

16-19 AND POST 19 EDUCATION AND SKILLS REFORMS

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide the Scrutiny Committee with an evidence gathering session for the policy review of the machinery of government changes, announced in 2008, which will transfer the planning and commissioning of 16-19 provision from central government to local authorities.

2. Background

- 2.1 The terms of reference for the review are to consider the process of change, particularly over the next few months and the effectiveness of :
- Bringing together provision for children and young people up to the age of 19
 - Making sure that education and training for 16-19 year olds meets the needs of all - including the most vulnerable and those who are at risk of becoming NEET
 - Providing a smoother transition at 16 and at 19 for students with SEN
 - Planning education and training that balances learners' choices, employers' needs, and responds to economic trends

3. Programme

- 3.1 A number of witnesses, all involved in providing education, training to young people (and advice and guidance in the case of Connexions) will be attending the Committee. In order to manage the business effectively, a timed programme is attached as Appendix 1 and brief details about each organisation are attached as Appendix 2.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to consider the evidence and identify any other areas of evidence gathering arising from this meeting.

5. Background Papers

Joint commissioning strategy – scoping report for policy review Scrutiny Report 9 July 2009
16-19 and post 19 education and skills reforms Scrutiny Report 12 November 2009

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CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

PROGRAMME

POLICY REVIEW: 16-19 CHANGES

FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER 2009, COMMITTEE ROOM 1

9.15 am	Coffee/Tea
9.25 am	Welcome and Introductions, Chair Councillor Paul Stewart
9.30 –10.00 am	ETEC Dick Ellison, Chief Executive
10.00-10.30 am	Springboard Denise Wilson, Chief Executive
10.30-11.00 am	ITEC Ian Gardner
11.00-11.15	Coffee/Tea
11.15– 11.45	Connexions Helen Hunter, Senior Area Coordinator
11.45-12.15 pm	Key Training Janice Eighteen, Regional Director
12.15-12.45 pm	Milltech Derek Freeman, Managing Director
12.45-1.00 pm	Summary and Conclusions
1.00 pm	LUNCH – MEMBERS’ DINING ROOM

WITNESS ORGANISATION INFORMATION

ETEC

ETEC was founded in April 1991 and is a not-for-profit company working with people who are most likely to be excluded in society. ETEC is supported by a number of external agencies including the Learning and Skills Council, Jobcentre Plus, Working Neighbourhood Fund and the European Social Fund. The organisation delivers training courses in a number of vocational areas including Business Administration, ICT, Bricklaying, Joinery and Painting and Decorating. Courses are delivered in workshops, classrooms and computer suites as well as at external venues.

Springboard

Springboard Sunderland Trust is a registered charity. It was founded in 1975 as a joint project between Community Service Volunteers (CSV) and Sunderland City Council. It organises training and volunteering opportunities for 18-24 year olds in areas such as Business Administration, Early Years, Print and Graphic Design, Motor Vehicles, Catering, Care, Sport and Leisure and Horticulture. Springboard works closely with local employers to provide work experience and job opportunities for learners.

ITEC

Sunderland City Information Technology Centre was founded in 1982 and in that time has worked with over 2000 learners. There has been a steady growth in student numbers and the current average number of students trained each year is 130. The organisation provides Apprenticeships and Advanced Apprenticeships in Business Administration, Customer Service, Warehousing & Storage, Electronic Engineering and Information and Communications Technology in both using ICT applications and ICT maintenance and support.

Connexions

Connexions is a free confidential advice and support service for all 13 - 19 year olds (and up to age 25 for people with a learning difficulty or disability). It was set up with the help of young people for young people. Connexions services are funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) through local authorities to offer young people advice and support on a wide range of lifestyle issues including education, training, careers, employment, health and personal development opportunities.

Key Training

Key Training is a national company which was founded in the 1960's. It has branches across the country including Sunderland. It has strong links with employers and other partners and offers apprenticeships in Administration, Customer Service, Retail, Information Technology, Warehousing, Management, Team Leading and Call Handling.

Milltech

Milltech was founded in the 1990's. The organisation has worked to develop strong links with companies throughout the Tyne and Wear area. Many ex-Milltech learners are managers or supervisors within these organisations and take an active role in training new apprentices. Placements are offered for Business Administration, IT, Motor Vehicle and Vehicle Selling, Distributive Operations (Warehousing) and Customer Service. Young people gain practical experience within their chosen industry.