

CABINET – 3RD JULY 2012

SUBJECT: YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT TASK AND FINISH GROUP

REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

- 1.1 The report was considered by the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 17th April 2012.
- 1.2 The Scrutiny Committee considered the report and recommended to Cabinet that, for the reasons contained therein:-
- (1) the Council should look at ways to boost employment, skills and training for young people both directly and indirectly;
 - (2) the Council investigate inserting clauses into commissioning contracts for third party providers to encourage companies to provide trainee placements;
 - (3) the Local Service Board should include 'addressing youth unemployment' as a priority in its single plan. The Councils approach to apprenticeships and trainee placements be adopted across the LSB. In addition the LSB look at inserting clauses into its third party contracts requiring companies to provide trainee places;
 - (4) the Council improve its collaboration with further education colleges for the provision of work placements for students. In view of the variable success across the council in the past, People Management and Development should have an overview and intervene when there are difficulties;
 - (5) as part of its improvement process the Council should strengthen its succession planning arrangements in order to ensure that it has trained and experienced staff available if a significant proportion of its 50+ workforce retires over a short period of time;
 - (6) the Council should review its job application form and develop a simpler version to include apprenticeship applications;
 - (7) the Council should improve its communication with young people in order to develop a broader understanding of the range of jobs available in the authority. This should include a post placement review of all apprenticeship and trainee placements;
 - (8) the Council should seek to develop further proposals to take advantage of the full range of grant and income generation opportunities that may be available to support youth employment;
 - (9) the Scrutiny Committee receive a monitoring report on the progress of the recommendations 6 months following their acceptance.
- 1.3 Members are asked to consider the recommendations.

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Appendices:
Appendix 1 Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Report 6(1) dated 17th April 2012