

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting15th November 2018

1. Title of Item/Report

Annual Report of the Governing Body for the Learning & Skills Service

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that provided an update on the work of the Learning and Skills Service, including information on performance, governance and leadership. The report also highlighted the outcome of an unannounced Ofsted inspection which took place in June 2018, along with information on the successes and strategic decisions taken by the Learning and Skills Service during academic year 2017/18 to meet local priorities.

In June 2018, the Learning and Skills Service was subject to an Ofsted Short Inspection, where it was identified that the service continued to be a good learning provider as judged against the Ofsted Common Inspection Framework.

Whilst figures were still being finalised by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) for the 17/18 academic year, the Service's own data indicated that the Service had ended the academic year with strong performance data with achievement rate performance significantly higher than the national average.

The Learning and Skills Service was funded through the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) for both of its Adult Education Budget (AEB) and Apprenticeship grant contracts. For the 19/20 academic year, the Adult Education Budget would be devolved from the ESFA to the Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA).

As part of the Learning and Skills Service Strategic Plan 2016-19, the long term priorities were as follows:

- To provide a curriculum where learners can access provision from entry level to higher level (including apprenticeships) through a dynamic and flexible offer
- To provide a curriculum that supports positive impacts against our local council and local economic priorities, meeting the needs of

individuals, communities and employers

- To collaborate internally and with partners in professional exchanges to raise standards in teaching, learning and assessment so that we become outstanding in all areas
- Recruit and retain outstanding professionals who take responsibility for their own development and provide outstanding outcomes for learners
- Strengthen further the governance arrangements of the Service to provide additional scrutiny, challenge and support to drive the Service forward
- To adopt the 'Smarter Working in Stockton' (SWIS) approach to drive greater effectiveness and efficiency, optimising tools and working environments for employees

RESOLVED that:-

1. The positive outcome of the recent Ofsted inspection of the Learning and Skills Service be noted.
2. The performance of the Learning and Skills Service and the effectiveness of the leadership and governance arrangements be noted.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To demonstrate the ongoing success of the Governing Body for Learning and Skills as an advisory committee empowered by Cabinet to provide challenge, support and strategic oversight to the Service. The report also makes Cabinet aware of the positive outcome of a recent Ofsted inspection into the quality of adult learning.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Nigel Cooke declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 10 - Annual Report of the Governing Body for the Learning & Skills Service as he was a Governor and the Chair of the Governing Body for the Learning & Skills Service.

Councillor Jim Beall declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 10 - Annual Report of the Governing Body for the Learning & Skills Service as he was a Governor on the Governing Body for the Learning & Skills Service.

Councillor Bob Cook declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 10 - Annual Report of the Governing Body for the Learning & Skills Service as he was a Cabinet member of the TVCA.

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight, 23 November 2018

Proper Officer
19 November 2018