory Ofsted inspection grades with no evidence of poor or inadequate provision. Although FE performance is currently strong the volume of black and ethnic minority participants is low, it is important that we continue to target these groups, and those with disadvantages.

## SECTION:6 EMPLOYABILITY AND WORKLESSNESS

### 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Developing the skills of the current working age population is the subject of increased focus as the competitiveness of the regional economy develops. This section will look at rates of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity in order to quantify what must be achieved in order for the North West to compete.

### 6.2 Employment, Unemployment and Economic Inactivity

6.2.1 Economic inactivity is highest in Barrow-in-Furness at 25.8 per cent, this is above regional and national averages. The only other district with a rate of economic inactivity above the regional and national averages is Allerdale. Eden has the lowest rate of economic activity in Cumbria (9.2%)

6.2.2 Rates of unemployment among the economically active population are similar to the regional and national rates in most areas. Copeland has the lowest rate (4%) where as South Lakeland has the highest (5.5%)

**Figure 45: Employment Status of Working Age Population (by %), 2006**

	Economically Active		Economically Inactive
	Employed	Unemployed	
England	74.3%	5.5%	21.4%
North West	72.5%	5.4%	23.3%
Allerdale	74.0%	4.4%	22.6%
Barrow-in-Furness	70.3%	5.2%	25.8%
Carlisle	75.8%	4.6%	20.5%
Copeland	76.5%	4.0%	20.3%
Eden	88.6%	!	9.2%
South Lakeland	77.2%	5.5%	18.4%

Source: Annual Population Survey 2006 ONS

6.2.3 A volume analysis of economic activity shows that the highest volume of employed people in Cumbria are in Carlisle, however, this local area does not have the highest rate of employment (Eden 88.6%).

6.2.4 The highest volumes of economically inactive working age people are in Allerdale (12,500) and in Carlisle (12,400)

**Figure 46: Employment Status of Working Age Population (by Volume), 2006**

	Economically Active		Economically Inactive
	Employed	Unemployed	
England	22,794,700	1,326,500	6,560,900
North West	2,978,000	168,900	958,400
Allerdale	40,900	1,900	12,500
Barrow-in-Furness	30,100	1,700	11,100
Carlisle	45,800	2,200	12,400
Copeland	31,900	1,300	8,500
Eden	26,900	!	2,800
South Lakeland	46,000	2,700	11,000

Source: Annual Population Survey 2006 ONS

## 6.3 Economically Inactive

- 6.3.1 Females in Barrow-in-Furness have the highest rate of economic inactivity in Cumbria (26.7%). However, this is below the regional rate and the same as the national rate for females. The female rate of economic inactivity is higher than the male rate in every area of Cumbria, this is also the regional and national trend.
- 6.3.2 The lowest rate of economic inactivity for males is 7.7 per cent in Eden, this is 11.7 percentage points below the North West rate.
- 6.3.3 Rates of economic inactivity for females are consistently higher than for males, this reflects the regional and national trend. The gap between males and females is widest in Copeland where there is a 9.9 percentage point difference, however both the male and female rates in this local area are below regional and national averages.

**Figure 47: Economic Inactivity as a Proportion of the Working Age Population 2006**

	Male		Female		Total	
	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
England	16.4%	2,586,100	26.7%	3,974,800	21.4%	6,560,900
North West	19.4%	409,700	27.5%	548,700	23.3%	958,400
Cumbria	18.4%	27,800	21.9%	30,300	20.0%	58,100
Allerdale	20.3%	5,900	25.1%	6,600	22.6%	12,500
Barrow-in-Furness	25.1%	5,600	26.7%	5,500	25.8%	11,100
Carlisle	20.3%	6,400	20.7%	6,000	20.5%	12,400
Copeland	15.6%	3,400	25.5%	5,100	20.3%	8,500
Eden	7.7%	1,200	10.9%	1,600	9.2%	2,800
South Lakeland	17.2%	5,300	19.6%	5,600	18.4%	11,000

Source: Annual Population Survey 2006 ONS

## 6.4 Context

- 6.4.1 Copeland has the highest rate of economically inactive working age people who do not want a job, at 88.5 per cent this is above the regional and national averages.
- 6.4.2 The breakdown of those who do want a job in Figure 48 does not contain sufficient information for analysis due to the small sample size available.

**Figure 48: Profile of Economically Inactive Population, 2006**

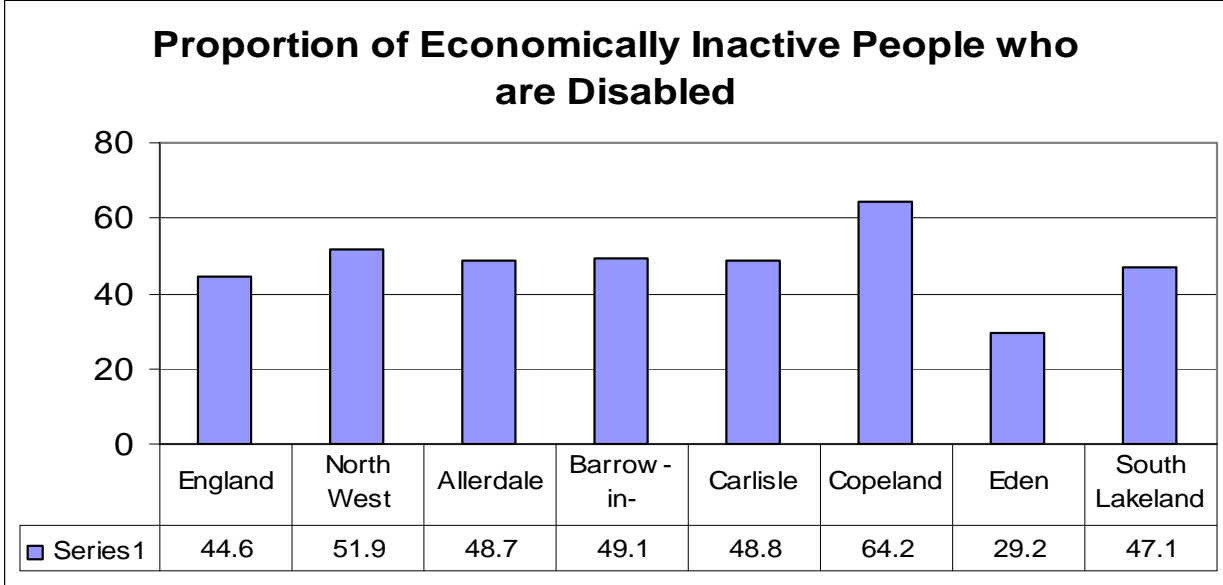
% of economically inactive	DO want a job (breakdown)					
	DO want a job	DO NOT want a job	Long-term sick	Looking after family/home	Students	Other
England	25.2%	74.8%	7.1%	6.6%	3.7%	4.6%
North West	20.1%	79.9%	6.8%	4.3%	2.8%	3.7%
Allerdale	23.6%	76.4%	!	7.7%	!	!
Barrow-in-Furness	18.8%	81.2%	12.3%	!	!	!
Carlisle	28.2%	71.8%	7.8%	!	!	8.8%
Copeland	11.5%	88.5%	!	!	!	!
Eden	44.2%	55.8%	!	!	!	!
South Lakeland	24.4%	75.6%	!	!	!	!

Source: Annual Population Survey 2006 ONS

**6.5 Economic Inactivity by Disability**

- 6.5.1 The proportion of the economically inactive working age population of Cumbria who are disabled is highest in Copeland (64.2%), this is above regional and national averages and equates to 5,457 people.
- 6.5.2 The lowest rate is in Eden with 29.2 per cent. The economic inactivity rate for those in Eden is low, however, of the 9.2 per cent who are inactive, only 817 of these people are disabled, further research could be required into why the remaining 1,983 people of working age are in the inactive group in this local area.

**Figure 49: Economic Inactivity Rate by Disability, 2005**



Source: Annual Population Survey 2006 ONS

**6.6 Economic Inactivity by Ethnicity**

- 6.6.1 Analysis of economic inactivity by ethnicity for Cumbria is problematic due to the low volumes of working age people who fall into this category when split by ethnic group, Figure 50 demonstrates this.
- 6.6.2 The rate of economic inactivity for the White working age population is close to regional and national averages in most areas, Barrow-in-Furness is particularly high (26.3%), Eden has a low rate of 8.6 per cent.

**Figure 50: Economic Inactivity Rate by Ethnicity, 2005**

	% of whites of working age who are economically inactive	% of mixed ethnic group of working age who are economically inactive	% of Indians of working age who are economically inactive	% of Pakistanis/Ban gladeshis of working age who are economically inactive	% of Black or Black British of working age who are economically inactive	% of other ethnic group of working age who are economically inactive
England	19.9	26.4	24.4	47.4	27.3	34.5
North West	22.3	29.9	25.9	47.9	32.6	35.5
Allerdale	22.6	!	!	!	!	!
Barrow-in-Furness	26.3	!	!	!	!	!
Carlisle	20.3	!	!	!	!	!
Copeland	21.0	!	!	!	!	!
Eden	8.6	!	!	!	!	!
South Lakeland	18.7	!	!	!	!	!

Source: Annual Population Survey 2006 ONS

## 6.7 Incapacity Benefit

6.7.1 Barrow-in-Furness has the highest rate of working age people claiming Incapacity Benefit (IB) / Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) (13.2%), the second highest rate of claimants is in Copeland (10%). Both of these areas have rates above the North West and national percentage.

6.7.2 The lowest rate of IB / SDA claimants in the working age population is in Eden (4.9%). This local area also has the lowest rate of those claiming Job Seekers Allowance, Disability Living Allowance and Income Support.

**Figure 51: Proportion of Working Age Population Claiming DWP Benefits by Type**

	Incapacity Benefit & Severe Disablement Allowance		Jobseekers Allowance		Disability Living Allowance		Income Support	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
England	2662210	8.7%	936300	3.1%	1670020	5.4%	2134170	7.0%
North West	408220	9.9%	9800	2.9%	251620	6.1%	306790	7.5%
Cumbria	24100	8.3%	1270	2.0%	15570	5.4%	14660	5.1%
Allerdale	4730	8.6%	1220	2.3%	3060	5.5%	3010	5.4%
Barrow-in-Furness	5630	13.2%	1410	2.9%	3620	8.5%	3390	7.9%
Carlisle	4990	8.2%	1140	2.3%	3340	5.5%	3270	5.4%
Copeland	4140	10.0%	270	2.7%	2570	6.2%	2700	6.5%
Eden	1490	4.9%	590	0.9%	1010	3.3%	760	2.5%
South Lakeland	3120	5.2%	5900	1.0%	1970	3.3%	1530	2.6%

Source: DWP Tabulation Tool <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>

6.7.3 Figure 52 shows the 10 most common conditions suffered by claimants of Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance in Cumbria. In line with regional and national trends the most common condition suffered is a depressive episode at 18.4 per cent. The second most common condition is Dorsalgia (pain in the upper back) with 8.2 per cent of claimants, level with the national rate. The 10 most common conditions account for just over half the IB/SDA claims in Cumbria.

**Figure 52: IB/SDA Claimant Conditions**

IB/SDA claimants by (10 most common) Conditions February 2007

Main Disabling Condition	Cumbria	North West	Great Britain
Depressive Episode	18.4%	19.6%	18.7%
Other anxiety Disorders	5.0%	5.2%	4.3%
Other Neurotic Disorders	2.5%	3.7%	2.8%
Other Arthritis	2.2%	2.5%	2.3%

Other Arthrosis	3.7%	2.9%	2.4%
Dorsalgia	8.2%	7.5%	8.2%
Pain, not elsewhere classified	3.3%	2.6%	3.0%
Unknown and unspecified causes of Morbidity	5.3%	6.0%	6.2%
Other Injuries of Spine and Trunk, Unspecified	2.2%	1.9%	1.9%
Above total	50.9%	52.0%	49.9%
All other	49.1%	48.0%	50.1%

Source: DWP Information Directorate 100% WPLS

## 6.8 Demand for Training

6.8.1 In Cumbria, the rate of economically active working age adults without a level 2 is 26.7 per cent, below both the regional and national rate. Within Cumbria the rate is highest in Allerdale, where 30.3 per cent of the economically active do not have a level 2 qualification. Although currently active, this group (60,000 people in Cumbria) are more likely to face problems in attaining sustainable employment.

**Figure 53: Qualification Profile of the Economically Active Population, 2006**

	Economically Active Population (000's)	Economically Active qualified to at least level 4		Economically Active qualified to at least level 3		Economically Active qualified to at least level 2		Economically Active adults without a level 2 qualification	
		Number (000's)	%	Number (000's)	%	Number (000's)	%	Number (000's)	%
England	23,541	7,225	31.5%	11,832	51.0%	16,827	72.1%	6,715	27.9%
North West	3,068	897	29.4%	1,525	50.4%	2,188	72.2%	880	27.8%
Cumbria	225	65	28.7%	117	51.9%	165	73.3%	60	26.7%
Allerdale	42	13	30.2%	21	51.4%	29	69.7%	13	30.3%
Barrow-in-Furness	30	9	28.8%	17	55.2%	22	73.0%	8	27.0%
Carlisle	45	12	27.6%	23	51.1%	35	76.7%	11	23.3%
Copeland	33	7	20.6%	16	50.1%	24	71.9%	9	28.1%
Eden	27	7	26.4%	14	51.7%	19	71.6%	8	28.4%
South Lakeland	49	17	35.0%	25	52.2%	37	75.2%	12	24.8%

Source: Annual Population Survey 2006 ONS

6.8.2 The rate of economically inactive working age people in Cumbria without a level 2 qualification is slightly lower than the national average, currently -0.9 per cent lower. However, Copeland has a substantially high rate (59 per cent), 12.5 per cent greater than the national average. South Lakeland has the lowest rate of the economically inactive working age population without a level 2 qualification (39.2 per cent), and is -7.3 percentage points lower than the national average.

**Figure 54: Qualification Profile of the Economically Inactive Population, 2006**

	All Economically Inactive active	Economically Inactive adults qualified to at least level 4		Economically Inactive adults qualified to at least level 3		Economically Inactive adults qualified to at least level 2		Economically Inactive adults without a level 2 qualification	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
England	7,126,790	1,094,717	15.4%	2,200,430	30.9%	3,810,305	53.5%	3,316,485	46.5%
North West	1,036,510	121,514	11.7%	294,126	28.4%	528,399	51.0%	508,111	49.0%
Cumbria	64,826	7,903	12.2%	19,654	30.3%	35,267	54.4%	29,559	45.6%
Allerdale	13,458	1,845	13.7%	3,987	29.6%	7,522	55.9%	5,936	44.1%
Barrow-in-Furness	12,524	1,445	11.5%	3,725	29.7%	7,173	57.3%	5,351	42.7%
Carlisle	15,220	1,992	13.1%	4,883	32.1%	8,198	53.9%	7,022	46.1%
Copeland	8,771	361	4.1%	1,265	14.4%	3,597	41.0%	5,174	59.0%
Eden	3,899	262	6.7%	802	20.6%	2,114	54.2%	1,785	45.8%
South Lakeland	10,954	1,998	18.2%	4,991	45.6%	6,663	60.8%	4,291	39.2%

Source: Annual Population Survey 2006 ONS

6.8.3 It is important to note that the economically inactive population have a far greater proportion of the population without a level 2 qualification than the economically active. This suggests that increasing the number of the working age population who are qualified to a level 2 could potentially increase the volume of the economically active population.

## 6.9 Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

6.9.1 The rate of NEET in Cumbria has been the second lowest in the region in both 2005/06 and 2007/06 (January – March 3 month average), the rate of NEET in Cumbria fell at a slightly higher rate than the national average.

**Figure 55: Percentage of 16-18 Year Olds in NEET**

	2006 Jan-March Average	2007 Jan-March Average	Change 2006-2007
England	8.6%	8.0%	-0.6%
North West	9.8%	9.5%	-0.3%
Cumbria	7.5%	6.8%	-0.7%
Lancashire	9.9%	8.3%	-1.6%
Greater Merseyside	11.7%	11.2%	-0.5%
Greater Manchester	9.9%	10.6%	0.7%
Cheshire and Warrington	6.9%	6.3%	-0.6%

Source: DfES

## 6.10 Entry to Employment

6.10.1 In 2006/07 (Period 12) the rate of positive outcomes from Entry to Employment (E2E) was 43 per cent in Cumbria, this was slightly below the regional rate. The highest rate in Cumbria was in South Lakeland (50%) this was level with the regional average, the lowest rate was in Eden, however, for both Eden and South Lakeland learner volumes are very low.

6.10.2 Early indication for 2007/08 show that positive progressions in Cumbria are at 65 per cent and that this substantial rise can be attributed to the success of pre e2e and NEET projects run by a partnership which has moved over 40 young people into mainstream programmes.

**Figure 56: Entry to Employment Starts and Progression**

	2004/05			2005/06			2006/07		
	Starts	Positive Leavers	Positive outcome %	Starts	Positive Leavers	Positive outcome %	Starts	Positive Leavers	Positive outcome %
North West	9,539	4,493	47.3%	9,255	5,196	52%	4,643	2,187	50%
Cumbria	645	360	43.8%	717	346	48%	331	135	43%
Allerdale	119	75	44.4%	143	76	47%	60	20	42%
Barrow-in-Furness	193	128	47.6%	182	73	48%	115	50	42%
Carlisle	143	46	31.9%	128	69	47%	55	26	49%
Copeland	129	61	40.7%	169	85	47%	70	26	41%
Eden	19	11	39.3%	35	13	50%	9	3	23%
South Lakeland	42	39	63.9%	60	30	51%	22	10	50%

Source: NW LSC Performance Reporting Platform

6.10.3 The most common positive progression route from E2E is into employment, although not shown in the chart below, 50 per cent of positive progressions are through this route. Given the recent policy shift, towards delivering more

apprenticeships, as recommended by the Leitch Review of Skills, more could be done in Cumbria to raise the level of positive progressions into Work-based learning.

**Figure 57: Entry to Employment Progression Route**

	2006-2007					
	Into WBL	WBL %	Into FE	FE %	Into Employ	Employed %
North West	484	22%	811	37%	892	41%
Cumbria	28	21%	39	29%		
Allerdale	3	15%	1	5%	16	80%
Barrow-in-Furness	15	30%	14	28%	21	42%
Carlisle	3	12%	13	50%	10	38%
Copeland	4	15%	5	19%	17	65%
Eden	1	33%	1	33%	1	33%
South Lakeland	2	20%	5	50%	3	30%

Source: NW LSC Performance Reporting Platform

## 6.11 Matching Demand and Supply

6.11.1 The proportion of skills for life achievements that count towards target in Cumbria rose by 10.6 per cent between 2004/05 and 2005/06, now standing at 54 per cent, the second highest rate in the region. This increase is especially positive given the overall increase in learner achievements (+121 achievements).

**Figure 58: Skills for Life Achievements Contributing to Target**

Local LSC	2004/05			2005/06			2004/05 to 2005/06
	Number of learners contributing to target	Number not contributing to target	Learners contributing to target	Number of learners contributing to target	Number not contributing to target	Learners contributing to target	Change in learners who contribute to target
Cheshire and Warrington	5,833	4,422	57%	5,892	4,541	56%	-0.4%
Cumbria	2,672	3,507	43%	3,390	2,910	54%	10.6%
Greater Manchester	21,571	30,029	42%	24,255	27,873	47%	4.7%
Greater Merseyside	12,035	17,837	40%	11,060	17,810	38%	-2.0%
Lancashire	8,395	13,590	38%	9,720	11,846	45%	6.9%
North West	50,506	69,385	42%	54,317	64,980	46%	3.4%
National	334,518	516,970	39%	367,635	494,808	43%	3.3%

Source: NW LSC Performance Reporting Platform

## 6.12 Summary Implications for the Learning Skills Sector

6.12.1 Recent policy developments, particularly the Leitch Review of Learning and Skills, have led to the requirement of more focused targeting within the workless group. The need for a differentiated approach to the key target groups has been highlighted, including those aged 50+, black and minority ethnic groups, offenders and ex-offenders, and others identified in this chapter. An age breakdown of Cumbria is especially useful for to enable appropriate targeting.

6.12.2 Providing employability skills for the economically inactive is a key priority for all areas of the North West, with particular focus on the goal of sustainable employment, this can only be achieved through successful partnership work.

6.12.3 Locally, the high rate of Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance claimants in Barrow in Furness is one example of where this kind of partnership work is required, to ensure that where appropriate people are moved off benefits and into employment.

6.12.4 Levels of participation, and progression into Work-based learning could be improved, in line with the nationally identified drive to increase the number of apprenticeships undertaken.

## **SECTION:7 LOWER LEVEL AND BASIC SKILLS**

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### **7.1 Introduction**

- 7.1.1 The following section analyses skills for life needs in Cumbria, looking at literacy, numeracy, English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) and information and communications technology subject areas to assess the supply to the labour market, and where there may be gaps.

### **7.2 Context**

- 7.2.1 Below Level 2 qualifications, the focus is on providing individuals with the skills they need to participate in the labour market, including literacy and numeracy skills. The focus is as much about getting people onto the 'skills ladder' as meeting the needs of employers. However, the underpinning skills of literacy, language and numeracy are vital to ensure the region has a workforce which is able to support a move to higher productivity levels. Provision for those lower level skills, is delivered under the umbrella of the national 'Skills for Life' programme.
- 7.2.2 The North West Skills for Life Strategy (July 2006) is the region's response to developments at a national level and shows how the region intends to implement the policy. This is summarised in the Regional Strategic Analysis report.

### **7.3 Scale of Need**

- 7.3.1 The Regional Strategic Analysis report explores the scale of need for Skills for Life provision in the region. Over 1.4m adults of working age in the North West do not hold qualifications at Level 2 or above (35.1% compared to 33.5% in England) –the minimum considered necessary for productive participation in the modern labour market. In Cumbria, there are 96,000 adults below Level 2.
- 7.3.2 Across the region only 70.2% of those without a Level 2 qualification are employed, compared to 87.9% of those qualified to Level 4 –this equates to nearly 250,000 fewer people in work than would be the case if the employment rates were in line with the national average. For those with no qualifications at all, the employment rate is just 45.3%. Many people without any qualifications are also likely to have basic skills needs. Therefore, Skills for Life provision should be targeted at those who are currently unemployed, inactive, or in low-skilled employment but vulnerable to redundancy.
- 7.3.3 Basic skills gaps are causing North West employers recruitment difficulties. Based on the results of the 2005 National Employer Skills Survey, employers in the North West are more likely than employers anywhere else in the country to cite written communication, literacy, and numeracy skills as lacking amongst applicants for skills shortage vacancies. Of employers reporting skills shortage vacancies, 38% noted that written communication skills were lacking amongst applicants, 31% noted literacy skills as lacking, and 30% numeracy skills. In all cases, these were the highest responses of the nine English regions.

### **7.4 Targets**

- 7.4.1 The region's PSA target is to support 109,670 adults to improve their literacy, language or numeracy skills between 2004-2007. The October 2006 data shows an achievement figure of 128,063 (nondiscounted). This means that the region has already over achieved its Skills for Life PSA target for 2007 by 117%, with further achievements due for 2006-7.

- 7.4.2 Not all Skills for Life achievements can be counted towards the target. There is a national benchmark set which encourages providers to work towards the balance and mix of 80% of Skills for Life provision to be target or approved provision, and the remaining 20% to be non-accredited provision. Current performance in the North West and Cumbria is shown in the table below.
- 7.4.3 The table shows for 16-18 year olds and adults separately, the proportion of basic skills achievements which count towards the target in 2004/05. The last two columns show how achievements split between young people and adults. In 2004/05, in the North West, 89% of Skills for Life achievements by young people count towards the target - this is to be expected, as a large proportion of under 19 learners will be following key skills programme or re-taking GCSEs, which also contribute towards the target. In Cumbria, the proportion is higher, at 91%.
- 7.4.4 Most adults follow discrete Skills for Life programmes, which are less substantial in terms of guided learning hours. For adults in the North West, only 35% of achievements count towards the target. The Cumbria figure is higher at 38%.
- 7.4.5 The challenge is to increase the number of adults on basic skills courses that count towards the target, and this challenge is likely to increase over time if school performance continues to improve, as this will have the affect that fewer 16-18 year olds require Skills for Life provision.

**Figure: Skills for Life Achievements (Target / Non Target 2004/05**  
Skills for Life Achievements (Target / Non Target) in 2004/05

	Age	% Count Towards Target	% Achievements
Cumbria	16-18	91%	31%
	Adults	38%	69%
	All Ages	55%	
North West	16-18	89%	29%
	Adults	35%	71%
	All Ages	51%	

Source: NW LSC performance Reporting Platform

## 7.5 Demand

- 7.5.1 The Regional Strategic Analysis report describes the results of the 2002 Skills for Life (SfL) Survey commissioned by DfES in 2002. Section 8.4 of the Regional report sets out estimated literacy, numeracy, ESOL and ICT needs in the region and sub-regions based on the survey proportions. In this report, we show the analysis at the district level, to get a picture of the areas with the greatest basic skills needs.

## 7.6 Literacy

- 7.6.1 The tables below show the proportion and number of people (adults aged 16-65) in each district with literacy skills at each of the three levels. There is a

significant basic skills needs across Cumbria, with 12% of people at Entry Level and 46% at Level 1. In total, 58% of 16-65 year olds in Cumbria have literacy skills which are below Level 2; this compares to 56% for England and 60% for the region.

- 7.6.2 There are about 173,150 adults in Cumbria with literacy skills below Level 2, indicating a significant requirement for provision to address this need.

**Figure 59: Adults (16-65): Distribution of Literacy Skills by Level of Need**

Literacy	Entry Level	Level 1 Skills	Level 2 Skills
Allerdale District	10%	48%	42%
Barrow-in-Furness District	17%	50%	33%
Carlisle District	11%	47%	42%
Copeland District	21%	48%	30%
Eden District	9%	46%	45%
South Lakeland District	8%	43%	49%
Cumbria	12%	46%	43%
<b>North West</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>40%</b>
England	16%	40%	44%

Source: Skills for Life Survey 2002/03, DfES

**Figure 60: Number of Adults (16-65) by Literacy Skill Level of Need**

Literacy	Entry Level	Level 1 Skills	Level 2
Allerdale District	5,895	27,900	24,430
Barrow-in-Furness District	7,590	22,480	14,720
Carlisle District	6,730	29,800	26,630
Copeland District	9,330	21,000	13,210
Eden District	2,945	14,260	13,910
South Lakeland District	4,685	26,490	30,300
Cumbria	35,450	137,700	129,200
<b>North West</b>	<b>536,760</b>	<b>1,991,600</b>	<b>1,674,800</b>
England	5,021,930	12,232,620	13,682,015

Source: Skills for Life Survey 2002/03, DfES

## 7.7 Numeracy

- 7.7.1 The table below shows the proportion of people (adults aged 16-65) in each district with numeracy skills at each of the three levels. At the regional level, there is a significant basic skills need, with 53% of people at Entry Level and 30% at Level 1. In total, 83% of 16-65 year olds in the region have numeracy skills which are below level 2, and this compares to 75% for England. The Cumbria figure is 80%.

**Figure 61: Adults (16-65): Distribution of Numeracy Skills by Level of Need**

Numeracy	Entry Level	Level 1	Level 2
Allerdale District	48%	33%	19%
Barrow-in-Furness District	61%	26%	14%
Carlisle District	53%	30%	17%
Copeland District	67%	21%	12%
Eden District	48%	32%	21%
South Lakeland District	35%	40%	25%
Cumbria	47%	34%	19%
<b>North West</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>17%</b>
England	47%	28%	25%

Source: Skills for Life Survey 2002/03, DfES

7.7.2 Carlisle has the greatest numeracy skills need in terms of the number of adults below Level 2, as shown below.

**Figure 62: Number of Adults (16-65) by Numeracy Skill Level of Need**

Numeracy	Entry Level	Level 1	Level 2
Allerdale District	28,210	19,220	10,790
Barrow-in-Furness District	27,220	11,470	6,105
Carlisle District	33,770	18,750	10,640
Copeland District	29,070	9,225	5,250
Eden District	14,880	9,850	6,390
South Lakeland District	21,650	24,530	15,290
Cumbria	141,900	101,300	56,590
<b>North West</b>	<b>2,229,200</b>	<b>1,264,300</b>	<b>710,220</b>
England	14,499,395	8,553,945	7,883,225

Source: Skills for Life Survey 2002/03, DfES

## 7.8 ICT

7.8.1 The table below shows the results of the ICT assessment. In total, 69% of adults in the sub-region are classified as having ICT skills at Entry Level. The proportion at Entry level is well above the England average of 53%.

**Figure 63: Adults (16-65): Distribution of ICT Skills by Level of Need**

	Number		Proportion (%)	
	Entry Level	Level 1	Entry Level	Level 1
Allerdale District	37,990	20,240	65%	35%
Barrow-in-Furness District	31,190	13,605	70%	30%
Carlisle District	38,770	24,390	61%	39%
Copeland District	29,870	13,675	69%	31%
Eden District	19,440	11,685	62%	38%
South Lakeland District	39,830	21,640	65%	35%
Cumbria	201,100	101,220	67%	33%
<b>North West</b>	<b>2,462,100</b>	<b>1,741,530</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>41%</b>
England	16,538,095	14,398,470	53%	47%

Source: Skills for Life Survey 2002/03, DfES

## 7.9 ESOL

7.9.1 As noted earlier, the survey provides an estimate of the number of people who may require ESOL training. The numbers for the sub-region are shown in the table below. The greatest need is in Carlisle.

7.9.2 The North West Skills for Life Strategy notes that there is now higher demand for ESOL in the region. This is not reflected in the 2003 Survey. This is a result of an inflow of migrants with ESOL needs. The North West has established an ESOL task group to identify the scale of demand and suggest ways to plan and address the increase in demand.

**Figure 64: Adults in the ESOL Group**

	ESOL(number)	ESOL (%)
Allerdale District	270	0%
Barrow-in-Furness District	235	0%
Carlisle District	630	1%
Copeland District	215	0%
Eden District	110	0%
South Lakeland District	405	1%
Cumbria	1870	1%
<b>North West</b>	<b>173915</b>	<b>4%</b>
England	2358060	8%

Source: Skills for Life Survey 2002/03, DfES

**Figure 65: Skills for Life Enrolments**

Number of Learners	
Local Area	Total
Allerdale Total	2,200
Barrow-In-Furness Total	1,999
Carlisle Total	2,295
Copeland Total	1,694
Eden Total	776
South Lakeland Total	1,782
Cumbria	10,746

Source: NW LSC Residency Based Performance Reporting Platform

7.9.3 The table above shows the volume of Skills for Life learners by local area in Cumbria. There is an 'even spread' of learners participating in Skills for Life provision between Allerdale, Barrow-in-Furness, Carlisle, Copeland and South Lakeland. Only Eden stands out as having a substantially lower volume of learners than the other local areas. This balance of learner volumes by local area appears appropriate given the corresponding levels of need, for literacy and numeracy, in these areas.

## 7.10 Summary Implications for the Learning Skills Sector

7.10.1 There is a major need identified in the region in terms of basic skills requirements and it is clearly an issue for employers. People without qualifications (a proxy for basic skills needs) are significantly more likely than those who have qualifications to be excluded from the labour market. Given the importance of addressing basic skills needs –both for employers and individuals - the issue arises of whether sufficient resources are being directed to meeting adult basic skills needs. On current volumes, only a small proportion of the region's basic skills needs are being addressed each year.

7.10.2 The challenges for Cumbria include how to convert need into demand –and in particular, how to make provision more accessible –and finally ensuring that providers have the capacity and capability to deliver.

7.10.3 As with all other areas in the North West, skills for life: Numeracy is a larger issue than Literacy, although both important, the rate of working age people in Cumbria who are qualified to a level 2 (Literacy) is 43 per cent, the rate of those with numeracy at level 2 is 19 per cent, given the identified requirement for higher

level skills in sectors such as engineering and manufacturing, as well as the chemical industry being seen as key to the future of the regional economy, greater levels of attainment in science and mathematical subjects is essential to ensure sustainable employment

## SECTION:8 LEVEL 2

### 8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 This chapter looks at participation and success rates in full level 2 learning and skills development in Cumbria. Full level 2 qualifications are essential in increasing employment opportunities and the up-skilling of the workforce. In recent years there has been a clear focus on the inclusion of English and Maths achievements as part of the full level 2 qualification.

### 8.2 Context

8.2.1 The Regional Strategic Analysis explains in some detail the reasons for the national focus on level 2. The importance placed on level 2 attainment reflects a belief that this level is the minimum a person requires for employability. Attainment of level 2 is also a platform for progression to developing intermediate and higher level skills. Both DCSF and DIUS have PSA targets that relate to level 2 attainment by young people and adults.

### 8.3 Level 2 Attainment – Young People

8.3.1 The table below shows the proportion of learners who achieved a level 2 by age 16 and 19, and also the rate of additionality. The cohort of young people in the North West with a level 2 by age 19 is slightly below the National average of 71.4 per cent.

**Figure 66: Level 2 Attainment of Young People**

	19 in 06 cohort		
	% L2 by 16	% L2 by 19	Additionality
National	52.2%	71.4%	19.2%
North West	50.1%	70.2%	20.1%
Cumbria	53%	71%	17.7%
Allerdale	56.8%	72.4%	15.7%
Barrow-in-Furness	49.2%	68.9%	19.6%
Carlisle	48.6%	65.4%	16.8%
Copeland	45.8%	69.3%	23.6%
Eden	56.0%	72.6%	16.6%
South Lakeland	61.1%	76.9%	15.8%

Source: North West Reporting Platform

8.3.2 In Cumbria, level 2 attainment by age 16 is higher than both the Regional and National averages at 53 per cent, however this varies greatly at district level. Within Cumbria attainment levels have been higher than the region in the following districts; South Lakeland, Eden and Allerdale. Some districts in Cumbria have low attainment levels by age 16, such as 45.8 per cent in Copeland which is -6.4 percentage points below the National average. Copeland does have one major school in special measures with poor results at another Copeland school. There are a number of plans to tackle this problem with the most significant being the development of a school academy in North Copeland sponsored by NDA and UCLAN

8.3.3 Level 2 attainment levels by age 19 in Cumbria are in line with the National average and 0.8 percentage points above the regional figure. Attainment is also

varied at district level, South Lakeland, Eden and Allerdale have a higher proportion of 19 year olds with a level 2 attainment in comparison to the national average. The districts with the lowest attainment rate at 19 are Carlisle with only 65.4 per cent and Copeland with 69.3 per cent. The rate of additionality is also varied across the area; Copeland has the highest rate (23.6 per cent) which is 4.4 percentage points greater than the National average.

## 8.4 Level 2 Attainment – Adults

8.4.1 Of the working age population 32.7 per cent of the population in England do not have a level 2 qualification, equating to 10,031 people.

**Figure 67: Working Age Population Qualified to Level 2**

	Working age Population (000s)	Working age qualified to a least a level 2		Working age without a level 2 qualification	
		Number (000s)	Percentage (%)	Number (000s)	Percentage (%)
England	30,668	20,637	67.3%	10,031	32.7%
North West	4,104	2,716	66.2%	1,388	33.8%
Cumbria	290	200	69.1%	90	30.9%

*Source: Annual Population Survey*

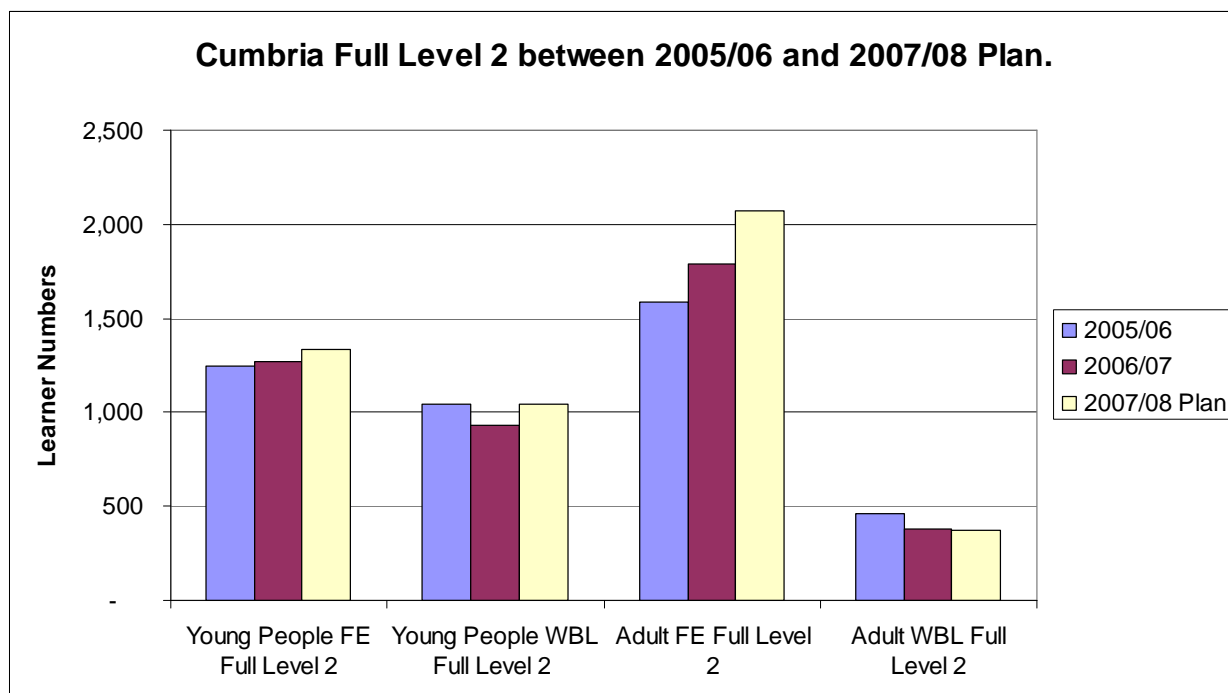
8.4.2 The table above shows 30.9 per cent of the working age population in Cumbria do not have a level 2 qualification, -1.8 per cent below the national average. In Cumbria 1.8 per cent more than the national average of the working age population is qualified to a level 2.

## 8.5 Plans

8.5.1 Currently the LSC does not have plan information from School Sixth Forms, but will begin to collect this information in the next year. Therefore only WBL and FE plans have been considered in this section.

8.5.2 The North West has regional trajectories for Level 2 participation for young people and adults. The plans show the number of full level 2 qualifications and include WBL apprenticeship and FE full level 2.

**Figure: Full Level 2 Plan2007/08**



Source: PaMS.

8.5.3 The 2007/08 plans for young people in FE full level 2 are 5 per cent higher than that what was achieved in the area in 2006/07, equating to an additional 67 learners on the 2006/07 total. The 2007/08 plans for young people attaining WBL apprenticeships (level 2) also appear within reach by increasing last years attainment by 13 per cent to meet the plans of 927 by the end of the year.

8.5.4 The 2007/08 plans for adults in FE Full level 2 are 16 per cent higher than what was achieved in 2006/07, equating to an additional 286 learners on top of the 2006/07 baseline of 2,071. The 2007/08 plan of adults attaining a WBL apprenticeship (level 2) qualification is 376. In 2006/07 Cumbria achieved a total of 378 completions and the 2007/08 plan numbers show no growth.

## 8.6 Supply

### 8.7 Young People

8.7.1 The table below shows the number of young people who are studying for a FE full level 2 qualification between 2004/05 and 2006/07. In Cumbria there are 1,348 learners studying towards a full level 2, representing 17.5 per cent of the North West total.

**Figure 68: Number of Young People in FE: Full Level 2 Participation**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	20,477	21,278	23,600
Cumbria	1,214	1,282	1,348
Allerdale	222	258	265
Barrow-in-Furness	250	240	232
Carlisle	203	190	240
Copeland	200	215	224
Eden	80	96	81
South Lakeland	259	282	306

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform.

8.7.2 As the table shows level 2 participation has increased at a steady rate over the three year period in both the North West and sub-region. At district level change is varied with Carlisle growing by 26.3 per cent in contrast with a -15.7 per cent fall in Eden.

8.7.3 The table below shows the success rates of young people in FE learning at full level 2.

**Figure 69: Young People in FE: Full Level 2 Success Rates**

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
North West	60.9%	65.3%	69.9%
Cumbria	59.0%	63.1%	68.0%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

8.7.4 The success rates of learners in Cumbria have increased at a steady pace, similar to the North West, and are currently -1.9 percentage points below the regional average.

8.7.5 The table below shows the number of starts of young people in WBL Apprenticeships (level 2) between 2004/05 and 2006/07.

**Figure 70: Number of Young People in WBL: Full Level 2 Starts**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	15380	13295	13506
Cumbria	1,361	965	1,144
Allerdale	307	150	211
Barrow-In-Furness	325	178	224
Carlisle	232	269	273
Copeland	243	146	183
Eden	91	86	92
South Lakeland	162	136	161

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

8.7.6 As shown in the table participation rates in the North West have seen a growth of 1.5 per cent between 2005/06 and 2006/07, and an overall fall of -12.2 per cent during the three year period. This trend has been mirrored in the sub-region and down to district level. Allerdale and Barrow-in-Furness have the largest growth rate of 40.6 per cent and 25.8 per cent respectively between 2005/06 and 2006/07.

8.7.7 The table below shows the success rates of young people studying WBL apprenticeships (full level 2) between 2004/05 and 2005/06 to sub-regional level.

**Figure 66a: Young People in WBL: Full Level 2 Success Rates**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	51%	58%	65%
Cheshire & Warrington	49%	56%	68%
Cumbria	55%	56%	67%
Greater Manchester	53%	56%	64%
Greater Merseyside	44%	58%	63%
Lancashire	56%	64%	71%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

8.7.8 As the table shows the Region has experienced steady improvements of success rates over the three year period. Cumbria saw a small growth between 2004/05 and 2005/06 of 1 percentage point (7 percentage points regionally) and a rapid increase of 11 percentage points in the following year, and is currently 2 percentage points above the regional average.

## 8.8 Adults

8.8.1 The number of adults studying for a full level 2 qualification in the FE sector between 2004/05 and 2006/07 are shown below. In Cumbria there were 1,839 adults studying towards an FE full level 2, representing 16 per cent of the regional total.

**Figure 71: Number of Adults in FE: Full Level 2 Participation**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	26,861	28,671	29,497
Cumbria	1,752	1,705	1,839
Allerdale	415	433	406
Barrow-in-Furness	158	194	245
Carlisle	478	457	563
Copeland	287	209	202
Eden	160	154	174
South Lakeland	254	258	249

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

8.8.2 The North West has experienced a steady increase in learner volumes since 2004/05. Learner volumes in the sub-area of Cumbria have fallen between 2004/05 and 2005/06 but risen in the following year by 7.8 per cent. The participation rates at district level in Cumbria are varied with large growth of 26.2 per cent in Barrow-in-Furness, and a reduction of -6.3 per cent in Allerdale (equating to 27 learners).

8.8.3 The table below shows FE full level 2 success rates for adult learners.

**Figure 72: Adults in FE: Full Level 2 Success Rates**

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
North West	57.8%	64.1%	68.9%
Cumbria	59.7%	71.4%	77.0%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

8.8.4 As the table shows adult success rates in Cumbria are 8.1 percentage points above the regional average in 2005/06. Success rates in the area have risen substantially by 17.3 percentage points over the three year period compared to 11.1 percentage points in the North West. The rate of growth in Cumbria has nearly halved since 2003/04 and 2004/05, increasing by only 5.6 percentage points since last year in comparison to 11.7 percentage points previously.

8.8.5 The table below shows the number of adults starting a WBL (level 2) apprenticeship at district level over the last three years.

**Figure 73: Number of Adults in WBL: Full Level 2 Starts**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	8,084	7,037	7,534
Cumbria	549	465	501
Allerdale	96	68	76
Barrow-In-Furness	74	80	83
Carlisle	158	127	120
Copeland	59	42	42
Eden	54	50	49
South Lakeland	108	98	131

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

8.8.6 As shown in the table learner numbers in the region have fallen by -6.9 per cent over the three year period with a rise of 7 per cent since last year. Cumbria has followed the regional trend with a growth of 7.7 per cent since 2005/06. Carlisle and Eden have experienced steady decline across the three years compared to a 33.6 per cent growth in South Lakeland between 2005/06 and 2006/07.

8.8.7 The table below shows success rates of adults participating in WBL apprenticeships (full level 2) between 2004/05 and 2006/07 at sub-regional level.

**Figure: Adults in WBL: Full Level 2 Success Rates**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	54%	60%	70%
Cheshire & Warrington	53%	58%	70%
Cumbria	58%	62%	69%
Greater Manchester	54%	60%	69%
Greater Merseyside	52%	57%	68%
Lancashire	56%	65%	73%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

8.8.8 Adult WBL Apprenticeship (level 2) success rates in the North West have grown by 19 percentage points over the three year period, increasing at a substantial rate between 2005/06 and 2006/07. Cumbria rates have improved at a steady rate by 11 percentage points over the three year period

## 8.9 Summary Implications for the Learning Skills Sector

8.9.1 Performance in Full level 2 courses are relatively high in Cumbria, however at district level there is disparity with some substantially good Level 2 attainment rates in South Lakeland and lower rates in Copeland. Cumbria has a higher proportion of the working age population qualified to a level 2 in comparison to national average.

- 8.9.2 As a result of the varied attainment by ages 16 and 19 providers will need to continue to work closely with Connexions to ensure that transition from school to post-16 learning is improved. It is important that there is continued developing and maintenance of the comprehensive online prospectuses in every area, and Advice and Guidance and implementation of the September Guarantee for all 16 years old and extending this to 17 year olds.
- 8.9.3 The participation of young people in FE courses has increased at a steady rate across Cumbria but success rates remain below the North West average. The area has also shown a rise in the number of young people starting WBL qualifications since 2005/06; however this varies greatly at district level. Cumbria experienced a slow growth in WBL success rates until 2005/06 after which they improved substantially, and are currently above the North West average.
- 8.9.4 The decline in young people taking up Apprenticeships (level 2) needs to be countered if we are to achieve the ambitions of Leitch and new targets. This may include the raising of knowledge and awareness amongst young people, their families/carers and teachers through campaigns and targeted work amongst those who have traditionally not participated in Apprenticeships. It is also important that we continue to attract new employers to participate in WBL programmes to continue the development of a steady route through learning and into work.
- 8.9.5 Adult participation rates in FE courses have seen a decline between 2004/05 and 2005/06 and a strong growth in the following year, due to varying performance at district level. In Cumbria the Level 2 FE success rates for young people are higher than the North West average. As with adult FE participation, WBL starts dipped between 2004/05 and 2005/06 and increased in the following year. Success rates in WBL appear to be growing at a slower pace than the region and are currently below the North West average. Due to growing plans we need to continue to target priority groups and especially those without a first full level 2. In addition it is important that we encourage engagement and participation by supporting colleges and providers to work with the voluntary and community sector to create progression pathways for people without a Level 2.
- 8.9.6 As evidenced in the North West Regional Strategic Analysis we need to encourage colleges and providers to assist workless individuals in accessing employment opportunities (especially those from BME groups, people claiming working age benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and those aged 50+) allowing and encouraging individuals who gain employment are able to complete their qualification via Train to Gain at level 2.

## SECTION:9 LEVEL 3

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### 9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 This chapter looks at participation and success rates in full level 3 learning and skills development in Cumbria. Full level 3 qualifications are essential in increasing employment opportunities and the up-skilling of the workforce.

### 9.2 Context

9.2.1 There is a growing body of evidence (including the Leitch review) that highlights the increasing importance of level 3. For example, the interim Leitch report notes that evidence of spillover effects, where lower skilled workers become more productive as a result of working with higher skilled colleagues, is only present for level 3 and above qualifications. Strong earnings returns to level 3 qualifications are also seen, indicating an impact on productivity.

9.2.2 It is also important to note that level 3 attainment is the platform for progression to HE and higher level skills, and the additional earnings and productivity benefits that this brings. These issues are discussed in further detail in the regional strategic analysis.

9.2.3 It is important to note that Level 3 qualifications are now considered the new standard going forward. Therefore increasing learner numbers at Level 2 is essential for progression to a level 3 achievement combined with the increasing growth in profile of Level 3 trials.

### 9.3 Level 3 Attainment – Young People

9.3.1 The table below shows the proportion of 19 year olds who have attained a level 3 between 2003/04 and 2005/06.

**Figure 74: Level 3 Attainment of Young People**

	Aged 19 at the end of 2003/04	Aged 19 at the end of 2004/05	Aged 19 at the end of 2005/06
Cumbria	39.9%	44.3%	45.1%
North West	38.6%	42.3%	43.1%
National	42.1%	45.6%	46.8%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

9.3.2 As shown in the table above the attainment of level 3 in the North West is lower than the National figure by -3.7 percentage points at the end of 2005/06. Attainment in Cumbria is -1.7 percentage points below the National average and 2 percentage points above the Regional average. Cumbria has also experienced the largest growth in attainment levels compared to the North West and England, growing by 5.2 percentage points over the three year period.

### 9.4 Level 3 Attainment – Adults

9.4.1 The table below shows the number and percentage of the working age population who are qualified to Level 3 across Cumbria.

**Figure 75: Adults of Working Age Qualified to Level 3**

	Working age population	Working Age Population Qualified to at least a level 3		Working Age Population Without a level 3 Qualification	
	Number (000s)	Number (000s)	Percentage (%)	Number (000s)	Percentage (%)
Allerdale	55	25	46.1%	30	53.9%
Barrow-in-Furness	43	20	47.7%	22	52.3%
Carlisle	60	28	46.3%	32	53.7%
Copeland	42	18	42.6%	24	57.4%
Eden	30	15	47.7%	16	52.3%
South Lakeland	60	30	51.0%	29	49.0%
Cumbria	290	137	47.0%	154	53.0%
North West	4,104	1,819	44.3%	2,285	55.7%
England	30,668	14,032	45.8%	16,636	54.2%

Source: Annual Population Survey

9.4.2 As the table above shows the proportion of the working age population in Cumbria who are not qualified to Level 3 is below both the regional and national averages. In Cumbria the proportion of the working age population qualified to at least a level 3 is 1.2 percentage points greater than the national average.

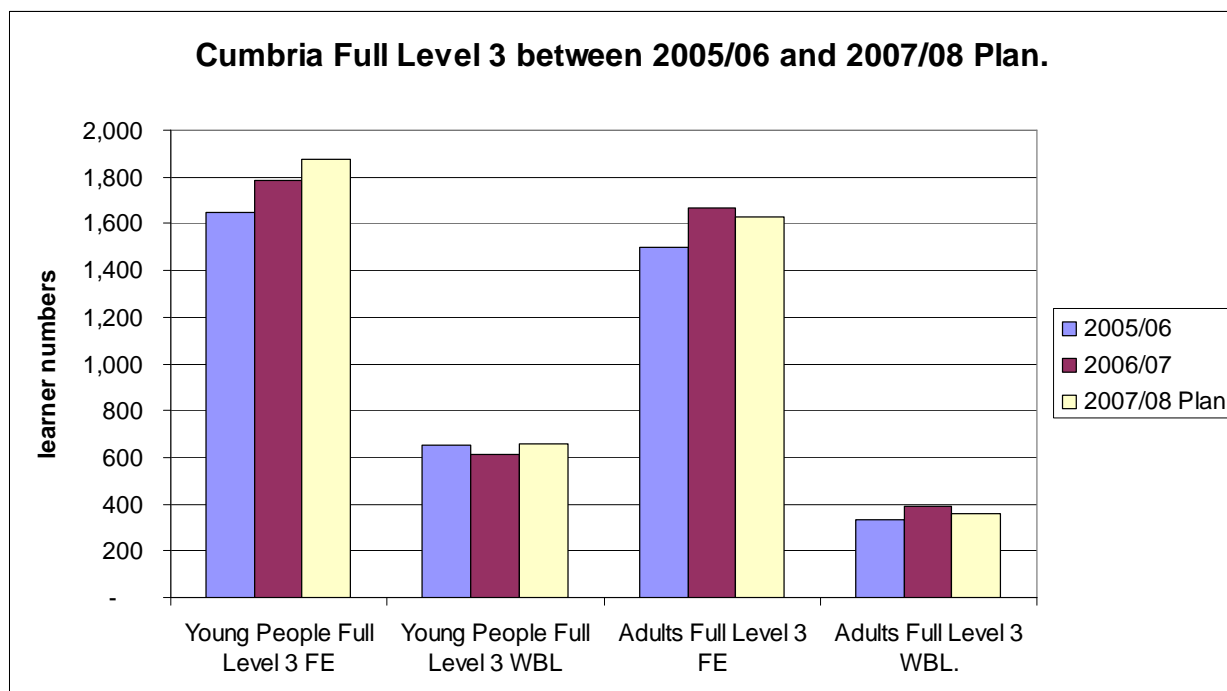
9.4.3 There is great disparity across the districts; Copeland has the largest proportion of the population without a level 3 qualification (57.4 per cent), and is currently 3.2 percentage points above the national average. South Lakeland has the lowest rate without a level 3 qualification, at 49 per cent, -5.2 percentage points below the national average. This variation also applies to the proportion of the working age with a level 3 qualification in Cumbria.

## 9.5 Plans

9.5.1 Currently the LSC does not have plan information from School Sixth Forms, but will begin to collect this information in the next year. Therefore only WBL and FE plans have been considered in this section.

9.5.2 The North West has regional plans for Level 3 participation for young people and adults. The plans show the number of full level 3 qualifications and include WBL Advanced apprenticeships and FE full level 3.

**Figure 71a76: Full Level 3 Plan 2007/08**



Source: NW LSC Performance Reporting Platform, PaMS

9.5.3 The 2007/08 plans for young people in FE full level 3 are 5 per cent higher than the area achieved in 2006/07, equating to an additional 92 learners on the 2006/07 total, and with the current growth looks to be within reach. The 2007/08 plans of young people attaining WBL Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3) in Cumbria is 656, a total of 7 per cent higher than the 2006/07 baseline figure of 615.

9.5.4 The 2007/08 plans for adults in FE Full level 3 are -3 per cent lower than what was achieved in 2006/07, equating to -42 learners less than the 2006/07 baseline of 1,668. The 2007/08 plans of adults attaining a WBL Advanced Apprenticeship (level 3) qualification is 361. In 2006/07 Cumbria achieved a total of 391 completions and therefore an -8 per cent reduction is required to meet the trajectory.

## 9.6 Supply

## 9.7 Young People

9.7.1 The number of young people studying towards a full level 3 FE qualification across Cumbria is shown below. In 2006/07 Cumbria have 1,874 learners, representing 3.6 per cent of the North West total.

**Figure 77: Number of Young People in FE: Full Level 3 Participation**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	47,753	48,337	51,206
Cumbria	1,460	1,724	1,874
Allerdale	114	201	248
Barrow-in-Furness	692	733	752
Carlisle	79	103	145
Copeland	119	158	180
Eden	54	101	98
South Lakeland	402	428	451

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

9.7.2 As the table shows participation in FE full level 3 has increased at a steady rate in the North West by a total of 7.2 per cent between 2004/05 and 2006/07. In line with the Region, Cumbria participation growth rate has increased substantially by 8.7 per cent since 2006/07. There is growth across the area at district level with the exception of Eden which has fallen by 3.6 per cent.

9.7.3 The table below shows the success rates of young people in FE full level 3 between 2003/04 and 2005/06.

**Figure 78: Young People in FE: Full Level 3 Success Rates**

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
North West	58.0%	62.2%	66.0%
Cheshire & Warrington	63.0%	61.9%	67.0%
Cumbria	55.2%	62.7%	67.7%
Greater Manchester	56.4%	64.3%	65.7%
Greater Merseyside	55.4%	57.1%	64.6%
Lancashire	59.3%	62.6%	66.2%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

9.7.4 The North West region has seen increasing success rates of 8 percentage points between 2003/04 and 2005/06, compared to a 12.5 percentage points in Cumbria. Cumbria success rates are 1.7 percentage points above the region in 2005/06.

9.7.5 The table below shows the number of young people who are starting an Advanced Apprenticeship (level 3) between 2004/05 and 2006/07.

**Figure 79: Number of Young People in WBL: Full Level 3 Starts**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	4,820	4,307	4,475
Cumbria	592	495	575
Allerdale	78	94	79
Barrow-In-Furness	191	136	163
Carlisle	117	88	87
Copeland	91	80	132
Eden	36	34	27
South Lakeland	79	63	87

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

9.7.6 As the table shows the North West has seen an overall decline of -7.2 per cent in the number of starts over the last three years, with an increase of 3.9 per cent between 2005/06 and 2006/07. Learner numbers in Cumbria have followed the Regional trend and show decline and then an increase of 16 per cent in the last year. South Lakeland has the largest growth rate of 38 per cent between 2005/06 and 2006/07 in contrast to a fall of -16 per cent in Allerdale, which has been due to a suspension of recruitment in a specific programme and the removal of poor provision.

9.7.7 The table below shows the success rates of young people studying WBL Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3) between 2004/05 and 2006/07.

**Figure 80: Young People in WBL: Full Level 3 Success Rates**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	58%	68%	72%
Cheshire & Warrington	57%	65%	73%
Cumbria	58%	77%	73%
Greater Manchester	58%	66%	66%
Greater Merseyside	51%	63%	73%
Lancashire	66%	72%	78%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

9.7.8 As shown in the table above WBL success rates in the Region have increased by 14 percentage points over the three year period compared to 15 percentage points in Cumbria. The area is currently 1 percentage point above the regional average and is in line with Cheshire and Warrington and Greater Merseyside success rates.

## 9.8 Adults

9.8.1 The number of adults studying for a full level 3 qualification in the FE sector is shown in the table below from 2004/05 to 2006/07.

**Figure 81: Number of Adults in FE: Full Level 3 Participation**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	24,604	23,838	22,768
Cumbria	1,543	1,603	1,658
Allerdale	261	302	304
Barrow-in-Furness	287	257	347
Carlisle	334	353	332
Copeland	208	216	210
Eden	102	131	122
South Lakeland	351	344	343

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

9.8.2 The North West adult level 3 participation rates have seen a steady decline of - 7.5 per cent between 2004/05 and 2006/07. Participation in Cumbria has increased by 7.4 per cent, equating to 115 learners over the three year period. At district level change in participation numbers is varied with a 35 per cent increase in Barrow-in-Furness (90 learners) in contrast to a reduction of 7 per cent in Eden.

9.8.3 Success rates in adult FE Full level 3 are shown on the following table.

**Figure 82: Adults in FE: Full Level 3 Success Rates**

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
North West	53.8%	59.0%	62.6%
Cheshire & Warrington	54.7%	62.4%	62.6%
Cumbria	53.3%	65.3%	65.5%
Greater Manchester	53.6%	59.1%	62.4%
Greater Merseyside	57.8%	62.6%	62.5%
Lancashire	49.8%	51.8%	62.4%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

9.8.4 The North West has seen an 8.8 percentage point increase in success rates over three years and is currently 62.6 per cent. Performance in Cumbria is strong with a steady growth of 12.2 percentage points in total across the three years, and is 2.9 percentage points above the regional average in 2005/06.

9.8.5 The table below shows the number of adults starting an Advanced Apprenticeship (level 3) between 2004/05 and 2006/07.

**Figure 83: Number of Adults in WBL: Full Level 3 Starts**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	4,880	4,877	5,628
Cumbria	321	329	384
Allerdale	59	56	64
Barrow-In-Furness	60	52	79
Carlisle	68	83	71
Copeland	36	45	62
Eden	34	38	37
South Lakeland	64	55	71

Source: LSC North West Residency Platform

9.8.6 The North West has seen an increase of 15.3 per cent in learner starts between 2005/06 and 2006/07 compared to 16.7 per cent growth in Cumbria. Growth is evident at district level within Cumbria, with Barrow-in-Furness increasing by 51.9 per cent (27 learners), and Copeland by 37.7 per cent (17 learners). Carlisle and Eden are the only two districts to show a reduction of starts, -14.5 per cent and - 2.7 per cent respectively.

9.8.7 The table below shows adult success rates in the North West for those studying WBL Advanced Apprenticeships (full level 3).

**Figure 84: Adults in WBL: Full Level 3 Success Rates**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	51%	58%	70%
Cheshire & Warrington	52%	60%	69%
Cumbria	57%	64%	70%
Greater Manchester	53%	58%	68%
Greater Merseyside	46%	56%	71%
Lancashire	53%	60%	74%

Source: LSC North West Reporting Platform

9.8.8 Performance in the North West region has increased at a growing rate over the last three years, growing by 19 percentage points in total. Growth in Cumbria has been slower than that in the region but is in line with the North West 2006/07 success rates in adult WBL level 3.

## 9.9 Summary Implications for the Learning Skills Sector

9.9.1 Full level 3 participation and performance in Cumbria appears reasonably stable, however as with other areas in the North West the levels of attainment vary greatly at district level. Level 3 attainment by the age of 19 in Cumbria is below the National figure, however it has experienced substantial growth in the last three years. The proportion of the working age population with a level 3 qualification is 2 percentage points above the National average. Although attainment is clearly varied the plans for 2007/08 are low with little growth for young people and with reductions in adult learners.

9.9.2 The number of young people participating in FE level 3 courses within Cumbria is growing at a steady rate with a slight decline in Eden in the last year. Success rates for 16-18 year olds on FE level 3 courses are good with steady increases. Although FE Full level 3 participation rates are improving it varies greatly by ethnic group, with a clear gap between the volume of black and ethnic minority learners in comparison to white learners.

9.9.3 The number of young people starting WBL Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3) in Cumbria showed a dip between 2004/05 and 2005/06 followed by a rise in the following year with great variation at district level. The LSC Single Equality Scheme (April 2007) states: "Members of black or ethnic minority groups form about one-tenth of the English population. They were under-represented in WBL, in full Level 2 and 3 programmes". By reviewing with providers what this means for the North West region, appropriate action can be taken to address this inequality.

9.9.4 Adult learner volumes in FE courses have experienced an overall decrease in the last three years in line with the North West and good success rates which are above the regional average. The number of adults starting WBL Advanced Apprenticeships (level 3) have grown in Cumbria with the exception of Carlisle and Eden, success rates remain strong however the growth rate is slower than the regional average. In order for consistent growth in Adult Advanced Apprenticeships across all districts in Cumbria providers will need to continue working closely with employers to encourage them to invest in training. Employers need to recognise the value in up-skilling of their workforce and the role it will play in improving productivity and competitiveness.

9.9.5 As adult learning evolves to focus on the goals of employability and progression there is a need for the learning and skills sector to target those groups at most

disadvantage in the labour market; workless individuals, residents of deprived areas, offenders etc.

## **SECTION:10 HIGHER LEVEL SKILLS (LEVEL 4+)**

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### **10.1 Introduction**

- 10.1.1 The following Chapter analyses level 4 skills in Cumbria, looking at both demand and current supply.
- 10.1.2 Higher level skills at Level 4 and above are vitally important for ensuring that the North West is able to improve its regional competitiveness: Recent growth in new jobs has been concentrated in occupations requiring intermediate and higher level skills.
- 10.1.3 Employment forecasts by occupational category suggest significant demand for Level 4+ qualifications, particularly in the Associate Professional and Professional occupational categories. There is projected expansion in jobs that require higher skills levels, to support value-added corporate strategies in an increasingly competitive global market place.

### **10.2 Context**

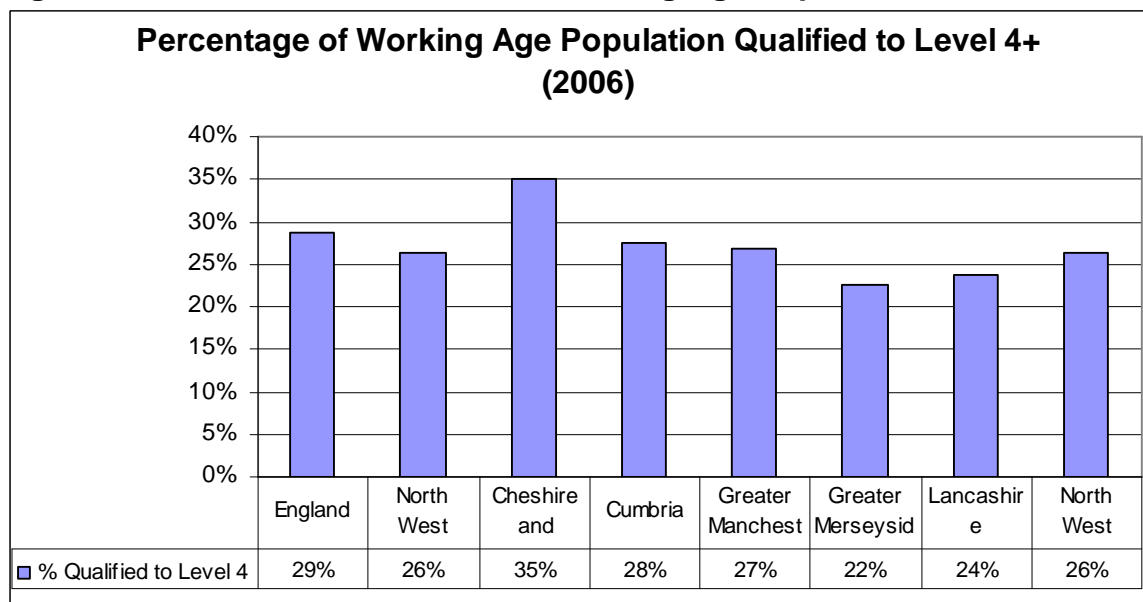
- 10.2.1 Higher level skills at Level 4 and above are vitally important for ensuring that the North West is able to improve its regional competitiveness. The Leitch review is highlighting the importance of intermediate and higher level skills to support international competitiveness and productivity, in increasingly open global markets. Sector level evidence often points to intermediate and higher level skills needs.
- 10.2.2 In the North West, recent growth in new jobs has been concentrated in occupations requiring intermediate and higher level skills. Employment forecasts by occupational category suggest significant demand for Level 3 or higher qualifications, particularly in the Associate Professional and Professional occupational categories.
- 10.2.3 Currently, the North West has a deficit in intermediate and high level skills when compared to England. If the qualification profile of the North West working age population was in-line with the England average, the region would currently have an additional 80,000 people with higher level qualifications.
- 10.2.4 The National Employer Skills Survey 2005 indicates that recruitment difficulties in the North West are most prevalent in Skilled Trades and Associate Professional occupations, where intermediate (Level 3) and high level skills will typically be required. Sector level qualitative evidence tends to highlight skills gaps at intermediate and higher levels. This reflects the forward looking nature of these studies and the projected expansion in jobs that require higher skills levels, to support value-added corporate strategies in an increasingly competitive global market place.
- 10.2.5 There is a strong sector dimension to intermediate and higher skills needs, with significant demand from the regions high growth sectors. Specific examples taken from the RES include: Energy and Environmental Technologies - deliver the National Nuclear Skills Academy; Advanced Engineering & Materials - extend "Grow Your Future Workforce" which delivers more science and engineering skills; Digital and Creative Industries - digital content development skills to support the Media Enterprise Zone, linked to the BBC relocation; and Business and Professional Services - support the development of the regional arm of the Financial Services National Skills Academy.

## 10.3 Demand

### Level 4 Attainment

10.3.1 Cumbria has the second highest rate of working age people qualified to level 4 in the North West (28%), this is above the regional average of 26 per cent, however it is just below the national rate of 29 per cent.

**Figure 80: Level 4 Attainment of the Working Age Population 2006**



Source: Annual Population Survey 2006 ONS

## 10.4 Supply

**Figure 85: Participation in FE at Level 4 (Short & Long Courses)**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
North West	10,455	10,229	9,460
Cumbria	479	512	479
Allerdale	73	89	98
Barrow-in-Furness	104	87	66
Carlisle	76	103	108
Copeland	56	68	53
Eden	59	60	41
South Lakeland	111	105	113

Source: NW LSC Performance Reporting Platform

10.4.1 Figure 85 displays participation in FE at level 4 in Cumbria. Participation levels within Cumbria are mixed with some areas showing a slight increase between 2005/06 and 2006/07 and other local areas following the regional trend of a slight decrease. Cumbria has had a 6.4 per cent reduction in learner numbers compared to a regional reduction of 7.5 per cent.

**Figure 86: FE Success Rates at Level 4+ Long Courses**

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	!	!	!
Arts, Media and Publishing	!	!	!
Business, Administration and Law	61.1%	56.7%	69.0%
Construction, Planning and the Built Environment	95.2%	63.4%	68.0%
Education and Training	60.0%	71.2%	64.5%
Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies	!	!	!
Health, Public Services and Care	19.2%	40.0%	72.5%
Information and Communication Technology	!	!	!
Languages, Literature and Culture	!	!	!
Leisure, Travel and Tourism	!	!	!
Retail and Commercial Enterprise	!	!	!
Science and Mathematics	!	!	!
Total	58.4%	61.8%	69.1%

Source: NW LSC Performance Reporting Platform

10.4.2 FE Level 4 Long Course Success Rates by sector subject area are shown in Figure 86. The overall success rate (all SSA's) has increased by 7.3 percentage points between 2004/05 and 2005/06. Many sector subject areas have no data shown due to low volumes of participants when split this way.

**Figure 87: Full & Part Time HE Provision by Institution**

	All Students	Total FE Students		Post Graduate		Undergraduates	
		Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time
The University of Bolton	8,540	85	435	760	935	3,680	2,645
University of Chester	14,120	0	0	515	2,325	7,095	4,180
Cumbria Institute of the Arts	1,810	360	410	0	40	960	35
Edge Hill University(#13)	15,645	0	0	630	4,155	5,940	4,920
Liverpool Hope University	8,205	5	45	700	1,290	4,465	1,700
Liverpool John Moores University	24,085	0	0	1,435	2,745	15,100	4,805
The University of Liverpool	20,765	0	0	1,675	2,025	13,705	3,365
The Manchester Metropolitan University	32,795	180	55	2,320	3,675	22,990	3,575
The University of Manchester	40,420	0	0	6,230	4,840	24,590	4,755
Royal Northern College of Music	650	0	0	210	0	440	0
The University of Salford	20,185	0	0	1,465	2,570	12,915	3,235
St Martin's College	12,640	0	0	845	2,425	4,580	4,790
The University of Central Lancashire	28,850	0	0	1,090	3,085	16,115	8,560
The University of Lancaster	17,415	0	0	1,725	1,885	8,195	5,615

Source: North West Universities Association

10.4.3 Cumbria Institute of the Arts has 770 FE students alongside it's 995 under-graduates and 40 post-graduate students. St Martins College has 12,640 students at either post-graduate or under-graduate level

## 10.5 Summary Implications for the Learning Skills Sector

10.5.1 The rate of achievement of level 4 in Cumbria is just below the national rate, it will be important to assess the impact of the introduction of the University of Cumbria on rates of achievement the area.

10.5.2 The ambitious targets set out for level 4 also have implications for young people, also around the issue of progression, we must seek to increase the rates of attainment of level 2 and 3 at age 16 and 19 with English, Maths and Science, in order to attain greater levels of progression into higher education.