

Accountable Body	Project Name	Description	Contact for Stakeholders
Cheshire College South and West	The Digital Hub - Digital Doorstep	An innovative and agile project that can provide schools, colleges and business with the opportunity to experiment with technology and ignite an interest in digital careers within a safe and supportive environment. The project will facilitate the development of clear digital career pathways and lay the foundation skills required by today's employers and future Industries. The project focuses on developing and exploring skills and career pathways in the digital industry. Creating a portable package of specialist equipment to support the development of skills and career pathways. This includes equipment such as hand-held 3D scanners, 3D printers, 360-degree cameras and Virtual Reality/Augmented Reality headsets. Inspiring users through the use of the portable technology, enhancing curriculum by identifying how technology is used within the work place. Businesses will also have use of the equipment, to support training and development of their workforce, and the option to try products before investing. 360-degree cameras when paired with VR and AR headsets allow learners to be transported to different settings that may otherwise be unobtainable. 3D scanners and printers allow for an hands on experience of developments in the digital industries. The portable package will be taken out to local schools, colleges, businesses and the wider community.	Jackie Rogers jacqueline.rogers@ccsw.ac.uk
Livewire	Made.Digital	The digital creative skills we propose to build into our outreach programme are the ones highlighted by the Government and economists as being necessary for the workforce of the future and the critical thinking skills crucial to the development of digital economies, communications and smart cities. Young people will learn how to use technology to their benefit and understand how it works, and rather than being passive consumers of tablets or smart phones they will be able to create them and design equipment themselves. They make friends and connections and learn how to work in teams, all the time developing critical thinking skills needed for the creative industries and businesses of the future. Stage 1 of the programme will consist of 3 strands of training workshops: Culture Warrington will create 10 bespoke training workshops (monthly) for 30 local artists and small business' ranging from simple word press and social media training to AR and coding designed to upskill local business and develop artists creativity. Penketh Spark will create 10 bespoke training workshops for Warrington schools with education/ STEAM focus. Live Wire Warrington will develop specialist training workshops to library branches to upskill staff to deliver a varied programme of digital technology workshops throughout the borough. Stage 2: Still to be developed following the outcome of stage 1 but will consist of the delivery of digital workshops in the community and school, working together to create wider opportunities such as paid work for artists, make fest.	Leah Biddle lbiddle@culturewarrington.org
UTC Warrington	Cyber Security and Networking Lab	An investment in specialist equipment to support the development of computer network management and cyber security skills. The equipment will complement the UTC's cyber curriculum. The equipment will be located at Warrington UTC but can be moved and installed at a range of temporary sites.	Chris Hatherall chatherall@UTCW.co.uk
Warrington and Vale Royal College	Community Digital Learning Hub - Winsford and Northwich	The project will provide digital equipment for use in the community by adult learners and the workforce of local businesses, situated in 'Community Digital Learning Hubs' at Northwich and Winsford libraries. The college will co-locate some of its adult and community (ACL) provision at the libraries and will augment existing learning opportunities there, primarily focusing upon digital familiarisation and upskilling. The project will used to offer multiple types of digital training. In addition to digital basic, the college will offer coding and 3D design training. As well as engaging a range of learners with this technology, the college will upskill a range of volunteers, currently engaged in work with the libraries, to add to their skill-set and experience. There is already an existing 'IT buddy' volunteer offer in CW&C libraries and this would allow for expansion of this, further inspiring residents, especially those progressing into employment, to engage with digital learning and upskilling. It will upskill a wide range of residents who are potential workforce for businesses. The project will be used by adult learners primarily, it will also be available for library staff and volunteers to use with children and young people, expanding the library service's existing coding and digital club offer which has been restricted in the past by lack of access to equipment and trained volunteers.	Cath Brierley cbrierley@wvr.ac.uk
YouthFed	Yocto Digital	The Up Skill Cyber Academy project operates to achieve the following two main Goals: - Cyber Skills: Inspire potential talents and bridge the gaps to create a pipeline for cybersecurity. - Cyber Safety: Make people safe in the digital world. The programme is aimed at people who are interested in gaining cyber and digital skills or simply wish to know more about cybersecurity - even with no related background or prior knowledge. At the Security Operations Centre (SOC), our operatives run a series of workshops starting with the Cyber Security Taster Session. During these workshops, participants have the chance to do some threat hunting and cybersecurity simulations on 'real-time' cyberattacks. Participants will then engage in a series of exercises designed to get them thinking like cybersecurity professionals.	Rozita Karami Rozita.Karami@Youthfed.org
<b>Medium Projects - £100k - £300k</b>			
Astra Zeneca	STEM Centre / Digital Innovation Hub	This project uses a building located in the centre of the site. Previously it was a meeting room which was underutilised. As a result this space has been refurbished for this project. This project will act as a central hub for the site to visit and explore all the new and innovative technologies which we could see providing huge potential business benefit. This space will also be used for STEM related activities as well. For example we can conduct STEM lessons or use the space to house work experience students who can play with and explore the technology.	George Scott george.scott@astrazeneca.com
Carpe Diem	Inspiration Open To All - IOTA	A 21st Century Skills Lab, open to all (Inspiration Open To All - IOTA) . With hands-on workshops, in Warrington's Pyramid, IOTA will inspire and train participants to increase their STEM confidence and raise aspirations across new technology and advanced engineering.  Centrally located for onsite learning and the distribution of portable resources to ensure the greatest possible public access; IOTA's highly qualified trainers will utilise specialist equipment manufactured by the world's leading education brands.  Delivering programme streams based on industry specific and curriculum-based needs; IOTA will address the challenge of our localised skills gaps and the contention that "You can't be, what you can't see".	Bill Carr bill.carr@carpe-diem.co.uk
Cheshire College South and West / UTC Warrington / Warrington and Vale Royal College	Widening Access to Technology and Digital Skills	Jointly managed by Cheshire College South & West, Warrington Vale Royal and UTC Warrington. Working collaboratively with community organisations, raising awareness then educating individuals from identified neighbourhoods where there is little or no digital understanding and capability. The project will facilitate access to technology empowering businesses and participants alike to gain confidence in digital applications, enabling full utilisation of their existing technology. Inspiring and engaging bitesize training will provide a passport onto Further Education. The project will assist the LEP to mitigate the economic downturn, delivering recovery through improvement of digital skills within the region and raising opportunities for employability.  The mobile equipment will bring technology to communities and businesses. Some of the equipment will be used to record training sessions, enabling remote digital skills training to take place at a time and venue to suit.	Jackie Rogers jacqueline.rogers@ccsw.ac.uk
Warrington Vale Royal / Cheshire College South & West / Macclesfield College / Reaseheath College / UTC Warrington.	Digitalisation of Construction	Advanced Construction Training (ACT centres)  The investment will equip five Advanced Construction Training (ACT) centres that span Cheshire and Warrington through a 'hub and spoke' model.  The ACT centres and will drive collaboration between the partner colleges, the UTC and employers to develop, commercialise and promote digital technologies and skills training for construction, nuclear and allied industries. The ACT hub and spokes aim to assist the industry to build high quality, smart, green and efficient building infrastructures, faster, cheaper and more sustainably than ever before.  The specialist equipment being purchased through the investment has been agreed upon following consultation with employers and will enhance existing resources at each of the partner colleges. The acquisition of this specialist equipment will enable the ACT centres to develop into a sub-regional 'centre of excellence' for advanced construction through a 'hub and spoke' model that meets employers' and the LEP's stated ambition to raise levels of productivity and innovation to compete at the highest level.	Cath Brierley cbrierley@wvr.ac.uk

Accountable Body	Project Name	Description	Contact for Stakeholders
<b>Large Projects - £500k - £1 million</b>			
Cheshire College South and West	The Digital Hub - Project 4.0 - Crewe and Ellesmere Port	The development of a Digital Hub that will contain specialist cutting-edge equipment to support the transformation and acceleration of Digital and Advanced Manufacturing skills across Cheshire and Warrington. The inspirational Digital Hub, in line with Industry 4.0 will be made available to all. A mobile training centre will provide outreach services to those areas of the region further away from the Digital Hub. The College will provide courses to upskill and reskill existing workforces and work closely with schools and Colleges to promote digital as the career choice to future workforces. Using both immersive virtual and augmented reality, we will be able to show the direct application of theory to practical problem solving within the production environment. In addition, we will demonstrate how the innovative application of digital technology and advanced manufacturing has completely changed the face of business operations improving productivity and effectiveness, providing sustainability and new platforms for business growth.	Jackie Rogers jacqueline.rogers@ccsw.ac.uk
Macclesfield College	Macclesfield College Digital Skills Hub	The digital sector's important contribution to the economy is widely recognised. It is not only significant, but also disrupting traditional business models and providing support for other key industries in enabling them to be increasingly innovative and productive. The project intends to provide new opportunities to engage businesses and individuals in digital skills. It will focus on providing a range of learners, employers and businesses with programmes that will help to increase digital and STEM related skills within the region. In response to both national and regional feedback from businesses, and to achieve success for employers within Cheshire, the College's Digital Skills Hub will provide opportunities for a range of skills development and expertise. The project is split into five areas: agile project management; UX/UI user experience and user interface design; cyber-security; coding; and robotics. It will be for mixed use by both learners within an education setting and from businesses across the region, but will also include a mobile element which will prioritise the development of foundation skills that will underpin all essential digital skills. The digital enhancements and programmes that will be offered and supported by the Hub will contribute towards the wider objective of linking the areas' digital capabilities to drive digital developments in key sectors across the economy. Through close collaboration with employers, the Hub will deliver more relevant and job-related training befitting the skills requirements. The Hub will also develop an outreach programme and community-based offer.	Lucy Reed Lucy.reed@macclesfield.ac.uk
Reaseheath College	Reaseheath Centre for Dairy Automation and Robotic Milking	The Centre for Dairy Automation and Robotic Milking at Reaseheath College will respond to the skills needs of the dairy sector in Cheshire and Warrington, the north west region, and the wider dairy industry. Cheshire has the second largest population, by county, of dairy cows in England with 93,000 adult breeding animals on around 450 farms. When neighbouring counties within one hour driving time of Reaseheath College are included, there are 295,000 adult breeding animals on some 1,600 farms (approximately 25% of the dairy cow population). It is estimated that 900-1,000 farms in England and Wales are now using automatic milking systems (around 10% of all farms). Industry data indicates that 50% of dairy farms will need to move to robotic milking systems over the next 10 years in order to remain viable. The dairy industry is facing significant challenges in attracting/recruiting trained and skilled labour for the robotic milking sector. This is expected to continue whilst at the same time, training, education and skills provision relating to automation, robotics and data management and use, throughout the region, is limited. Potential employment opportunities within Cheshire and neighbouring counties may be as high as 800 digital and STEM skilled workers over a 10-year period. As such, the Centre at Reaseheath College will play a significant role in creating future high-quality jobs by providing people with the skills and training, as well as changing the mindset within the sector.	Simon Burgess Simon.Burgess@reaseheath.ac.uk
Reaseheath College	Reaseheath Vertical Farming Centre	Vertical farming is a relatively new but increasingly important method of food production where growing units are stacked vertically, and temperature, light, humidity, CO2, nutrients and water are precisely supplied to growing plants under carefully controlled conditions. Vertical farming systems are data driven and use technologies such as LED lighting, hydroponic/aeroponic growing systems, robotics, automated environmental and nutrient control, and enhanced biosecurity, to optimise crop production. Vertical farming systems can increase yields by up to 200% compared with traditional glasshouse operations. They allow produce to be grown in urban locations and on demand, contribute to food security (at a time of climate change and extreme weather events), reduce the footprint of production facilities (compared with glass houses/polytunnels), and can reduce fresh food waste by up to 90%. There is estimated to be 700+ production horticulture businesses in the northwest, employing over 6,000 workers. An ageing workforce and recruiting/retaining staff skilled and competent in using digital and advanced systems/technologies, are real challenges. The Reaseheath Vertical Farming Centre will grow a variety of salads, herbs and high value plants, including nutraceuticals, superfoods and phytonutrient-rich specialist crops. It will have sufficient scale, and will use technology, systems and processes, that are relevant to employers' operations, supporting career progression and ensuring that the training and education provided has real value and impact.	Simon Burgess Simon.Burgess@reaseheath.ac.uk
University of Chester	High Performance Private Cloud	To build a client-server computing environment for mixed use by Industry and Education. The equipment will be split into two parts: Private Cloud Server and Network estate (hosted within The University's Riverside Data Centre) for remote access by businesses/individuals from across Cheshire and Warrington). The cloud can host learning materials, allow learners access to software (which would usually be costly for an individual or SME's to purchase) and reduce the need for learners/trainers to travel. Fixed and mobile client access devices, to help demonstrate to businesses and individuals the benefits of using the cloud – the project will buy and equip a van, including tablets/laptops, 3D scanners, drones and Hololense. The project can support other skills projects, via remote use of the private cloud, including the Accelerate project.	Brian Fitzpatrick b.fitzpatrick@chester.ac.uk
Warrington and Vale Royal College (Warrington)	AMET Centres at Warrington & Vale Royal College (Advanced Manufacturing Engineering Training Centres) Warrington and Winsford Campus	The Two AMET centres are situated at each of the college's campuses in Warrington and Winsford housing much needed industry-specific, specialist equipment used to enhance the skills of prospective and current employees in the engineering and manufacturing industries. The AMET centres will build on the significant strength of advanced manufacturing and engineering across Cheshire and Warrington, enhances Industrial Digital Technologies ('IDTs') to improve processes, productivity and therefore drive the economy The AMET centres will enhance the skills of prospective and current employees through the acquisition of much needed industry-specific, specialist equipment, primarily for skills training and technical education that meets employers' and sectoral needs. The AMET centres will be accessible to employers, other training providers and schools across the Warrington and Vale Royal areas. The AMET centres will be part of the LEPs VIOT (Virtual Institute of Technology). The specialist equipment has been agreed following consultation with employers and will enhance existing engineering resources at the college's campuses. This specialist equipment will enable the college to develop into a sub-regional 'centre of excellence' for advanced manufacturing and engineering and a 'hub' that meets employers' and the LEP's stated ambition to raise levels of productivity and innovation to compete at the highest level. The AMET Centres aligns closely with the UK's Industrial Strategy, Made Smarter Strategy, the ambitions articulated in the SEP to be outward facing, supporting growth, innovation and new thinking through the use of specialist equipment. The AMET centres align and supports the UK's Industrial Strategy, building on the significant strength of advanced manufacturing and engineering across Cheshire and Warrington, focusing on the potential to increase business productivity and resilience through investment in skills and industries. The centres will assure that the college plays a full and active role in building the Northern Powerhouse.	Cath Brierley cbrierley@wvr.ac.uk