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Here we Cumbria - modern universities and the industrial strategy

07 Mar 2017

Like modern universities throughout the country, the University of Cumbria is perfectly placed to support the government’s industrial strategy.

As a university based in and for the county of Cumbria, with further reach through campuses in Lancaster and London, we’re ideally positioned to assist

Business & enterprise

Devolution jigsaw: Supporting the heartland of ceramics - Staffordshire University

Devolution jigsaw: Supporting the nuclear industry - University of Cumbria

Universities, devolution and the industrial strategy: piecing the jigsaw together

Funding
Devolution jigsaw:
Supporting the nuclear industry - University of Cumbria

Universities, devolution and the industrial strategy: piecing the jigsaw together

Engineering, Design, Growth and Enterprise (EDGE) Hub - Canterbury Christ Church University

Science & research

Universities, devolution and the industrial strategy: piecing the jigsaw together

Commons Education Select Committee inquiry into the impact of exiting the EU on higher education

Higher Education and Research Bill Second Reading, House of Lords

Social mobility

Changing Lives: Cross-cultural exchanges through music

Devolution jigsaw:
Supporting the nuclear industry - University of Cumbria

Schools that work for everyone – MillionPlus response to the Green Paper

Teaching & learning

Devolution jigsaw:
Supporting the
Growth Hub, part of Cumbria LEP’s rural growth network, which offers support packages to businesses from a range of sectors.

One of the Prime Minister’s stated goals on assuming office was to make sure that no part of the country was left behind. Cumbria and other modern universities are vital agents if this ambition is to be achieved.

Across the new combined authorities, and in existing two tier structures as here in Cumbria, it is modern universities that educate the majority of students and in most English regions most of their graduates continue to live and work in the area in which they studied. On average modern universities directly employ around 1,500 people but they are also community hubs, accessible to and engaged with local residents and quick to promote, showcase and support their localities.

As last week's report from MillionPlus states: “[Modern universities] are key to ensuring that the jigsaw of devolution and the industrial strategy fit together and that the government's ambitions are realised.”

In Cumbria it's already a reality today; we hope to be playing an even bigger part tomorrow.

**Professor Julie Mennell is the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cumbria.**