Children and Young People Select Committee

Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 22 October 2013

Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)

Scrutiny Review of Employment and Education

The review is examining whether education and training 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 review will seek to establish how education and business can work together to ensure that learning provision matches local industry need.

The review is being conducted in three stands:

Strand One – Demand (Richard Poundford lead)

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

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

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

The Committee have received information in respect of Stand One of the review (Demand) and site visits are being organised to a range of local businesses.

The next meeting of the Select Committee on 16 October will focus on provision and performance and will take place at Stockton Riverside College. The Committee will be receiving evidence from:

- The principals of the two sixth form colleges
- Education Funding Agency

Other Work

At their last meeting in September, Members received a progress update in respect of their previous review of the Quality and Sufficiency of Childcare. Good progress had been made against the recommendations including establishing locality based networks from children's centres to share good practice and provide peer support. The approach was working well and there has been evidence of improvement in Ofsted judgements.