

Operational Sub-Group

RPG Workplan Monitoring – update February 2011

Item No: 6

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Summary This paper provides a summary update from the RPG Sub-Groups.

Recommendations OSG members are asked to note/comment.

1 Data

- 1.1 The Data Advisory Group is due to meet on 24 March. A key item on the agenda is the YPLA update on the package of data that will be made available to local authorities in 2011.
- 1.2 It is intended that in addition to future meetings, a 'virtual meeting space' for the DAG is added to the RPG website to test whether this is an effective platform for communicating between meetings and to collaborate on issues as they arise. If this proves to be a successful means of communicating it is proposed that all RPG groups have such meeting spaces on the website.
- 1.3 Current data projects under the supervision of DAG include:-
 - **Post-16 Education and Training Projections:** The RPG commissioned the Greater London Authority's (GLA) Data Management and Analysis Group (DMAG) to undertake post-16 projections. It is anticipated that these projections will be made available shortly.
 - **SEN Cohort Analysis:** The RPG has been working with the YPLA to develop an approach to estimating the SEN population in future years, and predict its impact on LLDD numbers in Years 11 and 12. Background data has now been received from the National Pupil Database Team, which will form the basis for further analysis and an approach to projecting learner numbers
 - **Travel to Success:** Following the completion of the Travel to Success pilots, the project has now been completed and all London local authorities have received their Travel to Success datapacks from Learning Plus UK (LPUK).
 - **Intelligent London:** The RPG is piloting a project called Intelligent London. It is exploring the possibility of creating a portal on the RPG website that opens-up data related to young people, their education and progression through to employment. The focus of the project is to present information in an accessible format so that local authorities can effectively interact with data. A mock website has been produced and should be available via a secure limited access point later this month.

2 Improving Choices for Young People

- 2.1 The Improving Choices for Young People (ICYP) Group is due to meet on 18 March 2011. Following the Government's policy announcement on CEIAG, the new all-age careers service will be on the agenda, including discussion of the planning process, delivery of 139a assessments and the future of CCIS data collection. The group will also receive an update on CHOICE and will consider readiness for the September Guarantee. We have invited the Transition Adviser from the Department for Education's all age careers service project, Dr Sharon Goddard, to attend.

3 ESF

- 3.1 In order to secure the future of the LDA's ESF NEET specifications, the LDA proposes to pass over half of its ESF 1.2 funding to the Skills Funding Agency. The Agency, in turn, has undertaken to deliver the draft LDA specifications with some changes and to procure for provision to be in place in September. Negotiations on the detail of this arrangement are currently underway with a view to making recommendations to the RPG ESF Steering Group on 15 March 2011. This will enable London to move forward with a strong ESF youth programme, covering both NEETs and those at risk of becoming NEET and takes forward the original work by the LDA.

4 LLDD

- 4.1 The publication of the SEND Green Paper has been delayed and consequently a brief verbal update on the content of the Green Paper will be provided at OSG (subject to no further publication delays). We have been informed by DfE that the work currently being undertaken in London to bring consistent practice to transition and explore options for managing resources and budgets across the region will feature as a case study (in brief) in the Green paper.
- 4.2 The next Regional Working Group meeting has been deferred to 16 March due to the delayed publication of the SEND Green paper. The group will discuss the arrangements for consulting on and implementing the regional protocols.
- 4.3 Following receipt of information about the potential breakdown of cross-border assessment arrangements, we are in the process of asking Directors of Children's Services to provide information about reciprocal arrangement agreements for advisers to undertake transition planning and s139a for students hosted in a borough with a home address in another area. We will ask for this information to: a) ascertain the level of risk to assessment activity across London, and b) should the information give cause for concern regarding the timely assessment and placement of young people into suitable education, propose a strategy to resolve the issue.
- 4.4 The Regional Steering Group met on 28 February. Communicating the relationship between the group and the RPG Board to borough colleagues and the role and responsibilities of the group resulting from the SEND Green Paper were strategic discussion items. We will use the 'rebranding' of the RPG on 8 April at the 14-19 Leads event to clarify the relationship of all the groups (DAG, ESF, ICYP, LLDD) to the Board, their accountability (through the Board) to all local authorities and the reporting mechanisms that are used to keep group members and non-members fully informed. The discussion about the role of group concentrated primarily on the whether it should be strategic or operational. The group will continue to explore its role at the next meeting.