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Agenda for a meeting of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on Tuesday 15 December 2015 at 1730 in Room DN03 Keighley Campus, Leeds City College, Bradford Road Keighley, BD21 4HQ

Members of the Committee - Councillors

Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat	Bradford Independents
Sykes (Ch)	Engel	J Sunderland	F Khan
M Pollard (DCh)	Peart		
	Shaheen		
	Tait		
	Thirkill		

Alternates:

Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat	Bradford Independents
Carmody	Bacon	N Pollard	Collector
Rickard	Abid Hussain		
	Lee		
	Akhtar		

VOTING CO-OPTED MEMBERS:

Church representatives: Claire Parr (RC), Joyce Simpson (CE)

Parent Governor Representatives: Mr Sidiq Ali, vacancy

NON VOTING CO-OPTED MEMBERS:

Health Representative elect: Tina Wildy

Teachers Secondary School Representative: Tom Bright

Teachers Primary School Representative: Stephen Pickles

Teachers Special School Representative: Irene Docherty

Voluntary Sector Representative: Janet Jewitt, Kerr Kennedy

Notes:

- ***A short tour of the ICE facility will take place at 1700***
- This agenda can be made available in Braille, large print or audio format on request by contacting the Agenda contact shown below.
- The taking of photographs, filming and sound recording of the meeting is allowed except if Councillors vote to exclude the public to discuss confidential matters covered by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Recording activity should be respectful to the conduct of the meeting and behaviour that disrupts the meeting (such as oral commentary) will not be permitted. Anyone attending the meeting who wishes to record or film the meeting's proceedings is advised to liaise with the Agenda Contact who will provide guidance and ensure that any necessary arrangements are in place. Those present who are invited to make spoken contributions to the meeting should be aware that they may be filmed or sound recorded.
- If any further information is required about any item on this agenda, please contact the officer named at the foot of that agenda item.

From:

D Pearson

Interim City Solicitor

Agenda Contact: Jill Bell

Phone: 01274 432227

E-Mail: jill.bell@bradford.gov.uk

To:



City of Bradford
Metropolitan District Council



A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. ALTERNATE MEMBERS (Standing Order 34)

The Interim City Solicitor will report the names of alternate Members who are attending the meeting in place of appointed Members.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

(Members Code of Conduct - Part 4A of the Constitution)

To receive disclosures of interests from members and co-opted members on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

Notes:

- (1) *Members may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest or an interest which the Member feels would call into question their compliance with the wider principles set out in the Code of Conduct. Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to the Member concerned or their spouse/partner.*
- (2) *Members in arrears of Council Tax by more than two months must not vote in decisions on, or which might affect, budget calculations, and must disclose at the meeting that this restriction applies to them. A failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence under section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.*
- (3) *Members are also welcome to disclose interests which are not disclosable pecuniary interests but which they consider should be made in the interest of clarity.*
- (4) *Officers must disclose interests in accordance with Council Standing Order 44.*

3. MINUTES

Recommended –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2015 be signed as a correct record (previously circulated).

4. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

(Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 3B of the Constitution)



Reports and background papers for agenda items may be inspected by contacting the person shown after each agenda item. Certain reports and background papers may be restricted.

Any request to remove the restriction on a report or background paper should be made to the relevant Strategic Director or Assistant Director whose name is shown on the front page of the report.

If that request is refused, there is a right of appeal to this meeting. Please contact the officer shown below in advance of the meeting if you wish to appeal.

(Jill Bell - 01274 434580)

5. **REFERRALS TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

To receive referrals that have been made to this Committee after the publication of this agenda.

The Committee is asked to note the referrals and decide how it wishes to proceed, for example by incorporating the item into the work programme, requesting that it be subject to more detailed examination, or refer it to an appropriate Working Group/Committee.

(Jill Bell - 01274 434580)

A. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ACTIVITIES

6. **THE IMPACT OF INDUSTRIAL CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE TO DATE**

The report of the Strategic Director for Children's Services (**Document "AN"**) explains that Industrial Centres of Excellence (ICE) were one of the measures in the Get Bradford Working paper that was approved by Bradford Council's Executive committee on 22 June 2012. ICE were proposed as a model to enable employers in Bradford to take more of a leadership role in the design and delivery of 14 to 19 learning. Get Bradford Working set out a requirement for £1.5million to initiate the ICE programme, which will be used to develop ICE addressing priority economic sectors.

Recommended -

- (1) **That members note the content of Document "AN" and welcome the progress made with the development of the Industrial Centres of Excellence (ICE) programme toward both improving the skills and employability of the young people in the District and increasing the role of Bradford businesses in education and training.**



- (2) That members support the ICE Boards in their efforts to promote a wide range of career options to all our young people, irrespective of traditional recruitment patterns.
- (3) That members promote the ICE programme and its success within their resident, employer and education networks

(Philip Hunter - 01274 385680)

7. 16-19 EDUCATION IN BRADFORD

This report of the Strategic Director Children's Services (**Document "AO"**) considers certain key data in respect of young people's engagement in learning and attainment by age 19 including the sustainability of the destinations young people choose.

Recommended -

- (1) That the Committee receive a report on the Bradford Review of post-16 in January 2016.
- (2) That the partnership work taking place in relation to participation post-16 be commended and that the Committee receive a report on the development of arrangements for an Information Advice & Guidance (IAG) service to meet Council and partners' statutory duties.
- (3) That the Education, Employment and Skills Team work with partners to implement the good practice from the "NEET-free Keighley" approach in other geographical NEET hotspots.

(Philip Hunter - 01274 385680)

8. CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2015-16

The report of the Chair of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee (**Document "AP"**) presents the Committee's Work Programme 2015-16.

Recommended -

That the Work Programme 2015-16 continues to be regularly reviewed during the year.

(Licia Woodhead - 01274 432119)



THIS AGENDA AND ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER



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Report of the Strategic Director to the meeting of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 15th December 2015.

AN

Subject:

The impact of Industrial Centres of Excellence to date

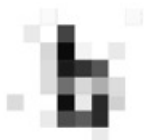
Summary statement:

Industrial Centres of Excellence (ICE) were one of the measures in the Get Bradford Working paper that was approved by Bradford Council's Executive committee on 22 June 2012. ICE were proposed as a model to enable employers in Bradford to take more of a leadership role in the design and delivery of 14 to 19 learning. Get Bradford Working set out a requirement for £1.5million to initiate the ICE programme, which will be used to develop ICE addressing priority economic sectors.

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**Portfolio:
Education, Skills & Culture**

**Overview & Scrutiny Area:
Children & Young People's Services**



2006-2007
Improving Rural Services
Empowering Communities



Suzan Hemingway, Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor)

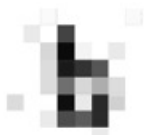


1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The implementation of Get Bradford Working (GBW), an Employment Investment Programme for the District, was initially approved at Bradford Council's Executive Committee on 22 June 2012.
- 1.2 Get Bradford Working is made up of six elements, specifically this report details developments of one of these, Industrial Centres of Excellence (ICE).
- 1.3 ICE are a Bradford model to enable employers to take more of a leadership role in the design and delivery of 14 to 19 learning, to ensure that our young people have skills and qualifications that employers value when they leave the education system.
- 1.4 £1.5million of GBW funding was allocated as seed money for the development of ICE to cover sectors that we know will be critical in the future Bradford economy. These sectors are:
- Construction and the Built Environment
 - Advanced Manufacturing
 - Engineering
 - Creative and Digital Industries
 - Environmental Technologies
 - Business and Financial Services
 - Retail
- 1.5 As there is significant synergy between the relevant skills for those sectors Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering and Creative and Digital will delivered as one ICE, similarly Business, Finance and Retail will also be one ICE.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Industrial Centres of Excellence (ICE) are a key programme that will contribute significantly to the delivery of the 14-19 strategy, "Skills for Lifelong Learning, Decent Work and Fulfilling Lives' and the Employment and Skills Strategy."
- 2.2 ICE are discrete Centres within existing schools or colleges (they are not formal standalone institutions and so do not therefore have their own DfE number). Ultimately, the target is that each centre will have at least 300 14-19 year olds accessing their provision.
- 2.3 The Centres have their own management Board which has responsibility for matters such as curriculum, quality assurance and the finance of the Centre delegated from school governing bodies or college corporations.



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- 2.3 The Boards typically, though not prescriptively, comprise at least five lead business partners (the ICE is designed so that the business rather than the individual is the Board member), at least two 14-19 education and training providers (schools or colleges) and at least one Higher Education partner. This enables employers to help provide vision, leadership and commitment through direct investment and support, and to shape the ethos, key policies and practices in the Centre. Further businesses are involved at a more operational level as 'associate partners' delivering key elements of the ICE curriculum.
- 2.4 The ICE model therefore enables employers to take an increased leadership role in the design and delivery of 14 to 19 learning in their sector and to articulate and stimulate the demand for skills. Each ICE will aim to address the future strategic workforce needs of local businesses through learning, training and work experience that provides outstanding preparation for entry into employment in our priority sectors, either directly through Apprenticeships or indirectly via higher education. The ICE are therefore a key strand of the Bradford Pathways programme and the first manifestation of the Pathways approach, but specifically focused on the 14-19 phase.
- 2.5 The curriculum will integrate real-life business-led project activities that foster team working, problem-solving and creative skills as part and parcel of developing technical knowledge and expertise.

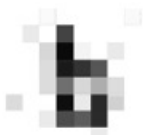
3. Report issues

- 3.1 The phased opening of the ICE means that they are at different stages of their development and consequently have differing levels of data available relating to the performance of the young people accessing ICE provision. However in two Centres (the Centre of Excellence for Business and the Centre of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing) the first cohorts to go through a full two year programme in an ICE have completed their studies.

The data from these cohorts and current position of each ICE is described below.

3.2.1 Centre of Excellence for Business

- The Board members are Shipley College, Titus Salt School, Carlton Bolling College, the University of Bradford Management School, Yorkshire Water, Provident Financial Group, Incommunities, UKAR, Adviser Plus, Morrison's, Westfield and Beaumont Robinson
- The Board is Chaired by Michael Wall from Beaumont Robinson
- This Centre also focusses on the financial and retail sectors and has a retail-focussed hub at Carlton Bolling College
- This was the first centre to open (in September 2013).
- The Board set targets for student retention, success rates and grades all of which were exceeded in 2014/15
- The overall success rate was 89% compared to 73% for the equivalent cohort in 2012/13



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- Of the completers who had been at the ICE on the roll of Shipley College, 42% progressed into Higher Education, 25% progressed into full-time employment, and 21% continued in Further Education
- The Year 12 students at Shipley College are currently averaging a grade of 2.48 (where 1 = Pass, 2 = Merit, 3 = Distinction) which is a significant increase on the actual attainment for 2014/15 (2.05) which itself was a clear increase on 2012/13's equivalent – pre-ICE- cohort (1.61)
- Titus Salt's groups accessing the ICE are operating at an average of 2.9, i.e. the equivalent of marginally under a Distinction for all students.

3.2.2 Centre of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering

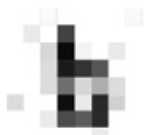
- The Board members are Oakbank School, Leeds City College, the Airedale Partnership, Airedale Springs, Principle Healthcare, Advanced Actuators, Byworth Boilers, Keighley Laboratories, Gesipa, Hewitt Topham and Metalcraft UK
- The Chair for this ICE is Robert Baldwin of Byworth Boilers,
- Leeds City College have relocated the 'FabLab' to Keighley campus to increase access to this for ICE students alongside the ICE itself and their StAR Centre to create a more comprehensive capital offer
- A cohort of Oakbank students has completed the GCSE Engineering course through the ICE. Attainment of A*-C for this group was 59% compared to national average of 40%
- The Keighley Training Consortium has agreed to sponsor an ICE Apprentice of the Year Award, with three cash equivalent prizes (to be used on tools, for the next five years
- This is the first year this ICE has had a post-16 offer, and there are 30 young people accessing this in 2015/16, of which 20 are Apprentices.

3.2.3 Centre of Excellence for the Built Environment

- The Board members are Bradford College, Carlton Bolling College, Tong High School, Arnold Laver, Rex Proctor and Partners, Moortown Construction, Wates, Laing O'Rourke, CITB and Incommunities
- Andrew Laver from Arnold Laver chairs this Board
- Year one activity has included 18 site visits to enhance learning within curriculum pathways, ten business-led masterclasses and summer school provision to enable students to progress straight from a CSkills qualification to a Level 2 Trade qualification (previously they had to enter at Level 1)
- Partners have worked together to create a house renovation programme to commence in the new year, which will create a real life learning environment working alongside businesses to renovate housing creating a sustainable income stream for the ICE
- College provision is being enhanced by using advanced technology facilities developed with businesses including CAD software packages and drones

3.2.4 Centre of Excellence for Environmental Technologies

- The Board members are Buttershaw Business and Enterprise College (BBEC),



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the University of Bradford (Life Sciences), Yorkshire Water, AWM, Shot Blast Media and NG Bailey.

- Frank Clayton from NG Bailey chairs the Board.
- The main site for the ICE is the University's STEM Centre and there are now 104 BBEC students from Years 9 to 13 accessing ICE provision there, including supporting A Level STEM subjects and other Level 3 qualifications
- The Board is currently recruiting further 14-19 educational providers to join as partners
- CE:ET also featured as a case study in a UK Commission for Employment and Skills report looking at collaboration between employers and Higher Education

4. Options

The 'Career Cluster Framework' approach of the Bradford Pathways framework is being implemented across all the ICEs. This approach provides defined pathways for young people to explore careers, take a career interest and develop it into job potential. There are multiple broad career clusters which are in turn broken down into specific pathways. Young people will be able to learn about the range of careers within each pathway and choose a programme of study to learn the skills, attitude, behaviour and knowledge for academic and career success.

The programme of study will be tied to local economic needs, specific partnerships, and a sequence of courses that will provide a pathway for young people to move seamlessly from secondary to post-secondary education and on into work. The programme of study is also the foundation for each young person's Individual Learning Plan, which is a portfolio of student accomplishment in preparation for post-secondary education or the workforce.

In terms of longer term financial sustainability of the ICE, there are a number of funding channels in place or being explored:

- use of the revenue funding generated by the learner's home institution to purchase ICE provision;
- sponsorship and other ad hoc contributions from employer partners;
- potential for more regular contributions from employer partners;
- that the ICE effectively acts as a recruitment partner to employers and they pay for this appropriately; and
- the house renovation programme outlined at 3.2.3 and other income generation schemes for services that could be traded relevant to the specialism of the ICE.

5. Contribution to Corporate Priorities

5.1 Improving Educational Attainment: .

A key aim of the ICEs is to make education and training provision exciting and innovative for the young people in them to increase their engagement, motivation and ultimately attainment.



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As is highlighted in sections 3.2.1 to 3.2.2 the ICE approach is having a demonstrable impact on the outcomes of young people.

5.2 Support for the District's economy, jobs, skills and city centre regeneration:

One of the core functions of the ICE is to develop the education and training system to deliver qualifications that are relevant to the current and future needs of the local and global economy through partnership with employers from across the District.

It is still too early to assess a long term impact, and there is still a lot of work to be done, including involving more employers, and finding more work experience opportunities. However, as a result of the ICEs opening, all of the young people on programme have a much greater understanding of what employers in Bradford expect of them.

6. Recommendations

That members note the content of this report and welcome the progress made with the development of the ICE programme toward both improving the skills and employability of the young people in the District and increasing the role of Bradford businesses in education and training.

That members support the ICE Boards in their efforts to promote a wide range of career options to all our young people, irrespective of traditional recruitment patterns.

That members promote the ICE programme and its success within their resident, employer and education networks

7. Background Documents

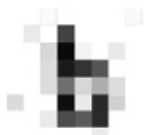
[Centre of Excellence for Business](#)
[Centre of Excellence for Environmental Technologies](#)
[Centre of Excellence for the Built Environment](#)
[Centre of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering](#)
[Bradford Pathways](#)

8. Not for Publication documents

None

9. Appendices

None



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Report of the Strategic Director Children's Services to the meeting of the Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee to be held on 15th December 2015

AO

Subject:

16-19 EDUCATION IN BRADFORD

Summary statement:

This report considers certain key data in respect of young people's engagement in learning and attainment by age 19 including the sustainability of the destinations young people choose.

Michael Jameson
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Portfolio:
Children & Young People's Services

Overview & Scrutiny Area:
Children & Young People's Services



1. Summary

1.1 Academic year 2013/14 saw the implementation of the first phase of the Raising of the Participation Age (RPA) from 16 to 18 and changes in the funding of 16-19 provision to underpin this.

For academic year 2014/15 there was minimal change to the funding mechanism other than a cap on the funding that could be drawn down for (academic age) 18 year olds.

As ever the funding, and what is expected to be delivered in return for this funding, present a significant challenge to our schools, colleges and training providers, and in addition 2015/16 is the last year in which any protections have been applied. However data on participation indicates Bradford has consolidated the advances of recent years and continues to improve performance, with some encouraging data around qualification outcomes at the end of Key Stage 5.

The quality and financial challenges in particular, and OFSTED's highlighting of these in their recent inspection of the Local Authority has driven the initiation of a review of post-16 in Bradford.

2. Background

2.1 The funding allocations process for all publicly funded 16-19 education and training providers (excluding Apprenticeships), including schools and academies, is managed by the Education Funding Agency (EFA), which is part of the DfE.

2.2 Under the 16-19 funding formula young people are funded to undertake programmes of study rather than separate individual qualifications. Within these arrangements:

- Every full-time young person is funded for a 600 hour programme as long as they reach the RPA definition of full-time (540 hours);
- There is a good deal of flexibility in terms of what counts towards the 540 hours compared to previous funding methodologies, for example work experience and non-accredited learning count as fundable activity;
- Study programmes must however include Maths and English if a Grade C at GCSE has not been achieved; and
- There are four part-time funding bands for anyone that doesn't meet the 540 hour threshold.

2.3 The new funding methodology was linked to the implementation of the raising of the participation age. There was a phased implementation of RPA but both milestones are now in effect meaning that young people now have a duty to participate in either education or employment with training until their 18th birthday.



2.4 The DfE publishes data indicating the number of young people meeting their duty to participate under RPA to complement a range of pre-existing data around participation and NEET.

3. Report issues

3.1 PART ONE - The 16-19 funding formula

3.1.1 The formula generates a 'programme funding' budget based on the following elements:

- Lagged learner numbers
- The national rate per learner
- Programme weighting
- Retention
- Disadvantage
- Area costs

Programme funding is then added to High Needs funding, any Formula Protection and a 16-19 Bursary allocation to give a total funding allocation.

3.1.2 Although there is a protection in cash terms of the base rate of 16-19 funding in the Autumn Spending Review, the concern would be that when the details of how DfE will apportion their budget become clearer there will still be an adverse impact on post-16 funding. It should be noted that where previous adjustments have been made to 16-19 funding it has typically been to other factors in the formula than the base rate. Two points to note that will definitely impact on 16-19 allocations in Bradford are that:

- The reduction in funding for 18 year olds (other than those with high needs) on full time programmes, initiated in 2014/15 continues. The data used for the 2015/16 allocation indicated this impacted the funding of 330 young people in Bradford sixth forms; and
- Formula protection funding, where changes to the funding formula in 2013/14 would have resulted in a reduction in individual institution funding rates per student, will be applied for the final time in the calculation of 2015/16 academic year allocations. Maintained schools received £448,000 of protection his year of which £316,000 was allocated to just three schools.

3.1.3 From September 2014 the condition of funding in respect of English and Maths has been implemented meaning that any young person without GCSE Grade C in ether of these subjects will need to continue to study the subject(s) for which they don't have the C Grade post-16. For a young person with a Grade D this continued study must be a GCSE, for anyone with an E or below there are a small number of eligible 'stepping stone' qualifications that they can enrol on to meet the condition. For each young person not meeting this condition a school (or College) loses the equivalent on one learners funding.

3.2 PART TWO - Participation



3.2.1 There are a number of different measures around participation, retention and those young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) that have on the whole been very positive in terms of trends and national comparators for the District. Some of these indicators are briefly discussed below at 3.2.2 – 3.2.5.

3.2.2 The Activity Survey is an annual process undertaken to ascertain the destinations of all young people who were in years 11 to 14 in Bradford schools the previous academic year – i.e. 2014/15 in this case. The Survey focuses on the situation on a particular day (6th November 2015) and historically the focus of the data reported is considered in terms of Year 11 destinations.

The ex-Year 11 headlines for this year were as follows:

- The in-learning number (5,877 young people) and rate (96.2%) are both record highs for the district;
- The NEET number (96) and rate (1.6%) are both record lows for the District; this represents the first time that the NEET figure has been below 100 in the Activity Survey;
- There was a slight shift in the balance of destinations with the percentage going to a sixth form falling slightly (56% to 51%) whilst College (34.6% to 38.7%) and Apprenticeships (2.4% to 3.3%) both increased; and
- Five schools had zero NEET in the survey.

3.2.3 The NEET group is monitored monthly with the DfE particularly focussing on the average NEET rate across the November to January period. Bradford can consistently demonstrate falling NEET rates compared to historical data. In October we had 621 NEET young people – 3.6% of the cohort, which is 1.4 percentage points below October 2014.

In terms of the November to January average for 2014/15 we equalled last year's record low rate of 5.4% for Bradford; the England rate was 4.7% over this period.

3.2.4 At each of the six points that the DfE has published data on the proportion of young people meeting their duty to participate under RPA, Bradford's figures have been better than the England average.

The DfE publishes figures based on three points in the year – December, March and June – for the most recent Bradford was 1.7 percentage points above the national average, which placed the Authority at joint 41st out of 152 LAs.

3.2.5 Bradford has clearly made significant progress at engaging young people at different points in the academic year. Indeed the DfE's NEET Scorecard ranks Bradford in the top quintile for reengaging NEET young people. However it is clear from the funding discussion that from an organisational perspective there is now a financial imperative that young people make the right choices first time.

The 'Destination Measures' that DfE publish assess the degree to which a young person remains in their initial post-KS4 and post-KS5 destinations and thus they give an indication of how effectively young people are making their choices.



In the provisional data for 2013/14 Bradford had 89% sustained destinations compared to a national figure of 90% and 6% of our young people did not sustain an education destination compared to 5% nationally. The remainder were either classified as 'Destination not sustained/NEET' or 'Not captured'.

The Key Stage 5 data is based only on those young people completing a Level 3 qualification but is positive for Bradford with 64% of that cohort moving into a Higher Education (HE) destination compared to 58% nationally. DfE then segments the data further in to "Top Third HE", Russell Group and Oxford/Cambridge – for each of these Bradford is below the national figure, however 7% of national destinations are not sustained compared to only 5% for the Bradford cohort.

3.2.6 In addition to the national data, Prospects (the contract holder for Connexions in Bradford) undertook a survey of a sample of students currently in learning to assess learners' satisfaction with their course choices now that they are on programme. Only 9% of the students surveyed were not happy with their current course, whilst 88% said they were on what had been their first choice of course.

Six percent of those surveyed had started a different course prior to their current programme but there was a spread of reasons that did not indicate a particular trend that would require specific action. These reasons included the difficulty of the previous course, poor staff/student rapport, not liking the course and inability of the student to meet the criteria to remain on the course.

3.2.7 In each of these datasets, as would be expected, there are certain disadvantaged and vulnerable groups whose data is not as positive as that of the cohort as a whole. This is data that is also regularly monitored and reviewed and there have been clear successes. For example 6 of the 7 vulnerable groups monitored have better NEET rates than at the same month last year, with particular progress amongst Young Carers where this has fallen from 65% in October 2014 to 39%. As the NEET group as a whole contracts there must be a clear focus on these groups to ensure that their participation rates increase to close any participation gap compared to the rest of the cohort.

3.2.8 There are also Wards and other areas that form NEET hotspots. There was a pilot of geographically focussed intensive partnership activity in Keighley under the banner of 'NEET-free Keighley' which has seen the number of NEET young people reduce by more than half across the previous six months. Partners are looking at how now to build on and implement this approach in other NEET hotspot areas.

3.2.9 There is however a risk to the progress that has been made.

Bradford (as part of the Leeds City Region devolution deal) was in one of three areas nationally that delivered under the 'Devolved Youth Contract' approach which gave us significantly greater flexibility in terms of delivery and client group than the rigid national Youth Contract model. This was been a great success in Bradford and had a real impact on reducing NEET however the recruitment to this programme has now ended as the funding ceased this year.



Similarly concerning is the gap where European Social Fund (ESF) funding provided engagement provision for NEET young people due to delays with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) commissioning the next round of funding this provision. It is also understood that when this is commissioned it will fund fewer places than the previous ESF rounds.

3.3 PART THREE – Attainment rates at age 19

3.3.1 There is some relatively positive data in respect of post-16 outcomes at Level 3 as both A Level points per entry and per candidate have increased in the provisional 2015 results and the gap to national figures has decreased although it is still considerable, as is shown below:

	2014	2015
Bradford points per entry	201.5	202.6
England points per entry	215.6	215.4
Gap Bradford to England	-14.1	-12.8
Bradford points per candidate	735.0	739.4
England points per candidate	787.1	771.3
Gap Bradford to England	-52.1	-31.9

3.3.2 Provisional vocational performance data also improved at Level 3 and Bradford extended the gap over national figures, increasing from 218.0 to 225.8 while England increases from 216.6 to 219.3. It should be noted that vocational qualifications are undergoing significant reform post-16 so this may impact future performance in this area.

Clearly though this only applies to a section of the year group rather than its whole.

3.3.3 In terms of data that does relate to the whole cohort's performance across the 16-19 phase the government annually publishes Local Authority level information on attainment of Level 2 and Level 3 by age 19.

3.3.4 In a break with recent positive trends in this data both the Level 2 and Level 3 rates in 2014 showed a small decrease compared to 2013 and, for both these measures, the gap to the national rate has increased slightly as shown in the following table:

	2013	2014	Variance
Level 2			
<i>Bradford</i>	80.5%	80.3%	-0.2pp
<i>England</i>	86.2%	87.0%	+ 0.8pp
<i>Gap</i>	5.7pp	6.7pp	+ 1.0pp
Level 3			
<i>Bradford</i>	51.1%	50.6%	-0.5pp
<i>England</i>	59.1%	59.9%	+0.8pp
<i>Gap</i>	8.0pp	9.3pp	+1.3pp



As part of the release DfE also reports attainment of Level 2 with A*-C in English and Maths by age 19. The headline figure for Bradford shows a slight increase from 55% in 2013 to 56% in 2014, however the national figure increased from 64% to 65.8%, widening the gap from 9 percentage points to 9.8

3.3.4 Considering the data over the five year period 2009-14 indicates some progress however the speed of this in terms of closing the gap is a cause for concern. During this period there had been a steady decrease in the gap between Bradford and England at Level 2 however this year's outcomes have reduced the impact of this progress and the gap is now wider than in 2012.

3.3.5 Over the same five year period there has still not been significant progress made in terms of the difference in performance at Level 3 or of Level 2 including English and Maths, with these gaps essentially the same as in 2009 (both being 0.2 percentage points smaller).

3.3.6 The lack of progress in these measures for 2014 means Bradford has a low, and falling, ranking nationally:

- Level 2 at 19 – 142nd of 152 LAs nationally (134th in 2013)
- Level 2 with English and Maths at 19 – 146th of 152 LAs nationally (144th in 2013)
- Level 3 at 19 - 130th of 152 LAs nationally (125th in 2013)

4. Options

4.1 Bradford Review of Post-16

Bradford needs to consider its approach to sixth forms and the wider Further Education (FE) provision post-16 to ensure it meets the needs of our young people. The recent OFSTED inspection of school improvement arrangements clearly identified issues with the quality and value for money of the current pattern of post-16 provision in Bradford.

There is also a national programme of Area Based Reviews of FE, and Bradford is included in the West Yorkshire review that will report in March 2016. Bradford clearly needs to feed in to and influence this process so that any solutions proposed by the West Yorkshire review are considered appropriate by local partners.

There are also a number of factors that need to be considered for Bradford post-16:

- Quality of provision;
- Appropriateness of curriculum;
- Financial viability and value for money;
- School place planning;
- Use of data across the District; and
- Strategic Partnerships post-16

To address these factors and ensure the District is able to effectively inform and influence the national process, Bradford is undertaking a Review of post-16. The next phase of this will be a two day workshop in early December for key leaders across the District to



develop a set of principles and a roadmap for both a long-term strategy for post-16 in Bradford but also to optimise performance for those young people currently in the system.

The Aimhigher Research and Consultancy Network has been commissioned to support and facilitate this process and an interim report from the workshop will be available before the end of the calendar year.

4.2 Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) service re-tender

One of the critical factors for young people to succeed is the guidance they are given to ensure they are on the right course at the right level as soon as possible and excellent, impartial IAG that can signpost a young person to a range of pathways is essential.

Given that performance in the KS4 destination measures is close to that of the national cohort and at KS5 is better than nationally, and also the re-engagement of NEET is in the top quintile, the current arrangements have clearly had some success.

Currently 30 education providers and the Council jointly commission IAG to meet the needs of young people and our respective organisational statutory duties. This arrangement has generally been perceived by partners as being successful however we are in the final year of that contract and the Council is working to ensure that the new service when tendered is as comprehensive and effective as possible.

This must also be aligned with the Bradford Pathways programme to ensure that we give young people the best possible chance of progressing through the 16-19 phase into employment and Higher Education, and will also be considered within the post-16 review in Bradford.

5. Contribution to Corporate Priorities

5.1 Improving Educational Attainment: Understanding the implications of changes to funding will inform the planning of the curriculum offer and the delivery of high quality outcomes to all young people.

5.2 Support for the District's economy, jobs, skills and city centre regeneration: Higher skill levels among young people mean that more of them can access employment, contribute to the local economy, support themselves and their families and access Higher Education to achieve further qualifications and higher level jobs.

5.3 Supporting the most vulnerable adults, children and families and Reducing health inequalities

Monitoring the participation and progression of our most vulnerable groups will inform targeted interventions to achieve the best educational, health and care outcomes for young people facing serious and often multiple barriers to learning and independent living.



6. Recommendations

- (1) That the Committee receive a report on the Bradford Review of post-16 in January 2016.
- (2) That the partnership work taking place in relation to participation post-16 be commended and that the Committee receive a report on the development of arrangements for an Information Advice & Guidance (IAG) service to meet Council and partners' statutory duties.
- (3) That the Education, Employment and Skills Team work with partners to implement the good practice from the "NEET-free Keighley" approach in other geographical NEET hotspots.

7. Background Documents

[Funding Study Programmes for 16- to 19-year-olds](#)

[Raising the Participation Age \(RPA\) Regulations](#)

[Area Based Reviews of FE](#)

[NEET Scorecard](#)

[Bradford Pathways](#)

8. Not for Publication documents

None

9. Appendices

None



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Report of the Chair of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the meeting to be held on Tuesday 15 December 2015.

AP

Subject:

Subject: Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015-16

Summary statement:

This report presents the Committee's Work Programme 2015-16

Cllr Malcolm Sykes
Chair – Children's Services O&S Committee

Portfolio:
Education, Skills and Culture
Health & Social Care

Report Contact: Licia Woodhead
Overview and Scrutiny Lead
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1. **Summary**

1.1 This report presents the Committee's Work Programme 2015-16

2. **Background**

2.1 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required by the Constitution of the Council to prepare a work programme (Part 3E – Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, Para 1.1).

3. **Report issues**

3.1 **Appendix 1** of this report presents the Work Programme 2015-16.

3.2 **Work planning cycle**

3.2.1 Best practice published by the Centre for Public Scrutiny suggests that 'work programming should be a continuous process'. It is important to regularly review work programmes so that important or urgent issues that come up during the year are able to be scrutinised. In addition, at a time of limited resources, it should also be possible to remove projects which have become less relevant or timely. For this reason, it is proposed that the Committee's work programme be regularly reviewed by Members throughout the municipal year.

4. **Options**

4.1 Members may wish to amend the current work programme (Appendix 1) and / or comment on the proposed work planning cycle set out in Paragraph 3.2.1.

5. **Contribution to corporate priorities**

5.1 The Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015-16 reflects the Council's priority outcomes:-

- *Transforming educational outcomes by improving attainment*
- *Supporting and safeguarding the most vulnerable adults, children and families*

6. **Recommendations**

6.1 That the Work Programme 2015-16 continues to be regularly reviewed during the year.



7. **Background documents**

7.1 Constitution of the Council

8. **Not for publication documents**

None

9. **Appendix**

9.1 **Appendix 1** – Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2015-16



Democratic Services - Overview and Scrutiny

Childrens Services O&S Committee

Scrutiny Lead: Licia Woodhead tel - 43 2119

Work Programme 2015/16

Description

Report

Agenda

Tuesday, 12th January 2016 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 16/12/2015. Secretariat deadline 22/12/2015.

- 1) Schools Forum update
- 2) Educational Attainment Update
- 3) Partnerships update
- 4) Ofsted Action Plan
- 5) Children's Services O&S Committee Work Programme

The Committee will receive an update on the work of the Schools Forum.

The Committee will receive an updates onEducational Attainment in the district

The Committee will receive an update report on the schools partnerships.

The Committee will receive an update report on the Ofsted Action Plan

The Committee will consider its work programme and make changes as necessary.

Andrew Redding

Judith Kirk

Judith Kirk

Judith Kirk

Licia Woodhead

Wednesday, 27th January 2016 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 11/01/2016. Secretariat deadline 14/01/2016.

- 1) Better Start Bradford Programme
- 2) Bradford and District Learning Hub
- 3) The Children's Trust
- 4) Post 16 Review
- 5) Children's Services O&S Committee Work Programme

The Committee will receive an update on the activity and impact of the work associated with the Better Start Programme.

The Committee will receive a progress report which includes the result of the external evaluation, the work being undertaken in other Wards in the district and how the initiative would roll out to Children's Centres.

The Committee will receive an update report highlighting the changes made to the governance arrangements as a result of the review of the Children's Trust.

The Committee will receive a report on the Post 16 review

The Committee will consider its work programme and make changes as necessary.

Michaela Howell / Shirley Brierley

Judith Kirk

Linda Mason

Judith Kirk

Licia Woodhead

Wednesday, 10th February 2016 at St.Edmunds Childrens Centre.

Chair's briefing 25/01/2016. Secretariat deadline 28/01/2016.

- 1) Engagement, Resilience and Well being of Teaching Staff in the Bradford District
- 2) Teaching Schools

The Committee will receive a presentation from Dr George Madine.

The Committee will receive a report on Bradford Teaching Schools

Dr George Madine

Judith Kirk

Childrens Services O&S Committee

Scrutiny Lead: Licia Woodhead tel - 43 2119

Work Programme 2015/16

Description

Report

Agenda

Wednesday, 10th February 2016 at St.Edmunds Childrens Centre.

Chair's briefing 25/01/2016. Secretariat deadline 28/01/2016.

- 3) Children's Services O&S Committee Work Programme

The Committee will consider its work programme and make changes as necessary.

Licia Woodhead

Thursday, 10th March 2016 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 22/02/2016. Secretariat deadline 25/02/2016.

- 1) Workloads of Children's Social Care Services
- 2) Standards Report
- 3) Governance Arrangements
- 4) Children's Services O&S Committee Work Programme

The Committee will receive a report on the workloads of Children's Social Care Services.

Gani Martins

The Committee will receive a report on the validated GCSE data
The Committee will receive an update on the developments and impact of the Bradford Education Improvement Commissioning Board

Judith Kirk
Michael Jameson

The Committee will consider its work programme and make changes as necessary.

Licia Woodhead

Wednesday, 30th March 2016 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 14/03/2016. Secretariat deadline 16/03/2016.

- 1) Schools Forum update
- 2) Outdoor Education Centres
- 3) Development of Two year old early education Places
- 4) Cultural Education

The Committee will receive an update on the work of the Schools Forum.

Andrew Redding

The Committee will receive a progress report on the Outdoor education Centres

Linda Mason / Graham Hutton

The Committee will receive a progress report on the development of two year old early education places.

Linda Mason

The Committee will receive a report on how cultural and creative education can lead to improved outcomes for young people.

Judith Kirk

Tuesday, 12th April 2016 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 24/03/2016. Secretariat deadline 31/03/2016.

- 1) School Expansion
- 2) Youth Service - Youth Offer Review
- 3) Equalities Act - Education

The Committee will receive an update report on school expansion projects.

Ian Smart

The Committee will receive a report on the action plan following the youth offer review.

Ian Day

Referral from Corporate O&S

Childrens Services O&S Committee

Scrutiny Lead: Licia Woodhead tel - 43 2119

Work Programme 2015/16

Description

The Committee will receive a report detailing progress against the resolutions made during the 2015-16 municipal year.

Report

Licia Woodhead

Agenda

Tuesday, 12th April 2016 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 24/03/2016. Secretariat deadline 31/03/2016.

- 4) Resolution Tracking