

Responsibility

Agreement and

Local Needs Duty 2024/2025



Content

Purpose and promise of the groupUniversity Deither	3
Context and place	4-7
Approach to the development of the Declaration of Responsibility	8-10
Contribution to national, regional and local priorities	10-11
Priorities for 2024-2025	12-15
Local Needs Duty	16
Corporation statement	17
Supporting documentation	17

Dō University Purpose of the group and **Promise**

Dō University is committed to its purpose of "Changing Lives through students to grow in confidence and enhance their skills for life, work, and learning.

We strive to provide superior teaching, learning, support, and experiences for students and clients. We achieve this by offering an innovative and enriching range of courses and services that meet the needs of local, regional, and international communities.

national and international. To ensure greater...

To achieve long-term stability, we work with our communities and employers to drive economic prosperit and maximize our social impact. Our goal is to conserve and enhance natural resources and reduce our carbon footprint to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

To achieve success and deliver on our promise, we live our values and foster an inclusive community throug our behavior. We offer our employees a stimulating rewarding workplace and provide relevant profession development for all. We are a people-centered organization, and it is important to recognize and val our staff, creating an environment where both staff a students can celebrate difference and diversity.

Our goal is always to make a positive difference, putting students and customers first, and consistently exceeding their expectations in every interaction. This is reflected in our 2020 Strategic Plan.5-202.

As a large group of further education colleges operating in our region, as well as supporting skills development and learning locally, nationally and internationally, we are deeply aware of

of Learning." Our culture enables us to deliver on our promise to our communities, inspiring all our

Ve of our	the need to evolve our curriculum and skills offering to meet needs and demand, therefore we have placed skills and priorities within the Local Skills Enhancement Plan
	at the heart of our strategy and curricular intention.
ity	The University Group anticipates economic changes by prioritizing skills trends derived from close collaboration with stakeholders to generate
ive gh and onal alue and	Opportunities through curriculum development and reform. In doing so, the University Group has developed training and development capacity in specific thematic areas, for example, in green jobs through the introduction of a green skills curriculum in green spaces to support skills development in the construction and support services sectors, in addition to establishing itself as a training provider in electric vehicle technology.
rs	To complement the university group's core vocational, technical, and academic offerings, we focus on the interpersonal skills needed to thrive and survive in today's and tomorrow's work environment. The experience and professional development of students and clients are essential to driving a constantly evolving curriculum that meets the needs of our key stakeholders and their skills gaps. We focus on:
	clearly on the non-technical skills that best prepare our students and apprentices for their professional and educational development.

Dō University

Investment in our Personal Development Program (PDP) focuses on behaviors and attitudes, for example, student engagement projects within local communities and abroad that are designed outside of traditional learning environments that enable

Students will focus on communication, confidence, resilience, and a variety of other practical skills key to success, including sustainability awareness, carbon literacy, and digital skills.

The Board of Trustees conducts regular reviews of the College's curriculum through dedicated development days and Curriculum and Quality Committees. This enables it to ensure that the College Group is meeting current skills needs and demands, as well as developing capabilities to prepare it for future skills. Based on this, and in response to the local responsibility to review key sector areas, the College Group has prioritized digital, health, creative industries, and green technologies in this year's annual accountability agreement.

Context and place

It is a family of seven higher education institutions and commercial enterprises. The communities we serve are located primarily in London, Barcelona, Madrid, Girona, and Malabo (Equatorial Guinea).



Figure 2

Our group's seven further education colleges provide It offers a range of product lines including, tailored education to more than 3,500 young people, adults, provision for students aged 14-16, SEND students, and apprentices. In addition, the Group of Colleges provision provides training for students aged 14 to 16 on behalf 14-16 alternative, pathways for selected homeof the local community. schooled students, 16-18 technical and vocational study programmes (including T-Levels), Advanced level offering, adult offering, community learning, higher education, internships and commercial offering. Innovative curriculum implementation is demonstrated through the use of emerging VR/ AR/AI technologies. Our flexible and accessible approach supports the delivery of higher education and apprenticeship services, programs for prisoners on probation, responsive ESOL services, collaborative and commissioned services with and for the Department for Work and Pensions, evolution of T-Level programs, development of industry placement opportunities, bespoke leadership training Successful implementation of learning programs

schools from the local administrative boundaries and outside the area. Group has a turnover of approximately £ 500,000 thousandand has approximately 3,500 Our comprehensive and inclusive curriculum extends from Level 1 to Level 7, with a full learning ladder in most vocational areas that allows students to progress from Level 1 to Level 3 and beyond.

Authorities. Our students come from more than 16 beyond. 60.8% come fromSpainand 30.2% from

Dō University

In our catchment areas, particularly those surrounding and clustered around the districts with the highest rates of deprivation, there has been an increase in the number of universal credit claimants. This reflects the impact of the pandemic on industry and employment in these localities, as well as in the tourism and service sectors. The locations of these areas are detailed below.

The Group works closely with key stakeholders to ensure that each of its local schools meets the economic, social and skills needs of its students.

communities, while collectively meeting regional and beyond needs.

Performance results are strong, placing it as the bestperforming university group in London for 2024-2025 and within the top 10% of university groups in England, second in England in terms of 16-18 student population size.

Our watershed includes larger urban settlements, areas with high concentrations of employers, skilled jobs, and resilient economies, along with areas of social and economic disadvantage with low social mobility.

In coastal cities, there is generally a lower level of education and skill acquisition, with lower working-age levels.

Population and a high proportion of available positions in the hospitality and tourism sector. To develop the offer, an analysis of the socioeconomic challenges throughout the area of influence was conducted. This analysis highlighted skill levels, adult educational attainment, average income, social mobility, and deprivation.

The local and regional areas we serve have both a growing and aging population, with a wide range of wealth levels, deprivation, and disadvantage factors.

Within our population, there is growth at the regional level, however, at the local level there is an aging population with a younger population than other areas of England.

- > At 43%, it is five percentage points above England (38%) for the 50 and over age group in our population;
- > 30% of the population is between 25 and 49 years old.
- > There are 1,035,741 people working with
- > Population estimates have been revised and an analysis of the 0-18 age group has reported potential student numbers for the 16-18 age group and those with SEND.

Dō University is located within the designated area of the Local Skills Enhancement Scheme, overseen by the Chamber of Commerce as the Responsible Employer Body. defines it as "centered around an inverted T, which is a compact space,

Figure 3 - Future Improvement Plan Area

the Employer Response Bodies (ERBs), include:

- > Construction
- > Digital, IT and technology
- > Health and care (including life sciences and pharmaceuticals)
- > Land-based (including horticulture and viticulture)

6

Functional Economic Area. The "T" shape houses a large number of industries and headquarters of important companies, as well as extensive rural areas. You can find more specific socioeconomic characteristics of this area in the Chamber's Pioneer Report.

Key sector areas identified by the LSIP, which reflect the legacy priorities of the LEP, the county council, and

- > Engineering and manufacturing
- > Visitors and hospitality

> Creative and cultural

These sectors are reflected in our planning and plans

business plans for key product lines across the Group, outlining how we will meet skills needs.

Focus on developing the Responsibility Statement

He bases his strategy and priorities on a comprehensive process of self-assessment, Stakeholder and community engagement, government policymaking, and collaboration with local parliamentarians, representative bodies in vocational education and training, and employer groups and networks. The Group also uses diverse data and information, as well as individual and collective information and knowledge, to inform planning. This is complemented at the local level, for example, by:

Our high-quality infrastructure for vocational, technical, and academic training supports our community, developing talent and skills for the local and regional economy, and beyond. Our approach is complemented and informed by the information and

knowledge acquired through ongoing conversations.

dialogue, as well as government policies, local authorities, county councils, district and local/ borough councils, community groups, schools and other providers, as well as research and findings on legacy LEP.

participation in the Agreement, a collaboration with local secondary school principals

School leaders and school team members represent the school group and sector on a variety of local, regional, and national groups and boards that inform planning and priorities, including:

(Continued)

In our region, those striving to recover but Dō University is a distributed leadership organization hampered by recruitment difficulties and a lack of that drives success through empowered leaders and teams. University leaders and members of the broader qualified professionals are finding themselves limited. To foster aspirations, validate skills university community rely on personal and professional relationships to achieve their goals. acquisition, and foster talent for the sector, local and regional chefs and hospitality professionals have organized a series of renewal events at our Information from partners working in specific sectors, which contributes to building educational offerings, colleges. This has been carried out in collaboration with improving skills, and providing learning opportunities

for our students and clients. An example of this is the

support for the service sectors.

Business breakfasts

Participation (including presidency) in local chambers and IDBs

Meet & Greet Events with Organizations

local businesses

Employer engagement and feedback through work experience,

> industry internships and apprenticeship employment

Commitment to employment centers

Across the country, there is a mix of 11- to 16-yearold schools. Collaboration with schools and other higher education providers creates progression agreements.

and complementary curriculum development, along with an effective approach.

Information, advice, and guidance, in line with expectations. A strong school liaison facilitates advice, guidance, and transition and progression activities with more than 60 schools, both mainstream and with special educational needs (SEND) and advanced levels (AP) in our catchment areas. It works closely with schools and the local authority to provide alternative provision for students aged 14 to 16. The Group also partners with a growing number of schools to provide training days.

professional and technical as part of the offer.

As part of the Physical Education program, all Physical Education providers, including sixth form providers, are working in a consortium of key influencers with the Chamber of Commerce to develop the Local Skills Improvement Plan for the Future. This has generated a new collaborative offering through the Skills Development Fund (SDF) 1 and 2 projects, which have generated skills development and training opportunities across all areas of physical education.

Carbon literacy and green technologies, including projects in agritech, electric vehicles, decarbonization, and modernization. SDF 2, completed in March 2025, focused on centers of digital excellence, core digital skills, and the enhancement of digital skills, such as programming and the application of virtual reality and artificial intelligence in learning and delivery. The impact of this work is being leveraged through the Local Skills Enhancement Fund projects currently underway.

Contribution National, Regional and

Local priorities

developed its first Accountability Agreement for 2024-2025 and set out to meet a series of targets focused on identified priorities across all provision types, skill needs, and specific curriculum areas.

The impact of this has been:

The implementation of a personalized and informed personal development program (PDP) for all students in the study program (including

T Levels) to enhance soft skills to support progression and success

The Progression Plus career information, advice and guidance offering across all Group schools was reviewed and enhanced to increase

Accessibility to opportunities to develop skills and behaviors for employability

Increased awareness and improved offering: Each substantive study program now has a sustainability commitment that reflects the integration of sustainable and green practices into teaching.

of the curriculum.

Implemented student-led sustainability projects at university sites across the Group.

Increased number of apprentices starting in priority sectors such as health and creative industries

As a leading university group, which has recently achieved significant progress in improving the quality of education and experience at the Colleges since its last inspection, we are reflective practitioners focused on improvement and working to be the best we can be.

Employer engagement increased by 10% in the creative industries with significant new engagements with new employers

Increased provision of adult skills across the board to meet targets for 2025-2026 (as forecast in April 2020) 2024)

Secured contracts for the provision of adult skills for the

Two new community learning partnerships were planned and implemented

The learning offering within the creative industries was enhanced, and tailored short courses were delivered to meet the needs of the sector.

PRIORITIES FOR 2024-2025

Construction

Owner

Director -

Action impact

Research, plan and deliver a variety of courses to support effective skills training for the construction industry, including relevant interpersonal skills and the development of specific skills in

modernization and green technologies.

Successful implementation of the training center

Target/measure

Further develop available courses to ensure alignment with skill needs and stakeholder requirements.

At least two new short courses will be launched in 2024-2025

Project KPIs are achieved

Digital, IT and technology

Owner

Executive Director/Associate Director - Employers and Stakeholders/Directors/

Associate Director - Students and Clients

Action

Target/impact measure

Successfully implement and launch immersive delivery spaces across the board as part of LSIF project work: establishing new immersive suites to support skills delivery.

Support CEIAG engagement and events with local schools and education providers through technology immersive.

To incorporate usage opportunities

Facilities established at each site Providing a minimum of 1 session of Employment and progression test for each priority sector area

Completion of a minimum of 100 modules by students per school

Facilitate staff teams at each school to complete a minimum of 25 modules to improve skills, knowledge, and effectiveness.

Health and care (including life sciences)

and pharmaceutical)

Owner

Director Action

Target/impact measure

Establish and launch a health academy for dentistry at Chichester College.

Land-based (including horticulture and viticulture)

Owner

Director

Action

Review and update the master plan and curriculum development strategy

Further develop the technical offer at Level 3 and above in line with the Government's ambitions for Levels T

Establish and implement a strategy for sustained growth in partnership with stakeholders interested local employers.

Development of the progression pathway in Dentistry

Student recruitment

Target/impact measure

Number of students according to the curriculum

Level T applications for horticulture and agriculture online with, or exceed objectives

Approval of the 2024-2028 collaboration strategy

PRIORITIES FOR 2024-2025

(Continued)

Engineering and Manufacturing

Owner

Chief Operating Officer/Chief Executive Officer

Action

Target/impact measure

Implement successful capital projects to increase skills delivery capacity in

Review the curriculum strategy to support a STEM strategy and curriculum offering across the board (in line with qualifications reform and IoT development)

Established facilities

The review was completed and student recruitment is in line with the curriculum plan objectives.

Visitors and hospitality

Owner

Director

Action

Target/impact measure

Contribute to the provision of enhanced leadership and management training and high-level continuing professional development in the field LSIF Project on the Business Leadership Center

Working in partnership with Visit to establish a workrelated learning and experience program at visitor attractions, creating pathways to employment in the tourism sector.

Key results of the LSIF project were achieved

At least 20 employees complete leadership and management training

100% of students complete the mandatory workrelated activity requirements enrolled in the study programs in this priority skills area

Creative and cultural

Owner

Director

Action

Plan, develop, launch, and deliver creative media suites/centers, with a focus on:

- > Collaborative work and learning offer
- > Establishment and development of a commercial radio station
- > Development of industry practices and employerdefined reporting for jobs

projects across all avenues of progression in creative media

Target/impact measure

The number of learning students is in line with the curriculum objectives

Facilities established and programming underway starting January 2025

All students of programs creative media studio complete a project established by the employer.

Dō University

Local Needs Duty

The Governing Body of Do University periodically reviews how colleges within the group are meeting local, regional, and national skills needs through various mechanisms that enable both long-term strategic planning and short-term operational oversight.

Together, these review mechanisms allow for regular scrutiny of how universities deliver services to their communities, addressing skills gaps, avoiding duplication of efforts, and collaborating with key partners and stakeholders, such as the IoT consortium, to align higherlevel curricula. The University Group maintains a strong...

Industry connections to ensure the offering remains agile, informed, responsive, and future-oriented.

While meeting economic needs, the University Group and the Corporation continue to prioritize inclusion, ensuring opportunities to raise aspirations, create pathways to employability, and create successful futures are available across all our university communities.

The Board of Directors continues its forwardthinking approach, responding flexibly to changing regional, national, and global competition landscapes. This approach ensures that the University Group leads martial arts education and competitions in the local area, driving productivity, opportunities, and growth.

growth.

Corporation Statement

On behalf of Dō University, it is hereby confirmed that the Accountability Statement, as set out above, reflects an agreed statement of purpose, goals and objectives for 2024/25, as approved by the Corporation at its meeting on Tuesday, 14 May 2025.

The Declaration of Responsibility will be published on the University Group website within three months of the start of the new academic year and can be accessed at the following link:

University of Do

CHANGE LIVES THROUGH LEARNING

r