# Children and Young People Select Committee Review of Employment and Education

#### **Outline Scope**

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#### Which of our strategic corporate objectives does this topic address?

- Stockton-on-Tees at the heart of a vibrant and economically successful Tees Valley
- No child left behind

#### What are the main issues and overall aim of this review?

It is essential that education and training equips young people with skills that businesses and employers across the Borough need, and helps to create opportunities to secure a prosperous future. School education and post 16 training provision across the Borough is varied and offers a range of courses including AS/A Level and academic programmes, vocational programmes, work based learning, apprenticeships and foundation level programmes. What is less apparent is whether the provision matches the needs of industry and growth sectors or if in fact young people are making informed choices about the prospects of securing employment on completion of their course at an early enough stage. The quality of careers advice will be an important aspect of the review.

The review will seek to establish how education and business can work together to ensure that learning provision matches local industry need and will focus on the 14 – 19 age group (25 years for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LDD)). In addition, all strands of the review will consider provision and support for vulnerable groups including LDD, looked after children (LAC), Young Offenders and Young Carers.

The review will examine the issues as they relate to Stockton within the context of the Tees Valley on the basis that many young people may choose to travel to learn/work outside of the Borough and seek to identify recommendations for improvement.

#### The Committee will undertake the following key lines of enquiry:

The review will be undertaken in three strands:

#### **Strand One – Demand** (Richard Poundford lead)

What do employers expect/ need? What are the skills gaps? What are the sector growth areas? Funding Opportunities

- Does learning provision match the needs of industry and growth sectors now and in the future?
- Do we know what employers needs are?
- How do we ensure that learning pathways give clear progression routes to work?
- How do we support business in recruiting young people?

#### **Strand Two – Provision and Performance** (Lynda Brown lead)

Mapping out post 16 provision and travel to learn patterns
Performance at Key Stage 4, post 16, including vulnerable groups

- Are there gaps in provision in Stockton and opportunities to attract new providers?
- Why are young people choosing to travel outside of the Borough to learn?
- What are the key issues and how can we tackle them?
- Do young people make appropriate levels of progress between 16 to 19 and if not, how we tackle performance?
- How do the new Principals at Stockton Riverside College and Stockton Sixth Form plan to improve their current Ofsted ratings?
- What are the implications of the reform of vocational education?

#### Strand Three - Participation and Support - (Shaun McLurg lead)

14 – 19 Partnership and Raising Participation Plan

Careers/ Quality of Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG)

Integrated Youth Support

Targeted activities for those not in employment, education or training (NEETs) and participation data

- How can we ensure that young people are getting the correct Information Advice and Guidance to inform the choices they are making?
- Are young people being given appropriate information and advice about the prospects of securing employment on completion of their course?
- How are schools and sixth form colleges providing Careers / Information Advice and Guidance and are they preparing them adequately for the world of work?
- NEETS To explore the quality of preventative interventions and levels of collaboration between services and providers to target and join-up support around disengaged young people
- How do we ensure consistency of Career Information Advice and Guidance in the different types of schools i.e. academies, free schools etc.?

#### Who will the Committee be trying to influence as part of its work?

Young people and their parents Schools FE and Sixth Form Colleges Employers Training Providers

#### 14 – 19 Partnership

#### **Expected duration of review and key milestones:**

9 Months

#### What information do we need?

Existing information (background information, existing reports, legislation, central government documents, etc.):

#### Strand One: Demand

- Draft Local Economic Assessment for Stockton 2013 Executive Summary
- Tees Valley Economic Assessment and Statement of Ambition Executive Summary
- Hidden talents II: re-engaging young people, the local offer (LGA)
- Youth Unemployment: Review of Training for Young People with Low Qualifications (Dept. for Business Innovation and Skills - Feb 2013)
- TVU Business Survey 2012 (Skills)
- TVU Sector Action Plans
- Richard Review of Apprenticeships Action Plan
- Sembcorp Skills Development Programme
- SEMTA Study
- Employers are from Mars Young People are from Venus
- DfE/ BIS Rigour and Responsiveness in Skills Executive Summary
- City Deal

#### Strand Two: Provision and Performance

- Travel to learn data
- Post 16 provision map
- Performance Data KS4 and post 16
- Review of vocational education: the Wolf Report
- DfE BIS Traineeships Guidelines

#### Strand Three: Participation and Support

- 14 19 Full Participation Plan (addressing barriers to learning)
- Current NEET, Not Known and In Learning Data
- Choices analysis (What young people are currently looking for schools and NEET)
- LDD 139A Assessment, requirements and data
- Current Statutory Participation Guidance
- Lost in Transition? The Changing labour market and young people NEET
- Select Committee report on Careers
- Raising the Participation Age

Who can provide us with further relevant evidence? (Cabinet Member, officer, service user, general public, expert witness, etc.)

What specific areas do we want them to cover when they give evidence?

#### Strand One: Demand (September)

Tees Valley Unlimited – "Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth" Evidence Base?

Economic Assessment, Statement of Ambition, Growth Sectors, City Deal

Visits to NIFCo, Fujifilm Diosynth, Cotswold

**Business Perspective** 

Manufacturing and [Micro] businesses (following September meeting)

# Strand Two: Provision and Performance (October)

Lynda Brown Overview, Participation Plan, Travel to learn

data

Linda Russell Bond Looked After Children Education Funding Agency Gaps in Provision

Principals of FE Colleges School Perspective

Plans in place to raise performance

October/November TBC - Round table discussion at Northfield School with Head teacher and secondary school representatives/pupils

Pupil Perspective

### Strand Three: - Participation and Support (November)

Shaun McLurg Overview, Data, Statutory Framework

Dave Willingham

Andy Hately Careers

lan Caley NEETs

Carolyn Chubb Spot Purchasing, Grant Funding

Lynn Whiteman STEPS

Site Visit to Space Invaders, Matty's Bistro to provide background ahead of November meeting

## How will this information be gathered? (e.g. Financial baselining and analysis, benchmarking, site visits, face-to-face questioning, telephone survey, survey)

- Mapping of existing provision, current performance baseline (e.g. Neets, academic achievement, etc.),
- Site visits to businesses (including NifCo, SMEs)
- Focus group session with Principals of Further Education colleges and training providers
- Round table discussion with head teachers and secondary school representatives/pupils
- Informal meeting with young carers (via Eastern Ravens)
- Member attendance at Let's Take Action Group to seek views of LAC/ care leavers

#### How will key partners and the public be involved in the review?

- Evidence to CYP Select Committee
- Views of providers, business and students (including vulnerable groups) will be sought as part of the review.

#### How will the review help the Council meet the Public Sector Equality Duty?

The review will seek to ensure that there is no disadvantage of access to relevant services for protected groups. It will also consider how targeted support can be offered to vulnerable groups.

### How will the review contribute towards the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), or the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy?

The review will contribute to the following targets contained within the JSNA:

- to increase the overall employment rate and reduce the unemployment rate (of young people specifically)
- to reduce the levels of benefit dependency in the borough
- to increase the skill base of the population
- Potential powers for Tees Valley Unlimited with DWP for commissioning of skills and employability to reflect local needs to remove barriers from employment

### Provide an initial view as to how this review could lead to efficiencies, improvements and/or transformation:

The recommendations from the review will seek to ensure that education/ training provision matches the needs of industry and growth sectors and that young people are being given appropriate careers information and advice about learning pathways and routes to employment in order to make informed choices about the prospects of securing employment on completion of their course.

Review of Further Education Project Plan

Chair Councillor C Clark	Scrutiny Officer Judith Trainer
Departmental Link Officers Richard Poundford Shaun McLurg Lynda Brown	

KEY TASK	DETAILS/ACTIVITIES	DATE	RESPONSIBILITY
Scoping of Review	Information gathering	May 2013	Scrutiny Officer Link Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss aims and objectives of review	ТВА	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member(s), Corporate Director(s), Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Agree Scope and Project Plan	Scope and Project Plan agreed by Committee	28 August 2013	Select Committee
Obtaining Evidence		28 August 2013 – Introductory Presentations (including NEETs DVD)	Select Committee
		18 September 2013 – Demand  September/October TBC – Site visit to businesses	

		16 October 2013 – Provision and Performance  October/November TBC - Round table discussion at Northfield School with Head teacher and secondary school representatives/pupils  Site Visit to Space Invaders, Matty's Bistro to provide background for November meeting  27 November 2013 - Support	Meeting to be held at Stockton Riverside College
Members decide recommendations and findings	Review summary of findings and formulate draft recommendations		Select Committee
Circulate Draft Report to Stakeholders	Circulation of Report	January/ February 2014	Scrutiny Officer
Tri-Partite Meeting	Meeting to discuss finding of review and draft recommendations	30 January 2014 4-5pm	Select Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Cabinet Member(s), Corporate Director(s), Scrutiny Officer, Link Officer
Final Agreement of Report	Approval of final report by Committee	19 February 2014	Select Committee, Cabinet Member, Corporate Director

Consideration of Report by Executive Scrutiny Committee	Consideration of report	4 March 2014	Executive Scrutiny Committee
Report to Cabinet/Approving Body	Presentation of final report with recommendations for approval to Cabinet	13 March 2014	Cabinet/ Approving Body