

4.5.4 Total net additional employment impact

Table 4.3 summarises the estimated total net additional impact of the NMC. Overall, the bridge is anticipated to generate some 3,350 total net additional local permanent jobs.

	Net additional employment
Existing firms	1,850
Inward investment / development related	1,500
Total net additional local employment	3,350

Table 4.3 Total net additional local employment impact

4.6 Net additional value added

The level of net additional Gross Value Added that will be generated by the NMC project has been estimated by multiplying the total net additional local employment which it is anticipated will be created by the NMC by an appropriate estimated for Gross Value Added GVA per job. On the basis of the average GVA per job in the sub-region, it is estimated that the net additional employment generated by the NMC will result in the provision of £85 million at current prices of net additional GVA each year.

4.7 Wider impacts

4.7.1 Labour market impacts

The net additional employment created as a result of the new crossing has the potential to make a significant impact on unemployment levels in the area of influence, provided that local residents are appropriately skilled and motivated to pursue emerging opportunities. Skill profiles across the catchment area vary widely. Areas with relatively high proportions of level 4+ qualifications include Chester, Warrington and Vale Royal while low levels of such qualifications are evident in Halton and Knowsley and Liverpool. At the other end of the skills spectrum, the latter three areas all have high proportions of residents with no qualifications. A comparison with UK skills levels indicates that the workforce in Halton is significantly under-represented at NQQ level 4 and broadly comparable at NVQ levels 2 and 3, but has a significantly higher percentage of low and no-skilled workers. Moreover, comparison with surrounding areas such as North Cheshire also demonstrates a weaker distribution of skills.

The profile from the development analysis is that only 14% of the job opportunities generated will require no formal qualification and that 29% will require a level 4+ qualification. The local area profile of skills suggest that a proportion of the latter are likely to be secured by non-residents though the 'risk' of non-resident job capture declines at lower skill levels. Therefore, in a worst case scenario, a significant percentage of emerging job opportunities may be secured by those already in employment or migrating or commuting into the area rather than those who are unemployed or under-employed in the absence of appropriate skills development. Those people likely to be excluded from the labour market form one of the key Receptors.

The potential impact of the net additional employment created by the NMC project on the local labour market has been assessed on the same basis as for development scenarios, i.e: a core area - comprising Halton Borough; and an intermediate area comprising adjoining districts. The impact assessment assumes that the current labour market