



**Hampshire  
and Solent**  
LSIP

DELIVERED BY



# Shape the Future of Hampshire and Solent Skills LSIP

## FE and HE Leadership Focus Group

Friday 6 March 2026



Funded by  
UK Government

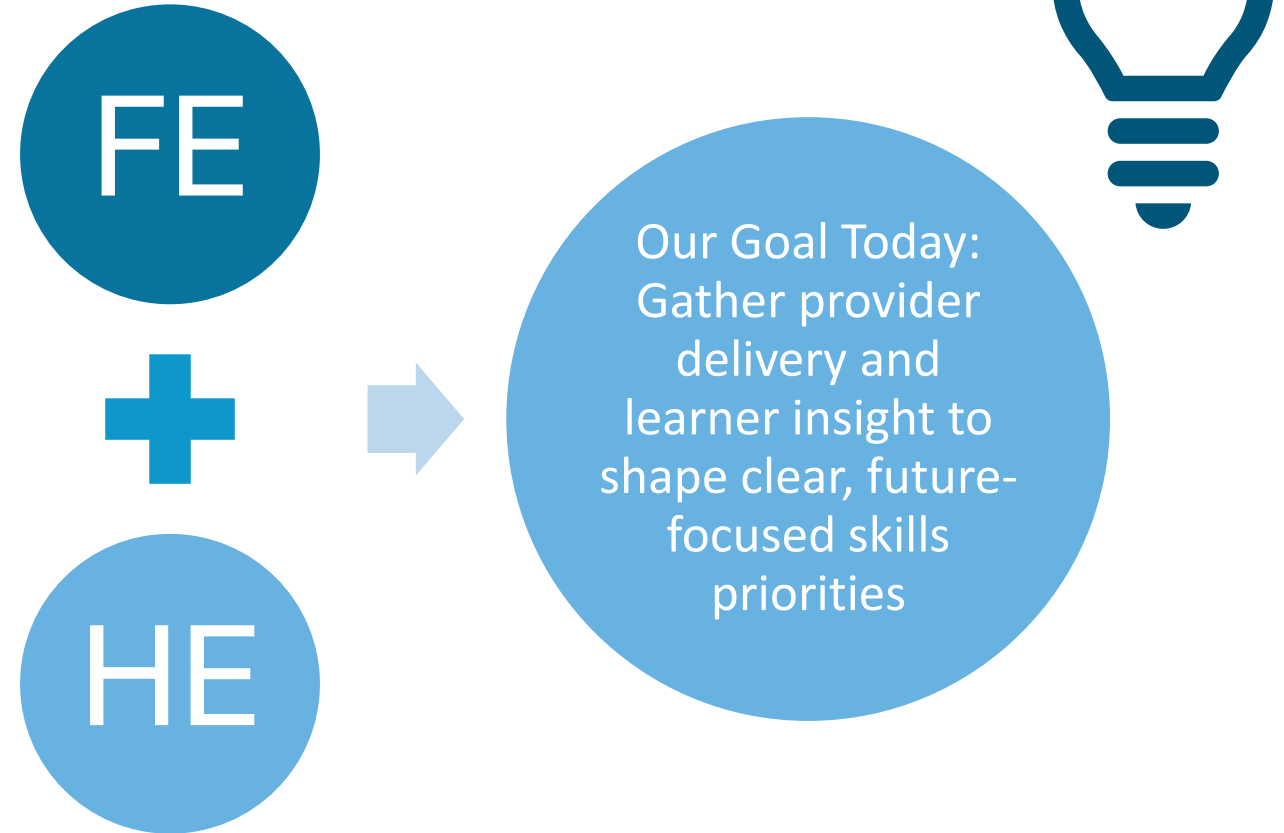
# FE and HE Leadership Focus Group Agenda

Timings	
1.00pm	Welcome & Purpose of the Session
	LSIP refresh 2026
	What we are hearing so far
1.20pm	What we need from you
	Let's discuss
	Next Steps
3.00pm	Close and Thanks

The **2026 Local Skills Improvement Plan refresh** is a key moment to refine priorities using **real-world, lived experience** from providers and employers.

To ensure the refresh reflects **what's happening on the ground**—what's working, what's changed, and where skills needs are accelerating.

# Welcome to FE and HE Leadership Focus Group



## LSIP Structure: a clearer, more navigable framework

### Pillar A:

- System & ecosystem functioning

### Pillar B:

- Learner & workforce participation needs

### Pillar C:

- Sector-specific skills need

### Cross-cutting themes

1. Digital
2. Core Skills
3. Inclusion
4. Labour Shortages
5. Green Transition

# LSIP Sectors & Priorities

## Reframed 4 Priorities

**Improve awareness, navigation and access**

**Strengthen employer participation**

**Build a responsive and inclusive ecosystem**

**Support pathways, progression and workforce transitions**

- Grounded in regional economic strategy and labour market intelligence
- Informed by employer engagement, provider input, learner voice, and community partners
- Aligns with the emerging priorities of the future Hampshire & Solent county combined authority
- Cross-cutting themes applied consistently (digital, green, inclusion, SME engagement, employability)

# LSIP Sectors & Priorities

## Top Ten priority sectors

1. Advanced manufacturing
2. Creative (film)
3. Digital and tech
4. Life sciences & Health
5. Maritime
6. Hospitality and Tourism
7. Rural Industries
8. Low-carbon tech
9. Aerospace/Space/Defence
10. Logistics
11. Construction
12. Professional Services and Business

- The LSIP refresh will feature the top three findings under each sector, ecosystem and cross cutting themes.



- Our 15 contracted partners have produced reports which cover sectors and cross cutting themes.
- These will be short report annexes and will contain deeper dive recommendations.

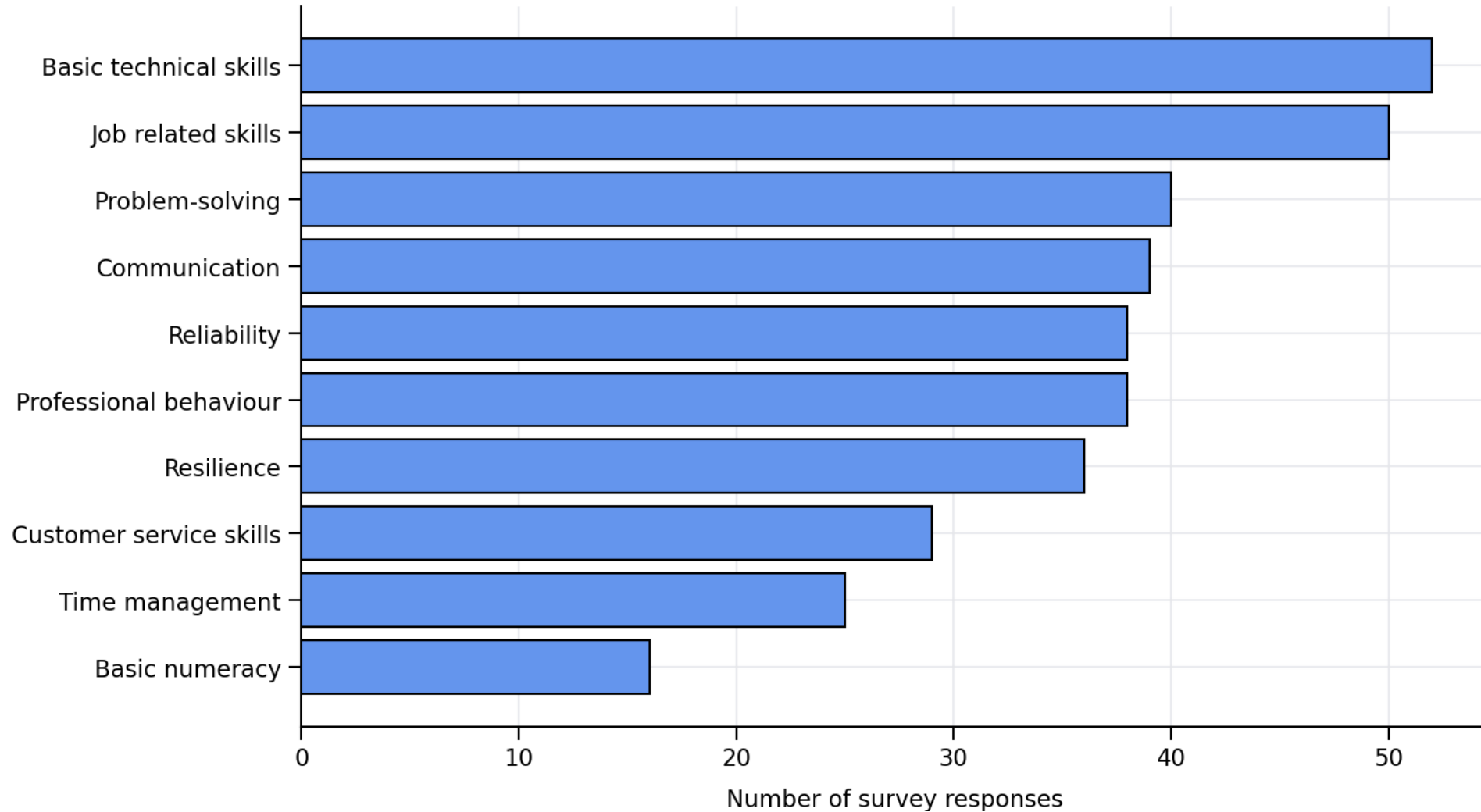


# What we are hearing so far:

Emerging Themes	Learner & Workforce Participation Needs
<b>1. Employer engagement and participation gaps</b>	Employers want simpler, more consistent ways to engage with providers.
<b>2. Ecosystem complexity and coordination challenges</b>	LSIPs emphasise the need for better alignment and less duplication.
<b>3. Technical skills shortages in priority growth sectors</b>	Priority sectors are evolving quickly, nationally - Digital, engineering, construction, green skills, and health & social care remain the most cited shortages.
<b>4. Soft, employability, and “work-ready” skills</b>	Employers report persistent gaps in work-readiness and soft skills.
<b>5. Inclusion, NEETs, and generational unemployment</b>	Young people and adults with barriers are not benefiting equally from opportunities.
<b>6. Youth unemployment and transitions</b>	Young people struggle to navigate complex pathways, and access meaningful work experience.

# What we are hearing so far

## Top 10 Skills Businesses Struggle to Find Locally



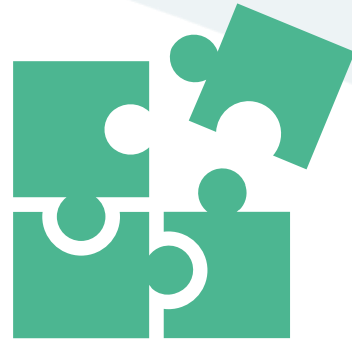
# What we are hearing so far

Right now, employers are looking for **digital, data, and technical operations skills**, with continued demand for **digital marketing and sector-specific expertise**

Future roles will be **data-driven, cyber-secure, and sustainability-aligned**, with **digital skills now essential**

# What we need from you

**Share with us your  
realities, constraints, and  
innovations!**



**What's working**

**What's not!**

**Where is alignment  
strong**

**Where is alignment  
needed**

**What would unlock  
better employer -  
provider  
collaboration**

# Let's Discuss



**Q1. Where are the biggest barriers to effective employer engagement in your provision, and what would make participation easier or more valuable for both sides?**

# Let's Discuss

**Q2. Which technical skills needs are you struggling to respond to quickly enough, and what changes would help you adapt?  
(resources, partnerships, curriculum flexibility)**



# Let's Discuss

**Q3. What are you seeing in terms of learner readiness - 'soft' (core) skills, behaviours, confidence - and what approaches are proving most effective or most challenging?**



# Let's Discuss

**Q4. How can the local system better support inclusion - NEETs, SEND learners, adults with barriers, and communities with generational unemployment - to access and sustain opportunities?**



## *Your Top 3 Takeaways from today's discussions*

**Hampshire  
and Solent**  
LSIP

DELIVERED BY



# Thanks for attending

Continue the conversation by contacting us

[Emma.winkworth@hampshirechamber.co.uk](mailto:Emma.winkworth@hampshirechamber.co.uk)

[Mandy.boughton@hampshirechamber.co.uk](mailto:Mandy.boughton@hampshirechamber.co.uk)

[Jenny.manners@hampshirechamber.co.uk](mailto:Jenny.manners@hampshirechamber.co.uk)

[Orla.wilson@hampshirechamber.co.uk](mailto:Orla.wilson@hampshirechamber.co.uk)



Funded by  
UK Government