

Skills and Talent – the national picture

- The UK is facing serious productivity and recruitment challenges
- Weak productivity growth – caused by poor skills levels of younger workers amongst other things
- “Supply shock” heading UK’s way due to decreased numbers of EU nationals
- Increase in hard-to-fill vacancies, at all skills levels, across all sectors
- So, what can be done?

Skills and Talent: What can be done?

- Government's Industrial Strategy
- Employers developing a whole-workforce strategy centring on better skills development and progression for existing staff
- 'Grow your own'
- Apprenticeships and the Apprenticeship Levy
- Support SMEs to adopt new technologies and new business techniques with necessary skills training
- Get more people into Higher Education in RELEVANT areas – be in Degrees, HNDs, Degree Apprenticeships, Levels 4-7 qualifications
- LEPs, Employers, Education and Training Providers, Local Authorities working together

Skills and Talent and the SWLEP

- Skills at the heart of Swindon and Wiltshire LEP Strategic Plan
- Skills at the heart of the Local Industrial Strategy
- SWLEP Skills and Talent sub group
- The SWLEP Skills Strategy:
 - *Apprentices - all levels*
 - *Higher Education – new higher level programmes in economic priority areas, new university model, STEM*
 - *Higher Futures – engaging with employers to drive new provision*
 - *Careers – new Careers Hub investment*
 - *Institute of Technology bid, STEM*
 - *Further Education and new higher level provision - infrastructure investment for life sciences and advanced engineering*