

Case Study

Adult Skills Analysis

Client: One North East



Outcomes and value

One North East sought to use existing sources of data to produce a regional adult skills and employment analysis. This would contribute to the evidence base on the regional supply and demand of skills, feeding into One North East's preparation of an evidence-based Regional Skills Strategy and Regional Investment Plan that would have positive economic impact.



The report generated a detailed statistical picture of the North East and its skills and employment base. This unique resource brought together a disparate range of information not collated elsewhere and TBR's accompanying analysis provided important insight into the North East skills landscape.

The work utilised existing and new information sources on the economic, labour market and skills needs of the North East to develop a robust regional analysis of skills and employment

It provided an important resource for the ONE team, contributing to the knowledge base on which the Regional Skills Strategy is being developed, identifying areas for further research and providing a 'snapshot' picture of the region relative to other English regions and the country as whole.

TBR was able to add value by providing analysis addressing the question of why something is the case and how it impacts on the variables the client was interested in; an important addition to simply describing what was happening.

The report enabled the client to:

1. Understand the supply and demand of skills in the North East through a robust analysis of skills and employment in the area.
2. Create evidence based decisions using robust and reliable data, including: the integrated regional strategy and Regional Investment Plan.
3. Use evidence-based and demand-driven work to contribute to future work and policy formulation.
4. Understand how the labour market contributes to the overall productivity and economic growth of the region.

Our solution

The report that TBR produced collated a wide range of sources of relevant data and the clear and insightful analysis and commentary enabled the Skills and Employment team at One North East to better understand the region and its skills and employment base.

TBR worked collaboratively with the client to identify sources of data on the key aspects of these research areas. A wide range of sources was identified. However, these were thought to be significant but insufficient to entirely satisfy the analytical needs of the project.

An aspect of TBR's role was also to identify gaps in the available data and where possible indicate a possible source of this information in the future.

Using only data already available, TBR built a picture of adult skills within the North East by examining what skills were in demand in employment against the skills available in the workforce. The key thematic areas for investigation were: general labour market performance, demand for labour, supply of labour, qualifications and training and the interaction of supply and demand.

The output defined and described:

- The economic outlook for the North East, qualifications and skills levels of its working age population and the recession's impact on significant industrial sectors in the region relative to the national picture.
- The proportion of the workforce employed in industrial sectors and how this has changed over time and what occupations they were employed in.
- Projections for the growth of the region's workforce.
- Employer and learner demand for qualifications and training in the North East.
- Distribution of earnings, skills gaps and employment.

Duncan Cobbett, Project Manager, TBR said:

"This project provided the client with useful outputs that they can use to support their skills and employability work. We enjoyed the project because it utilised our skills in gathering data and analysis to provide local and reliable data. Our knowledge of skills and employability data sources helped us to provide a detailed report and shows our strength in offering skills related research"

tbr knows... **economics, creative, skills, environment**

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