

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

24 APRIL 2014

**REPORT OF CHILDREN &
YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT
COMMITTEE**

CABINET DECISION

Children & Young People – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Ann McCoy
Regeneration & Transport – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Mike Smith

SCRUTINY REVIEW OF EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

1. Summary

The attached report presents the Children & Young People Select Committee findings following the Scrutiny Review of Employment and Education. The review considered how education and business can work together to ensure that learning provision matches local industry need and focused on the 14 – 19 age group (25 years for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities).

2. Recommendations

1. That the Council work with local businesses and employers, schools and post 16 education and training providers to develop an action plan to deliver the following objectives:
 - greater interaction between schools/ colleges and local business
 - helping young people remain in education and training which leads to progression into further education and employment
 - promoting awareness of the job market, growth sectors and employment opportunities both locally and further afield, as part of independent careers guidance for Key Stage 4 and post 16, including the development of a job search tool and improved website access to job information and access to an annual job fair event/ promotional activities
 - enhance the employability of young people
 - provide more and varied opportunities for work experience
 - provide support in applying for further education and employment opportunities including practical support in making applications
2. That funding avenues are pursued in order to deliver these objectives.
3. That Council services continue to work closely together to deliver the action plan.
4. That the Committee welcomes and supports Stockton Youth Assembly's local campaign topics which include better work experience and apprenticeships.

5. That the Director of Children, Education and Social Care and the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People write to all Stockton Schools and Chairs of School Governing Bodies drawing attention to the Select Committee report and emphasising the importance of interaction with local businesses and employers as part of the provision of quality careers information and guidance and encouraging all Secondary Governing Bodies to appoint a governor champion for Enterprise and Employment and consider placing a regular item on Governing Body meetings.
6. That the Children and Young People Select Committee receive reports on the performance of post 16 education providers as part of their quarterly performance reporting framework.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)

The report presents the findings of the scrutiny review that took place as part of the agreed work programme for 2013/14.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members) should consider whether they have a personal interest in any item, as defined in **paragraphs 9 and 11** of the Council's code of conduct and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with and/or taking account of **paragraphs 12 - 17** of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 16** of the code, in any business of the Council he/she must then, **in accordance with paragraph 18** of the code, consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest and the business:-

- affects the members financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code, or
- relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to the member or any person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code.

A Member with a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, may attend the meeting but must not take part in the consideration and voting upon the relevant item of business. However, a member with such an interest may make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to that business before the business is considered or voted on, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under a statutory right or otherwise (**paragraph 19** of the code)

Members may participate in any discussion and vote on a matter in which they have an interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, where that interest relates to functions of the Council detailed in **paragraph 20** of the code.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

It is a criminal offence for a member to participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest (and where an appropriate dispensation has not been granted) **paragraph 21** of the code.

Members are required to comply with any procedural rule adopted by the Council which requires a member to leave the meeting room whilst the meeting is discussing a matter in which that member has a disclosable pecuniary interest (**paragraph 22** of the code).

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

24 APRIL 2014

**REPORT OF CHILDREN &
YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT
COMMITTEE**

CABINET DECISION

SCRUTINY REVIEW OF EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

SUMMARY

The attached report presents the Children & Young People Select Committee findings following the Scrutiny Review of Employment and Education

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Council work with local businesses and employers, schools and post 16 education and training providers to develop an action plan to deliver the following objectives:
 - greater interaction between schools/ colleges and local business
 - helping young people remain in education and training which leads to progression into further education and employment
 - promoting awareness of the job market, growth sectors and employment opportunities both locally and further afield, as part of independent careers guidance for Key Stage 4 and post 16, including the development of a job search tool and improved website access to job information and access to an annual job fair event/ promotional activities
 - enhance the employability of young people
 - provide more and varied opportunities for work experience
 - provide support in applying for further education and employment opportunities including practical support in making applications
2. That funding avenues are pursued in order to deliver these objectives.
3. That Council services continue to work closely together to deliver the action plan.
4. That the Committee welcomes and supports Stockton Youth Assembly's local campaign topics which include better work experience and apprenticeships.
5. That the Director of Children, Education and Social Care and the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People write to all Stockton Schools and Chairs of School Governing Bodies drawing attention to the Select Committee report and emphasising the importance of interaction with local businesses and employers as part of the provision of quality careers information and guidance and encouraging all Secondary

Governing Bodies to appoint a governor champion for Enterprise and Employment and consider placing a regular item on Governing Body meetings.

6. That the Children and Young People Select Committee receive reports on the performance of post 16 education providers as part of their quarterly performance reporting framework.

DETAIL

1. The attached report presents Cabinet with the outcomes of the Scrutiny review of Employment and Education. The review considered how education and business can work together to ensure that learning provision matches local industry need and focused on the 14 – 19 age group (25 years for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities).
2. Following consideration by Cabinet an action plan will be submitted to the Select Committee setting out how approved recommendations will be implemented detailing officers responsible for action and timescales.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3. None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4. None

RISK ASSESSMENT

5. This review is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

7. The following 2014/15 Council Plan themes/objectives are relevant:
 - Stockton-on-Tees at the heart of a vibrant and economically successful Tees Valley
 - No child left behind

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7. This report has been subject to an Equality Impact Assessment and has been judged to have a positive impact.

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

8. The proposals in this report have been developed in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Children and Young People and Regeneration and Transport and the Corporate Director of Children, Education & Social Care. The Committee received evidence from local businesses and young people – full details are set out in the Select Committee report.

Name of Contact Officer: Judith Trainer
Post Title: Team Leader Scrutiny and Electoral
Telephone No. 01642 528158
Email Address: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

Education related? Yes

Background Papers None

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors

The proposals as a whole are not ward specific.

Property

None