

AIREDALE PARTNERSHIP

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KEIGHLEY
WEST YORKSHIRE
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**A FULL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION REPORT FOR
THE YEAR APRIL 2004 TO MARCH 2005**



AIREDALE
PARTNERSHIP

CONTENTS

Airedale Partnership The strategic context for the Partnership	Page 3
Project Overview Rationale for the establishment of Partnership	Page 4
Summary Summary of the report	Page 5
Project Descriptions Outline descriptions of all the projects and their aims	Page 6
Progress to Date Narrative describing the progress and achievements to date on all the projects	Page 7
Future Developments Brief listing of project activity and targets expected in the next quarter October to December 2004 including contact details for the report	Page 35
Appendix 1	Page 36
Appendix 2	Page 37
Appendix 3	Page 38
Acknowledgements	Page 39

AIREDALE PARTNERSHIP

Airedale was identified in a strategic context through the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Economic Strategy, The West Yorkshire Action Plan and Bradford Metropolitan District Council's Regeneration Strategy, as a location for key companies and clusters, for investment opportunities and employments sites as well as having an attractive environment with urban centres and recent road and public transport investment.

At the time of the establishment of the Urban Regeneration Company, the Council Executive asked for proposals that met the needs of the wider district to include urban centres, areas of brownfield and industrial development.

After major consultation between June and November 2002 The Airedale Partnership was established with a shadow board being formed in December 2002. The Board now fully constituted has 8 members 50% of which are private sector representatives with the remaining members representing Bradford Vision, The Learning Partnership and Bradford Council.

The Partnership aims to bring about the economic regeneration of Airedale by:

- Bringing key employment sites into use
- Stimulate the growth and development of key clusters such as Advanced Manufacturing and Digital
- Promote connectivity
- Support the renaissance of the urban centres
- Ensure appropriate skill development and connect local people to economic opportunities
- Develop initiatives for the rural economy
- Develop cross boundary initiatives with Leeds and Craven as a corridor for investment

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Bradford's 2020 Vision identified Airedale as one of the keys to economic regeneration of the district. The Airedale Partnership has been established to act as a catalyst for the development of key employment sites, lead the renaissance of the town centres, co-ordinate business support, training and jobs match and develop cross boundary initiatives with Leeds and Craven in the joint promotion and development of the Aire corridor as a focus for the growth of knowledge rich industries, particularly in the digital and advanced manufacturing clusters.

The project was developed in response to the recommendations of the Employment, Skills and Training Surveys undertaken by Evaluation Research and Strategies (ERS) and funded through Sub Regional Action Plan 1 funding (SRAP1).

The project aimed to undertake a range of actions to address the skills and training needs of businesses identified by the research and connect local communities to economic activity and employment opportunities.

SUMMARY

The last 12 months have seen much activity in establishing the business network and delivering the milestones, outputs and outcomes of the individual projects.

The vast majority of outcomes etc have been delivered on target. Only two projects have a small number of outputs to deliver namely the completion of the ICT Apprentices programme and two events for the Construction Network.

The 6 business network events have managed to cover a wide range of topics as well as attract a wide range of companies and speakers. In total nearly 200 different organisations have had contact through the events with over 450 attendances. In addition a further 5 events and over 30 companies have taken part in the Construction Network

The projects have delivered over 40 (30 hour) learning opportunities so far with another 30 over the coming weeks with childcare support to enable unemployed learners re-enter the labour market. One building has been refurbished with part funding through this funding, broadband connection has been maintained in three community centres and a web portal has been established for the Airedale Partnership.

The wheels2work programme which has been jointly supported has enabled a further 5 people access employment and training. As well as the 5 companies who have benefited from new employees through w2w another 30 new businesses have been supported through the Airedale Enterprise Service (formerly Keighley Local Enterprise Agency). Finally four jobs have either been fully or part funded to deliver the projects.

The work undertaken over the last 12 months has created a strong base on which to help deliver further regeneration activities within Airedale and we look forward to consolidating much of the work which has been carried out and continued work with our partners.

PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

The following information provides descriptions of each of the projects which have been undertaken during the year.

Brokerage Co-ordinator – to help facilitate links between businesses in Airedale and Yorkshire Forwards cluster and sector training brokers, review and monitor local delivery of cluster broker initiative and to produce case studies to inform future investments.

Business Network – to develop an Airedale Business Network with a web portal to support local businesses, linking them to services across the district.

Connectivity Feasibility Study – to undertake an ICT feasibility study to map the geographical spread of broadband connectivity in Airedale and to identify viable solutions to connect those businesses and communities not able to take up broadband.

Construction Network – working within the construction industry to connect communities to economic activity, to develop better connections to local construction companies, to improve education, learning and skills acquisition. Improve the skills of existing employees and encourage new business start-ups.

Childcare Provision – provide childcare support to learners.

Learning Node – to support the establishment of a learning node of Shipley College in Bingley.

Wheels 2 Work – to provide mopeds to help young people from rural areas access jobs and training.

Community based ICT Broadband Connection – to connect 3 community centres to broadband.

ICT Apprentices – This project aims to help build the capacity of community organisations through the recruitment of 10 ICT apprentices to work in the community centres.

New Business Start-Ups – Funding has been awarded to Keighley Local Enterprise Agency to support 30 new business start-ups.

PROGRESS TO DATE

All project managers, funding, milestones, outputs and outcomes for all the individual projects were negotiated and agreed between Bradford Council (as the Accountable Body for the Airedale Partnership) and the Learning and Skills Council and its sub contractors. The majority of projects have completed their targets within agreed timescales with only two carrying outcomes into the next financial year 2005/06.

Connectivity Feasibility Study

This project which was completed in October 2004 and had a brief to commission a consultancy based connectivity feasibility study that would:

- Identify the current state and availability of broadband in Airedale
- Provide a physical map plotting connected sites relating to major providers such as schools, colleges, libraries, UK Online Centres and identifying gaps
- Identify relevant target groups for accessing e-learning opportunities e.g. rural businesses in agriculture and tourism, disadvantaged communities in urban areas such as Keighley and Shipley East, other small and large businesses in a range of sectors
- Identify access to ICT and where possible and appropriate the training needs of these groups
- Identify and analyse appropriate, sustainable connectivity solutions, considering all reasonable options such as fixed connections wireless and satellite
- Develop a series of cost benefit models based on a range of current supplier prices
- Make recommendations as to a solution or series of options for connectivity that would contribute to a wider master plan for Airedale
- Examine how current government initiatives and funding streams could assist the recommended infrastructure developments

To achieve this, the following work was carried out:

- The study involved various methods of research including, web based, telephone and e-mail, meetings, visits, a survey of 500 local businesses and a 'mystery shopper' exercise.
- Meetings of the steering group were held on 13 and 26 July, 4 August, 3 and 17 September. With the final drafting of the report during week commencing 27 September.
- Availability of Broadband was described.
- Existing e-learning centres were identified with existing connectivity and described in detail.

-
- Connectivity has been mapped where there is sufficient information.
 - Meeting the needs of learners and businesses was discussed.
 - Options for future development were discussed.
 - Interim and final reports were produced.

Post Completion of the final report:

The report was publicly launched at the ‘Connectivity’ event held on 9 December 2004 at the Ramada Bankfield Hotel, Bingley. It is also available on www.airedalepartnership.org under the reports section.

The project steering group met after the event to consider how to develop the findings from the report and take them forward as either potential projects or to ensure that the mechanisms are in place or the appropriate people know about them to support them.

It was agreed that the recommendations from the report would be taken to the Airedale Partnership Board for their guidance on how to take ideas forward.

Coinciding with the completion of the connectivity study was the work that the consultants Arup undertook to develop a masterplan and strategy for Airedale. The wide ranging masterplan, Airedale Corridors has now incorporated the findings from the connectivity study particularly through the development of the Shipley College Learning Line and improved connectivity and the importance of e-learning in the future.

ACHIEVEMENTS

MILESTONES

Tenders issued and consultants appointed

OUTPUTS

Interim report produced

OUTCOMES

Final report issued

Business Network/Brokerage Management

Brokerage Co Coordinator

The appointment of Robert Brough to the post of Brokerage and Network Co-ordinator was confirmed in October 2004. Robert had been working in this post for the previous six months.

Business Network

Aim of the network: Is to provide a sensitive mechanism for senior executives to become more aware of global business opportunities and threats and present support agencies, including cluster and sector training brokers established by Yorkshire Forward and The Learning and Skills Council, with an entry point to address high level skills deficiencies. The Network will include high level mentoring and collaborative learning from members of the peer group.

Initial activities:

An initial meeting was held between The Learning and Skills Council for West Yorkshire, the three Cluster Brokers, Advanced Engineering and Metals, Chemicals and Bioscience and Digital Industries, and the Airedale Partnership on 13 May 2004. The main aim of the meeting was to introduce the cluster managers to each other and to enable the different clusters to begin to work together to develop the business network, good practice and partnership working. Discussions at the meeting covered the following topics:

Tendering and Contracting
Profiling
Graduate Retention
Innovation and Creativity

This allowed constructive dialogue between the Cluster Managers and some areas of common interest became apparent. As a result of that first meeting individual follow on meetings were arranged with the 3 cluster brokers to further develop links with the Airedale Partnership and establish a programme of events for the coming year, the dates for the meetings were agreed as follows:

25 June 2004 - Advanced Engineering and Metals
28 June 2004 – Chemicals and Bioscience
6 July 2004 – Digital Industries

A second meeting of the cluster brokers was held on 7 September with a detailed presentation on the Business Innovation Framework and further updates on progress of cluster broker development.

A joint event was agreed with the Digital Cluster which was held in November 2004. Events with the other cluster brokers were unable to be held last year but it is hoped that future joint events could be held with the Advanced Engineering and the Chemical and Bioscience clusters in the future.

Further discussions also took place between the Partnership and the Airedale and Bradford Manufacturing Alliance (*see appendix 1 for a description of the Alliance*) to strengthen links and develop joint network events within the manufacturing sector.

Development of the Network:

Facing the green challenge

The first network event working with the Airedale and Bradford Manufacturing Alliance was held on 30 September at the Bradford & Bingley RFC and promoted environmental issues facing businesses.

The speakers attending were:

Peter Scholes – Urban Mines
John Frank – Business Link West Yorkshire
Iain Copping – Sustainability UK Ltd
Ian Sibbick – Carbon Trust

Business Funding

The second networking event again with the Alliance was held on the 4 November at Bradford City AFC where approximately 60 people attended. It was an excellent opportunity for businesses to see the availability of funding to support them.

Speakers attending were:

Andrew Holmes – Project Manager, West Yorkshire Manufacturing Excellence Club
David Little – SME Support Network, University of Huddersfield
Stuart Byrnes – Invest In Bradford
David Robertson-Brown – Business Link for West Yorkshire
Iain Copping – Sustainability (UK) Ltd

Digital Creative & Media

The third networking event was held on 22 November it focused on the digital sector and was organised jointly with The New Technology Institute, www.nti-westyorkshire.ac.uk (see appendix 2 for details). Approximately 40 people attended and heard the following speakers:

Stuart McFarlane – Vision for the Digital Cluster, Yorkshire Forward
Steve Ding – Work and Role of bmedi@
Linda Broughton – Skills and Workforce Development
Martin Powderly – A digital perspective, Hallmark Cards
Mike Osborne – Arup, the digital implications on the Airedale Masterplan

Connectivity

The fourth network event was held on 9 December at the Ramada Bankfield Hotel, Cottingley where over 40 people attended to hear speakers from Palmedia, www.palmedia.co.uk, British Telecom and the Broadband Airedale and Wharfedale (bbaw) project.

The event saw the launch of the Connecting Airedale Study into the availability of broadband and e-learning in Airedale, what the benefits to businesses of broadband are and an update on the progress of the bbaw project. www.bbaw.com

Lean Manufacturing

The fifth network event was held on 28 February 2005 where Professor David Little of the West Yorkshire Manufacturing Club gave an excellent slide presentation and talk on ways and methods that manufacturing companies can employ to develop a 'lean' approach to production. The event was well attended with different business from Airedale.

Airedale Masterplan & Strategy Launch

The sixth and final event of this year's programme of business network events was held on 15 March and saw the public launch of the Masterplan and Strategy for Airedale.

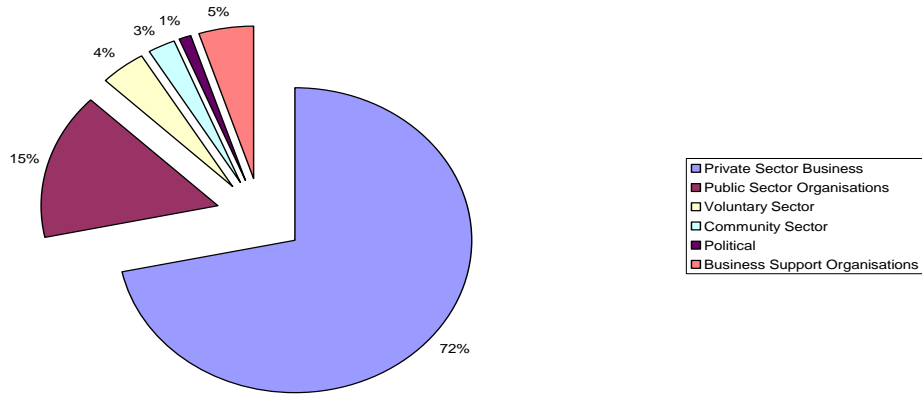
The launch was held in Dalton Mills a former worsted manufacturing mill on Dalton Lane, Keighley. It was attended by over 150 guests from all types of organisations across Airedale and saw the formal launch of the masterplan and strategy with an introduction by Cllr Simon Cooke, Chair of the Airedale Partnership and a presentation by Mike Osborne, Project Director of the proposals for the future regeneration of the area.

The Airedale Corridors masterplan is based on three main themes, the Connected, Lifestyle and the Creative Corridors.

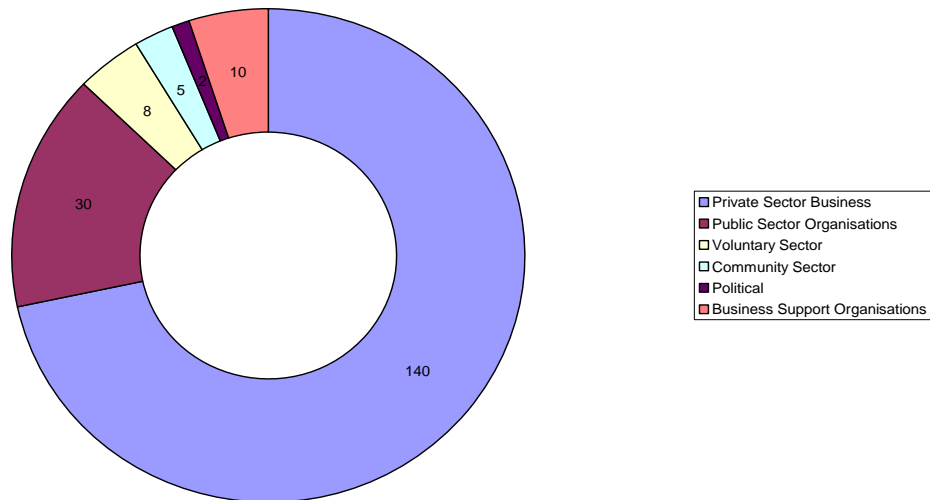
A full copy of the Airedale Corridors can be seen on the Airedale Partnership website www.airedalepartnership.org

The breakdown of the attendance at the business network events by organisation type and numbers was as follows:

% Breakdown of Organisation Type Attending



Breakdown of Numbers of Organisations in Type



General feedback from events so far:

Summary of evaluations of Business Network events to 28 February 2005

	poor	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent	Total
The overall quality of the event was	0	6	21	24	51
The capability of speakers was	0	5	20	26	51
The benefits gained from attending	1	18	21	11	51
Quality of the venue	0	4	32	15	51

The feedback represents about 27% of the 186 delegates attending five of the networking events that were topic specific.

Bingley Business Forum

An invitation was received to attend the newly reformed Bingley Business Forum. This gave us the opportunity to explain about the work of the Partnership and the developing masterplan to businesses and organisations in the Bingley area. Through the Chair, it also enables us to get information to organisations through the 'members' mailing list.

Skills Bridge

A meeting was held with Skills Bridge, a Bradford and District Learning Partnership initiative to help intermediaries and those working with businesses on workforce development with the aim of extended links with business and other key agencies within Airedale.

Keighley Economy Group

Presentations were also made to the Keighley Economy Group on the work of The Partnership and the masterplan.

ACHIEVEMENTS

MILESTONES

First Business Network event held	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Second Business Network event held	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Third Business Network event held	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fourth Business Network event held	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fifth Business Network Event	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Sixth Business Network event

Establishment of Network and development Programme of events

OUTPUTS

Production of quarterly Progress and Management report March 2004

Production of quarterly Progress and Management report June 2004

Production of quarterly Progress and Management report September 2004

Production of quarterly Progress and Management Report October 2004

Production of the interim report on the impact of the network

OUTCOMES

Production of the end of project progress and Management report March 2005

Production of Annual Report

Web Portal

The Airedale Partnership website now fully operational and hosted through Bradford Council is being updated on a weekly basis and is primarily used to keep the public, organisations and businesses informed of the progress of the work of the Airedale Partnership.

News stories, business networking events, Board minutes, documents and reports are all available to view and download.

There are also many important links to other key organisations which can be simply accessed by just clicking on the links heading.

The web address is www.airedalepartnership.org

The site has the following contents:

Menu
Homepage
Contact us
Links
Sitemap
Resources
Events
News
Masterplan
Projects
About us

The site is essential to the establishment of the business network and aims to:

- To act as single access point for businesses and other organisations to link into other beneficial and associated sites through the info links pages.
- To publicise up-to-date news and progress of the work of the Airedale Partnership
- To enable organisations to publicise events
- And to enable direct feedback to be received by the Partnership on its work and activities
- And to help develop a strong partnership approach to economic regeneration in Airedale
-

The e-mail address info@airedalepartnership.org is available for feedback regarding the work of the Partnership. We have now started to receive messages this way.

See Appendix 3 – For website layout

Marketing/Publicity

The Airedale Partnership has continued to work with The Council's Marketing and Communications team on the development of the marketing strategy for Airedale.

Progress so far.

Pop up banners were produced, plastic wallets were purchased along with adhesive logos to put information in for the network events.

The consultants Arup have now completed the long awaited masterplan and strategy for Airedale, Airedale Corridors which was publicly launched on 15 March 2005

Work has commenced in promoting the masterplan across Airedale.

We are continuing to work with the two main local papers the Keighley News and The Telegraph and Argus in promoting the work of the partnership. We have also worked with the Yorkshire Post, local community radio and BBC Radio Leeds.

We are now regularly producing features in the local papers on the activities of the Partnership including the programme of events and details of the web portal and events undertaken.

An annual report is available highlighting the achievements of the business network

Below is a list of all the press releases which have appeared since April 2004 in relation to the skills/training/employment projects and the masterplan.

Press releases

T & A - Wheels2work - Borrow a scooter to get to work.	20 July 04
T & A – Community News for Bingley and Crossflatts – The opening of the Bingley Connection, Shipley College's Learning Node. -	2 August 04
T & A – Wheels2Work.	19 August 04
Keighley News – Wheels2Work - Scooting to work.	20 August 04
T & A – Letters - Wheels2Work –Cartoon.	20 August 04
T & A – Wheels2Work – Ben's first to back wheely good idea.	20 August 04
T & A – Alliances' green meeting	15 Sept 04
Keighley News – Are you up for the green challenge.	17 Sept 04

Keighley News – Forum on finding funds was excellent	12 November 04
T & A – Digital discussions at lunchtime	15 November 04
T & A – Broadband benefits to be outlined	24 November 04
T & A – Aire links	26 November 04
T & A – Focus on fast internet links	6 December 04
Keighley News – Airedale event puts broadband debate in focus	17 December 04
T & A – Internet event a success	20 December 04
T&A – Staying Lean	16 February 05
Keighley News - Lean and mean manufacturing	18 February 05
Yorkshire Post – Scooter Scheme aids rural young	8 March 05
Masterplan	
T & A - Letters – Bradford and its airport rail link.	2 July 04
T & A – Transport is the key to creating ‘Digidale’	3 August 04
Keighley News – Improvements to transport identified as major need.	6 August 04
T & A – Debate on what town needs.	11 August 04
Keighley News – Plan for future of town in pipeline.	13 August 04
Keighley News – Dynamic Vision for town unveiled.	17 August 04
Keighley News – New store would be suicidal for town.	20 August 04
Keighley News – Letters- Suicidal Choice Cheap solution Sixties textbook Benefit to town World class what in Aire valley?	27 August 04
T & A – Toyshop could go in revamp.	3 September 04
T & A – Transport Group to discuss Arup proposals	3 September 04

Keighley News – Letters – Master laugh Market Forces Come or go	3 September 04
T & A – Letters – Planners beware.	10 Sept 04
Keighley News – Letters – Shoppers choice World class view Wonderful ideas Allegiance call	10 Sept 04
Keighley News – Editor Letter	10 Sept 04
Keighley News - Call to shape future of Airedale	12 November 04
Keighley News – Views on masterplan	26 November 04
T & A – New plans to appear in spring	15 December 04
T&A – Public responds to plan	27 January 05
T&A – Masterplan report lists top concerns	31 January 05
Keighley News – Masterplan to be revealed next month	4 February 05
Keighley News – Opinion – Lets all become ambassadors for the town	18 February 05
Keighley News Publication – Keighley Town Centre – moving forward	18 February 05
Community Pride – Masterplan will conjure up a vision for Airedale	March 05 issue
Keighley News – Masterplan for valley is to be revealed	11 March 05
T&A – Masterplan for Airedale set to be unveiled	14 March 05
T&A – A grand design for future of Aire Valley	15 March 05
T & A – Comment – Transport the key to masterplan	15 March 05
T&A – Front page – A blueprint for success	15 March 05
T&A – New Hotel is priority in bid to regenerate town	16 March 05
T&A – Economy and population are keys to tunnel	17 March 05
Aire Valley Target – Masterplan is blueprint for future	17 March 05

T&A – Business Park bid welcomed by school head	18 March 05
New Start magazine – Aire and Water	18 March 05
T&A – Letters –No place for a new business	19 March 05
T&A – Superstore v masterplan in town centre wrangle	19 March 05
T&A – Don't blight our business	21 March 05
T&A – Commercial – Masterplan feature	21 March 05
T&A – A cutting edge future	23 March 05
T&A – Letters – Missed opportunity	23 March 05
Aire Valley Target – Bypass is priority project	24 March 05
Aire Valley Target – Traders are furious at masterplan	24 March 05
T&A – District welcomes digital connection	26 March 05
Aire Valley Target – World Class Plan for Design Facility	31 March 05
Aire Valley Target – Letters - No place for a new business	31 March 05
Aire Valley Target – Traffic plan is hailed	31 March 05

The Bingley Connection



The work of the development and refurbishment of the Shipley College Learning Node, (now called 'The Bingley Connection' on the main street in Bingley Town Centre) was completed in the early summer of 2004, the premises was open to the public on Saturday 10 July. A formal launch was held on Monday 12 July of the Care Centre of Vocational Excellence the programme which shares the use of the Bingley Connection.

Initially the Connection has provided information, advice and guidance on courses available at the College as well as activity linked to the Care CoVE.

The Bingley Connection was launched officially on 8 December with 18 guests attending, a presentation of the Learning Line, of which Bingley represents the first physical connection, was given and the audience was enthusiastic.

The Connection has been well received as a venue for workforce development. One notable success was the course for new media companies on web accessibility, held in October in partnership with Bmedi@ and funded through the New Technology Institute (bmedi@ newsletter available Jan 05) Eight participants from bmedi@ member companies took part in the course, which involved face to face delivery, supplemented by e-mentoring. Participants' comments after the course included:

'Very, very useful - it now means we can offer our clients a fully accessible web site'

'Excellent value for money'

'Great tutors' and 'excellent facilities and ambience'.



Other companies participating in the Bingley Connection Web Accessibility training course included the Virtual College, Apperley Design, Netstep Corporate Communications, Dbsolutions and Tayloredwebs.

The stage is now set for Bingley to become a physical base supporting a blended learning initiative in 2005 for businesses in the Bingley area, and building on contacts with the Bingley Town Centre management and Bingley Business Forum.

As part of the Care Cove, a number of courses have commenced at the Centre, including the Mental Health Certificate Level 3, Intermediate Certificate in Mental Health for employees of registered care homes.

Bingley is the physical base for a new 'distance learning' programme for public service employees, offering training in areas such as Infection Control.

Digital Media courses for Bingley residents and 30 hour IT workshops for training in business applications. The venue is also used for meetings of the Shipley College ILT and Business Employer Panel and the Care Employers Forum.

ACHIEVEMENTS

MILESTONES

Establishment of Shipley Learning Node in Bingley, premises secured



OUTPUTS

Refurbishment of the Bingley Connection



Launch of Bingley Connection



OUTCOMES

Learning opportunities partially achieved



Wheels2Work

The wheels2work project is a subsidised moped lease scheme which operates through Bingley Voluntary Action, a voluntary sector organisation based in Bingley. It received funding from the Countryside Agency and Yorkshire Forward (through the Learning and Skills Council) to purchase 5 50cc mopeds to lease to young people between 16 and 25 years to access employment and training.

The mopeds were purchased and the scheme set up and an official launch was held at The Mechanics Institute, Denholme on 19 August, the launch was attended by The Lord Mayor, Councillor Irene Ellison Wood, Denholme Town Mayor, Councillor Anne Jay and representatives from Bingley Voluntary Action, The Countryside Agency, The Airedale Partnership, Scooter Crazy (Suppliers of the Mopeds) along with Ben Ward and family members, the first young person to receive help through this programme. Ben needed assistance from this project to enable him to attend his training in Huddersfield.

Following on from the success of the scheme funding further funding has been secured from Keighley Town Council and the Oakworth Urban Village programme. Funding is being sought through the Sub Regional Investment Plan to roll out the scheme across the rest of Airedale as well as develop the scheme in other areas of West Yorkshire.

Case studies of young people benefiting from the scheme:

Case Study:

A 22 year old young man living in Denholme starts work at 6.00am at a bakery which is approximately 5 miles away. The first bus does not arrive until 6.30am so he has been dependant on his mother driving him to work. After seeing the advert for the project in The T&A he contacted John and now he is happily an independent traveller and His mother has a well earned lie-in.

Case study:

A 16 year old man living in Denholme is now working as an apprentice in Oakworth, again facing similar problems with public travel and his mother now unable to continue taking him to work was facing the prospect of losing his apprenticeship. Now with the help of Wheels2Work he can continue his work and also undertake shift work.

Case Study:

A 16 year old young woman joined the scheme in September 2004 to enable her to get from her home in Denholme to her work in Bingley as a trainee conveyancer.

ACHIEVEMENTS

MILESTONES

Appointment of project manager



OUTPUTS

Provision of mopeds



OUTCOMES

Learners into employment



Construction Network

Establishing the network within the construction industry aims to connect communities to economic activity, to develop better connections to local construction companies, to improve education, learning and skills acquisition. Improve the skills of existing employees and encourage new business start-ups.

The following Companies have signed up to the network to date.

E Harrisons & Sons Ltd	Davric Construction Ltd
W Brewster	CD Construction
Fred Watson Service Engineers	S Robinson Joiner
C Milnes Builders	Upgrade Windows
P D Electrical	C & A Foster
Michael Everard	M J Ellison
A T Lee Properties	A Baldwins
S Addis	J A Builders
Nelsons Builders Merchants	Nelsons Builders Merchants
Dalec UK	Atlee Properties Ltd
R N Wooler & Co Ltd	I Lee Construction
JDP Construction	Keighley Key Builders
New Mason Properties Ltd	Brian Hall Decorators
Holly Park Building Services	H Hawker Plumbing & Heating
Roger Booth Builder & Plasterer	J W Pollard Plumber

Construction Network Launch:

The official launch conference was held at the Silsden Golf Club in the evening of Monday 6 September it was attended by 22 delegates from a range of construction companies. As well as attendance from some existing companies the following new companies attended:

Terry Dyson Structural Services
Silsden Electrical Services
Uriah Woodhead & Sons Ltd
Richard Craven Plumbers Merchants
A Dawson Heating
Roger Tiffany Ltd
Chris Milnes
Yorkshire Gas Services

Case Study:

Dalec UK – A local company taking part in the network currently have 4 team members involved in training which covers, working at heights, abrasive wheels and basic health and safety. They are currently in negotiation into buying another company with seven employers who will be attending training.

First Network Conference:

The first construction network conference was held in the evening on 7 December at Silsden Golf Club. Delegates attended from 10 different companies. The main item on the agenda was an in depth update on the Working at Height Regulations 2004, but more importantly it was an opportunity for construction companies to get together and discuss relevant issues.



Other activities:

- Working at Heights, Abrasive Wheels Certificate and Basic Health & Safety training has been given
- A meeting to be held with the Barkerend Training Centre
- A meeting with Tom Hobson (Urban Splash) has been held to look at training
- A meeting with Carillion has been arranged for January 2005
- Companies in the Keighley network will receive pre tender information from the Bradford Construction Network
- A seminar on new buildings regulations is to be organised in 2005

Construction Training:

As part of the network employers have been able to benefit from funding to offer training to existing employees to improve and upgrade existing skill levels within the companies.

The training has included, Working at Heights, Health & Safety, Abrasive Wheels, Communications and Management training.

Employees have received the training well although feedback shows a wide cross section of feelings amongst them.

ACHIEVEMENTS

MILESTONES

Appointment of Liaison Officer

Appointment of Training Officer

OUTPUTS

Construction Network established

Construction Network meeting

OUTCOMES

Launch conference held

Learning opportunities achieved

New Business Start-ups

Keighley Local Enterprise Agency met its target of 30 new business starts for the year. Below are a few examples of how individual benefited from the funding.

Case study:

Stuart Hanson – is training to become a full time opera singer. After leaving university he tried to obtain sponsorship, but was unable to do so. As he was signing on for Job Seekers Allowance we assisted in the preparation of a business plan. The business plan was to teach and examine English to non- English speakers. Stuart now spends a lot of his time away from home, his turnover for the first 2 months of business was £7000. He is still undergoing his training to become an opera singer, but the need to find a sponsor is no longer a priority.

Case study:

Carol Escott – attended the business plan course during March this year wishing to explore the possibility of setting up as a self employed trainer. The course was completed and Carol started her business. Unfortunately she was taken ill suddenly and spent a month in hospital. This did result in a slow down in the business but Carol is now on the road to recovery and the business is starting to progress again. Currently her turnover is at an average of £500 per month but is expected to increase over time.

Case study:

Vincent Phillpotts – attended the agency on a one to one basis to consider the possibility of starting his own business in mobile catering. We were able to assist with his enquiries and ensure that he had considered the legal as well as health and hygiene issues. His business plan was improved and his pricing policy revised. He has established a pitch and is turning over £400 per week.

Case study:

Michael Dowse – attended several appointments to discuss setting up his own business. He had worked for his employer for 11 years. We were able to assist Michael and he started his own business in a very short space of time. In his first month he obtained a contract that gave him a very good start and has tendered for 2 more jobs in his second month of trading that are well in front of his forecast. We recently spoke to his brother who is now considering a similar option.

Case study:

Brendan Cutler – came to the agency for advice as he had already signed a lease on shop premises in Keighley. He has now opened his own tattoo studio and is slowly building up a client base. He has been a carer for the last six years for his spouse and wanted to turn his hobby into a business. Enabling him to continue as a carer and open around school hours as well. He has had moderate success so far but realises that to be fully successful requires much effort and at the moment continued support from the agency.

Case study:

Elaine Nichols – has started selling high value cosmetics and shaving lotions for men over the internet and attended a book keeping course and some one to one sessions to ensure that she was doing everything in line with legislation. We were able to assist and Elaine now is looking to add self employed staff to her business to help with the growth that she expects to take place.

ACHIEVEMENTS

OUTCOMES

New Business Start ups



ICT Apprentices

Following the final approval of the remaining element of ESF funding through Shipley PACT the ICT apprentices project commenced in early October with the establishment of a Steering Group drawn from partner organizations such as Shipley College, Keighley and Shipley PACT, Jobs@ project and the HALE Apprentices project.

A Co-ordinator was appointed from November 1st and subsequently an Open Day was held in Shipley to provide information for potential apprentices.

Second interviews were held on December 14th and places were offered to six candidates from Shipley East who will undertake NVQ in Installing and Supporting IT and NVQ Using ICT as well as work placement and Key Skills/Wider Key Skills.

The apprentices commence on January 10th 2005 with an induction programme and subsequent Monday sessions held at the Bingley Connection. By the end of March only one place remained unfilled.

Achievements so far:

- Four learners have passed Key Skills Level 2 Communications
- Six learners have passed CLAIT Plus Webwise
- One learner has passed Key Skills Application of Number Level 2
- Learners are all on placement in the community
- All learners have created a home page on the College's VLE
- Three learners are being supported with Childcare costs

ACHIEVEMENTS

OUTPUTS

Recruitment of apprentices



Connectivity in Community Centres

The connectivity supplied through the project to community centres in Wrose, Windhill and Bolton Woods has enabled the college and its partner community centres to deliver a number of outcomes – part funded by ESF until December 04.

Outcomes were as follows for accredited training for the calendar year 2004 in the two centres Windhill and Bolton Woods (where the Airedale funding applies). Without the continued subsidy for broadband connectivity and the childcare support available to residents, this provision would not take place.

Windhill and Wrose ICT centres	Numbers of people
People Achieving Part Qualification	25
People Achieving Full Qualification	13
People Progressing to another Course	9
People Obtaining Employment	15
Continuing Students	23
Leavers (No Recorded Outcome)	14
Transfers to other learning	5
Other Achievements e.g. Mentorship, Voluntary Work.	5

In addition there has been significant use of the facilities by residents (53 in number) who do not want to gain qualifications but simply want to learn new ICT skills or use the facilities.

Further details of the successes achieved through ICT connections in communities can be found at

<http://www.shipleylife.com/scol/success/successfset.htm>

These achievements are mainly in ICT skills. Discussions will be taking place as to the value of using the community ICT facilities and the benefits of fast broadband (soon to be a 4Mgb connection through the college's Jnet connection) to deliver vocational subjects (care, sports and leisure etc) through e-learning on a blended learning model in community settings, thus supporting progression.

Crèche:

The crèche facilities at Wrose supported by funding through the Partnership is continuing to help a regular group of women learners to gain computer skills three days per week to help them return to work.

'Frances has achieved 2 units of CLAIT, Robyn and Becky are progressing towards their first CLAIT module and Collette has completed CLAIT and is now taking her ECDL qualification.

ACHIEVEMENTS

MILESTONES

ICT Broadband Connection



FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS 2005 -2008

Business Network:

Funding is currently being sought to develop the Network over the next 3 years.

Web Portal:

The web portal is now being hosted by Bradford Council and will continue to develop to support the work of the Airedale Partnership, publicise events, and act as a resource for local businesses and link to other key sites.

Wheels2Work:

Further funding is being sought through the Sub Regional Investment Plan to maintain this project for a further year whilst working with other partners in the sub region to deliver a wider project over the next three years. The project is also being funded by the Urban Village Programme, Keighley Town Council and the Countryside Agency.

Bingley Connection:

The Bingley Connection will continue to establish itself as a base for Shipley College in Bingley. It will continue to support the Care Centre of Vocational Excellence whilst developing its links to provide training for local employers and businesses.

ICT apprentices:

The Apprentices will continue their programme whilst gaining help and support to achieve full time employment.

Business Starts:

Funding is being sought to continue supporting new business starts in Keighley, as well as working with other key agencies to look at the development of business support across Airedale.

Construction Network:

The College will be working with other key partners to expand and develop the network across Airedale.

Masterplan:

Work will continue to develop the structures and processes required to deliver Airedale Corridors over the next 15 years. The implementation of the five key projects has begun alongside implementing the rural strategy.

Community Broadband Connection:

This will continue supporting learning for local communities

Connectivity Study:

The outcomes of the study have been incorporated into the Airedale Corridors masterplan and strategy.

Childcare:

Learner's childcare will continue to be supported throughout the remainder of their training

Report submitted by Airedale Partnership

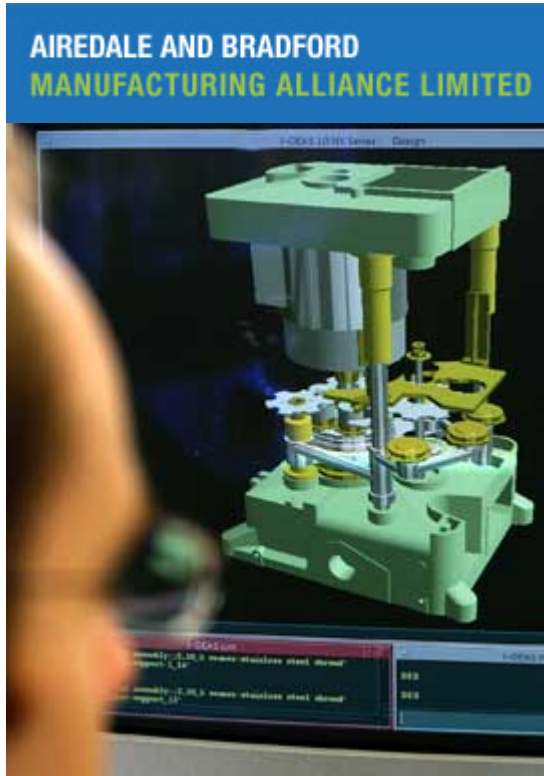
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The Airedale and Bradford Manufacturing Alliance



HOME

The Airedale and Bradford Manufacturing Alliance were launched in March 2004 following consultation with businesses in Keighley and Bradford.

The Alliance aims to encourage local co-operative working, best practice and expertise sharing to ultimately sustain manufacturing jobs in the area.

Assistance with accessing funding opportunities, participation in networking events and access to training grants and provisions are all benefits of the free membership available to businesses from all manufacturing sectors in the area.

To find out more about becoming a member, and for an online application form, please [click here](#).



Aims and Objectives of the Alliance:

To direct companies towards assistance in reviewing their business together with grants for training for manufacturing companies

To give companies an input into the regional strategy for manufacturing

To provide events and other mechanisms by which to disseminate current best practice in manufacturing and to encourage the sharing of local expertise

To provide a networking forum for local manufacturing companies

To provide a means of accessing assistance from other national and local government agencies

To respond to other needs of manufacturers in Airedale and Bradford as identified by members

To promote local co-operative working between companies to sustain local jobs in the area

www.abmanalliance.co.uk

Appendix 2

New Technology Institute



New Technology Institute

West Yorkshire

The New Technology Institute is a partnership of leading universities, colleges and employer networks which enables businesses to develop the skills of their employees and to take advantage of the opportunities presented by technology.

The NTI can work with companies to identify skills that employees need to support the development of their business and provide access to programmes which meet their needs.

In many cases the training attracts funding that can reduce the costs to businesses.



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- ▶ [Resources...](#)
- ▶ [Events...](#)
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The Partnership, led by the private sector and with the full backing of Bradford Council and Yorkshire Forward, is a regeneration initiative supporting the growth and renaissance of the local economy.

Visit the pages of this website to find out more about our work and how you can get involved in shaping the future of the area.

This website aims to:

help develop a strong partnership approach to economic regeneration in Airedale

act as single access point for businesses and other organisations to link into other beneficial and associated sites via the links pages

publicise up-to-date news and progress of the work of the Airedale Partnership

enable direct feedback to be received by the Partnership on its work and activities

enable organisations to publicise events

LATEST NEWS

[A great opportunity for Airedale businesses to benefit from a support package to achieve high standards of innovation and creativity within their teams.](#)

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