

Coalfield Area Committee

4 November 2009

Report of the Chief Executive

Coalfield a Learning Area Summary

1. Why has it come to Committee?

1.1 At its June meeting, the committee agreed its work plan for the 2009/10 municipal year and the **Learning** priority is the third to come to committee for discussion and consideration.

2. Background

2.1 Following the extensive programme of consultation with members, partners, community stakeholders and the wider community, the agreed priorities for this theme are:

- 1 Provide non academic support and advice for children and young people
- 2 Adequate Youth Provision to be available for all wards
- 3 Prepare young people for adult life through encouragement and building of confidence
- 4 Raise aspirations of children/young people and their families
- 5 Raise attainment levels and skills of young people
- 6 Provide more support for 14-19 year olds regarding employability skills
- 7 Address issues around lack of public transport in some areas

2.2 Who has been involved?

- Children's Services
- Sunderland College
- Springboard
- School representatives
- Gentoo Living
- Library Services
- Nexus
- Education Business Connections (EBC)
- SAFC Foundation
- Youth Development Group, Children's Services

2.3 Key Dates

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|---------------|---|
| August 2009 | Preparation of summary report (workshop) |
| November 2009 | Meeting of Area Committee and development of detailed action plan |
| November 2009 | Actions implemented and call for projects (SIB) where appropriate |
| January 2010 | Consideration/approval of SIB applications |
| Ongoing | Monitoring and progress reports |

3. Learning Theme Area Summary

3.1 Attached as Annex 1 is the area summary for the Attractive and Inclusive theme. The annex covers:

- Priorities agreed at Area Committee
- Background/Key Issues
- Current activity
- Any gaps, identified needs or general comments
- Actions and Proposals with lead organisations identified

4. Recommendation

4.1 Area Committee is asked to:

Note all of the **actions** identified in Annex 1

Agree which of the following proposals (also identified in Annex 1) will be developed

Proposals

- **Review** Youth Development Group's mobile youth provision to ensure information, advice and guidance is available in all parts of the Coalfield (e.g. Shiney Row, Penshaw, Moorsley/Peat Carr and Fencehouses areas).
- **Review** anti bullying provision in schools and explore the need to extend anti-bullying programmes in primary schools in the Coalfield area.
- **Review** future delivery of GO4IT positive activities work with young people. Connexions and Youth Development Group
- **Review** – Family, Adult, Community Learning to identify and support the development of new providers of family learning
- **Escalate to LSP** provision of apprenticeship opportunities. Greater public sector commitment to the creation of more full apprenticeships is required - Either by providing apprenticeships within statutory sector organisations or providing financial incentives to other employers.

5. Background papers

- Sunderland Strategy Delivery Plans
- Local Area Agreements Delivery Plans
- Safer Sunderland Partnership
- Coalfield Local Area Plan
- Information provided by partners and officers at Learning workshop event August 2009 and one to one meetings

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Annex 1: Coalfield Area Summary - Learning