

## Appendix: Checklist template

<b>The Regional Skills Partnership</b>	<p>The West Midlands Regional Skills Partnership is about everyone in the West Midlands : employers, learners, training providers and funders.</p> <p>A Partnership Board has been set up to lead the skills agenda in the region.</p> <p>The Partnership Board comprises a mix of employers, public and voluntary sector bodies. The Partnership is not a legal entity: it depends on the commitment and work of its individual partners to deliver its objectives.</p> <p>The Board is working with employers, individuals and training providers to create a demand-led approach.</p> <p>This demand-led approach though apparently simple, represents a major change, and like any innovation must be pursued resolutely by members of the Partnership if we are to embed it in the region.</p> <p>We don't want to – indeed, we can't - duplicate the work of individual organisations. We want to make a bigger impact by working together towards agreed, shared skills priorities and actions that have been articulated by the business community, supported by sound statistical analysis and focussed on delivery and real change in performance.</p> <p>More information can be found on our website: <a href="http://www.wmskillspartnership.co.uk">www.wmskillspartnership.co.uk</a></p>
<b>Future Possible Work</b>	<p>Below you will find the template responses that set out how the Partnership is currently addressing Sustainable Development issues. It was thought that in addition a little information about how we may possibly make an impact in the future would also add value to the response:</p> <p>In the coming years the Partnership plans to support the skill needs of sectors that have a large Sustainable Development impact for example the construction and energy industries and in addition the more generic rural skills agenda.</p> <p>It is also envisaged that we will support Leadership and Management programmes that include a component with in "future business planning" concerning long term environmental factors such as climate change that have a huge potential impact on business performance and viability.</p>

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Has the Partnership's work contributed?</b>	<b>How has work contributed/why has it not? Are there any particular barriers or challenges to sustainable outcomes? Opportunities for further contributions in the next 12 months?</b>
<b>Developing thriving sustainable communities:</b>		
Ensuring easy and equitable access to services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, regardless of ethnicity, gender, disability, sexuality, background or location	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Over the last year the Partnership through the skills team in the Regional Observatory has undertaken a considerable amount of data analysis that has examined this issue. This work informs the policy making of RSP partners and of the RSP as a whole. The RSP data reports seek to identify barriers to participation in training for individuals see <a href="http://www.wmro.org">www.wmro.org</a>
Enabling communities to participate in the decisions that affect their neighbourhoods and quality of life	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	The Partnership has worked hard to engage different communities in its work. Due the nature of the Partnership most of this work has involved the business community, however there is also a RSP workstream that specially engages with individuals (a think tank was held in September 05 subsequently followed, by a conference on "learning Communities in May 06) and a think tank has been held March 06 that looked at the skill needs of rural communities.
Addressing poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantage	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	The data group of the RSP led by the Regional Observatory has worked closely with Job Centre Plus to look at the needs of disadvantaged individuals – the outcomes have been fed into the RSP workstreams.
Improving health and reducing health inequalities by encouraging and enabling healthy lifestyles as well as protecting health and providing health services	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Not a mainstream priority of the RSP although the Partnership has a representative from the University Hospital Birmingham on the Board
Providing decent and affordable housing for all, of the right quantity, type, tenure and affordability for local needs, in clean, safe and pleasant local environments	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not directly applicable

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Has the Partnership's work contributed?</b>	<b>How has work contributed/why has it not? Are there any particular barriers or challenges to sustainable outcomes? Opportunities for further contributions in the next 12 months?</b>
Reducing crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Again data and analysis has been done looking at the qualification rates of offenders.
Improving opportunities to participate in the diverse cultural and recreational activities the West Midlands can offer	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	The Partnership includes the Sector Skills Development Agency that represents the Sector Skills Councils in the West Midlands - Creative & Cultural Skills and Skills Active (sport and leisure)
Encouraging physical development with a better balance of jobs, housing and services within each part of the Region in order to meet local needs locally and encourage stable and sustainable integrated communities	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	The RSP is interested in the geographic distribution of population and employment in the region, but needs to do more to connect with large physical developments: we are to work on this with the West Midlands Local Government Association in the context of both the RES and RSS reviews due in Autumn 06.
<b>Enhancing and protecting the environment:</b>		
Valuing, enhancing and protecting the Region's environmental assets, including the natural and built environment and the historic environment	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This is not really a part of our core activity, we are however looking into linking with the innovation strategy especially on environmental and new building technologies and new energy.
Valuing, enhancing and protecting regional biodiversity	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This is not really a part of our core activity, we are however looking into linking with the innovation strategy especially on environmental technologies and new energy.

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Land use and development that optimises the use of previously developed land and buildings and creates high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity, promote local distinctiveness and sense of place, and are well-designed	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes we do engage in this type of activity but need to do more to connect with large physical developments; we are working on this with Local Authorities. We are also looking to link with new building technologies within the construction cluster.
Local stewardship of local environments	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No the Partnership operates at a regional level. The Partnership includes the Sector Skills Development Agency that represents the Sector Skills Council Lantra (they represent the land based rural industries) with whom we engage. The Partnership also held a rural skills think tank.
Minimising air, water and soil pollution levels	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not directly applicable
Minimising the Region's contribution to the causes of climate change whilst implementing a managed response to its unavoidable impacts	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not directly applicable – although it is possible that we will work to encourage a component in future Leadership and Management courses that's looks to incorporate climate change issues into a "future planning" module along with resource use.
<b>Using natural resources prudently and efficiently:</b>		
Reducing overall energy use through increasing energy efficiency, and increasing the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not directly applicable – although a meeting has been held with Energy West Midlands to look at skills gaps in the Energy sector.

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Using natural resources such as water and minerals efficiently	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not directly applicable
Promoting and ensuring high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design, construction and maintenance of buildings	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	We are working with the relevant Sector Skills Councils and the Sector Skills Development Agency to ensure that those employed in the sector have the relevant skills to do their job well. We also collect and analyse useful related data through the RSP data group.
Ensuring the location of development makes efficient use of existing physical infrastructure and helps reduce need to travel, especially by private car	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	We are working with the relevant Sector Skills Councils and the Sector Skills Development Agency to ensure that those employed in the sector have the relevant skills to do their job well. We also collect and analyse useful related data through the RSP data group.
Increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking and reducing road traffic congestion and pollution	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	We are working with the relevant Sector Skills Councils and the Sector Skills Development Agency to ensure that those employed in the sector have the relevant skills to do their job well. We also collect and analyse useful related data through the RSP data group.
Encouraging and enabling waste minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery to divert resources away from the waste stream	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	We are working with the relevant Sector Skills Councils and the Sector Skills Development Agency to ensure that those employed in the sector have the relevant skills to do their job well. We also collect and analyse useful related data through the RSP data group.
Encouraging local sourcing of goods and materials	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	We are working with the relevant Sector Skills Councils and the Sector Skills Development Agency to ensure that those employed in the sector have the relevant skills to do their job well. We also collect and analyse useful related data through the RSP data group.

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Rewarding efficient resource use and encouraging development of alternative and renewable resources where resources are likely to become depleted	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	We are working with the relevant Sector Skills Councils and the Sector Skills Development Agency to ensure that those employed in the sector have the relevant skills to do their job well. We also collect and analyse useful related data through the RSP data group.
<b>Developing a flourishing, diverse and stable regional economy:</b>		
Achieving sustainable economic growth and prosperity for the benefit of all the Region's inhabitants	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	The Partnership is demand led with employers making a major contribution to the decision making process. The Partnership seeks to make access to support and training easier and to ensure the type and style of training meets the needs of employers and individuals. We seek to ensure that businesses and individuals understand skills needs, so as to be competitive. RSP actions are also informed by a wealth of economic data all decisions are thus aimed at achieving sustainable growth in the regional economy.
Creating high quality employment opportunities suited to the changing needs of the local workforce, whilst recognising the value and contribution of unpaid work	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	The Partnership has a workstream focused on Leadership Management and Entrepreneurship Skills the aim of this workstream ultimately is to grow the economy in the Region and create more high value added jobs. The Higher Skills for High Value added goods and services workstream also shares this goal. The Partnership Board includes a voluntary sector member who express the great value of unpaid work.
Promoting investment in future prosperity	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	A large proportion of the Partnerships work is to encourage and enable both employers and individuals to invest in skills a true and valuable "investment in future prosperity". We have data that we use that demonstrates the link between investment in skills and increased business or personal performance in the market place.
Encouraging ongoing investment and engagement in learning and skills development	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	This is the key stone of all the Partnerships work, and our major contribution to securing the sustainable development of the West Midlands region.

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Encouraging a culture of enterprise and innovation	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	We have strong link to the Enterprise board including cross board members and we are now working increasingly with the Innovation and Technology Council. The business led approach to the Partnership ensures a strong culture of enterprise through all our work. Innovation is especially prevalent in our higher skills activity.
Promoting and supporting the development of new technologies, especially those with high value and low impact	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Again the Higher Skills for Higher Value Added Goods and Services is the partnerships area that contributes most greatly to this.
Encouraging corporate social and environmental responsibility, with regional organisations and agencies leading by example	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	The Partnership has high standards of corporate governance and it is expected that all partners maintain equally high standards in this area. This has not been identified as a skill need by the Partnership to date.