

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

19 MARCH 2020

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

CABINET DECISION

Lead Cabinet Member – Children and Young People - Councillor Lisa Evans

SCRUTINY REVIEW OF CAREERS PROVISION

SUMMARY

The Children and Young People Select Committee has completed a review examining careers provision.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) / DECISION(S)

This topic was included in the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2019/20. The Task and Finish Review is now complete and the recommendations have been endorsed by the Children and Young People Select Committee for submission to Cabinet.

RECOMMENDATIONS (not in priority order)

1. That, recognising that a strong careers programme leads to better outcomes for young people and benefits the economy, all schools be encouraged to work towards achieving all Gatsby Benchmarks for all students.
2. That all schools and colleges be encouraged to ensure they access independent and impartial Careers Guidance for all of their students.
3. That governing bodies be encouraged to identify a lead from senior management teams and a governor lead to champion careers provision and support the school to work towards meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks.
4. That the Careers and Enterprise Company establish a framework for independent scrutiny and challenge of school's self-evaluation of their performance against the Gatsby Benchmarks, including a requirement for schools and colleges to evidence their self-assessments.
5. That recognising the lack of consistent quality of careers guidance across schools and colleges, the Council takes a lead role in working alongside stakeholders to establish more opportunities for schools and colleges to share best practice.
6. That the Council works with stakeholders to promote opportunities for apprenticeships and work experience across the Borough.
7. That, recognising that the effectiveness of the Council's targeted model in reducing NEET in Stockton (through improving Y12 starts in EET and in reducing drop-out of students from local colleges), there should be a continued focus upon targeted support for Stockton young people as they choose and progress through their individual learning pathways.

DETAIL

1. The attached report outlines the outcomes of the Scrutiny Review of Careers Provision.
2. The overall aim of the review was to develop a clear and joined-up approach across Stockton which supports schools in their role, is clear on the role of all partners including the Council, and how the system can work more effectively for young people.
3. The Committee has taken evidence from Council Officers, the Tees Valley Combined Authority and Stockton Schools.

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

4. The recommendations seek to promote a meaningful and positive careers programme which, in turn, improves self-esteem, promotes higher attainment, reduces drop-out rates from schools and colleges and has significant economic benefits.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. The recommendations will need to be delivered within existing resources.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6. Legal implications are set out in the Select Committee report.

RISK ASSESSMENT

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

WARDS AFFECTED AND CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS

8. Not applicable.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

9. None.

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