LEEDS LABOUR MARKET, SKILLS IN CONTEXT AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S PROSPECTS
Overview

• Current performance of young people in labour market
• Impact of labour market trends on prospects for young people
• Implications for learning and career pathways
Unemployment rate for young people remains relatively high

Figure: Unemployment rate by age band, Leeds City Region

Source: Annual Population Survey
Employment of young people concentrated in sales / customer service and elementary roles

Figure: Profile of employment by occupation – young people (16-24), Yorkshire and the Humber

Source: Labour Force Survey
Mixed employment performance for these occupations over last decade

Figure: Trends in occupational employment, Leeds City Region

- Managers, directors: 3.0% increase (2004-2018), 3.3% increase (2012-2018)
- Professional and technical: 1.9% increase (2004-2018), 0.3% increase (2012-2018)
- Admin and secretarial: 1.9% increase (2004-2018), 1.4% increase (2012-2018)
- Skilled trades: 0.3% increase (2004-2018), 0.0% increase (2012-2018)
- Caring, Leisure And Other Service: 3.1% increase (2004-2018), 3.8% increase (2012-2018)
- Sales And Customer Service: 3.8% increase (2004-2018), -0.2% increase (2012-2018)
- Process, Plant And Machine Operatives: 0.2% increase (2004-2018), 0.0% increase (2012-2018)
- Elementary: 1.5% increase (2004-2018)

Source: Annual Population Survey
Projections suggest replacement demands will create positive recruitment need across all broad occupations.

Figure: Projected trends in job openings (000s) by occupation, 2014-2024, Leeds City Region

Source: Working Futures
However, trends could be disrupted by automation – particularly for routine and lower-skilled occupations.

Figure: % of employment at high risk of automation by occupational category, Leeds City Region

Source: LEP estimates based on Frey and Osborne (2013) and EMSI
With major implications for employment of young people

Figure: % of employment at high risk of automation by age group, Leeds City Region

Source: LEP estimates based on Frey and Osborne (2013) and EMSI
High skilled occupations main source of employment growth in City Region

Figure: Cumulative employment change by broad occupational category, Leeds City Region

Source: Annual Population Survey
Disadvantaged pupils less likely to participate in higher education

Figure: % of pupils entering higher education by free school meal status, Leeds

Source: Department for Education
Conclusions

- Some young people still find it difficult to establish themselves in labour market
- Young people are concentrated in particular occupations, some of which have poor prospects
- Automation could have particularly negative impact
- High skilled occupations are likely to offer the best employment prospects
- Widening access to higher level skills via FE / technical route as well as via academic route more important than ever