

Young People's Education and Skills Operational Sub-Group

Workplan Monitoring – update June 2012

Item No: 6

Date: 1 June 2012

Contact Anna-Maria Volpicelli

Telephone: 020 7934 9779

Email: Anna-maria.volpicelli@londoncouncils.gov.uk

Summary This paper provides a summary update of the major YPES work strands.

Recommendations OSG members are asked to note/comment.

1 Data

- 1.1 The first joint Data Advisory Group/London Education Research Network Post 16 (LERN Post-16) thematic Research and Data Practice Forum - *Data, research and analysis: the foundations for successful RPA* - took place on 10 May. Attendance was good and the presentation of data and information moved from the regional picture right down to student level to give a real flavour of how to use information to improve young people's lives and drive successful implementation of RPA.
- 1.2 The next DAG is scheduled for 11 July 2012.

2 Improving Choices for Young People

- 2.1 The Young People's Education and Skills team hosted a [Member Event](#) on the 21 May to support Councillors to understand their contribution to achieving full participation post-16.
- 2.2 Colleagues from all the Phase 4 RPA trail boroughs joined a panel to take questions from Councillors and were able to provide some incites into the work that is already underway in preparing for RPA.
- 2.3 The [presentations and handouts](#) from the event are available on the London Councils website.
- 2.4 The team also supported a Westminster Forum event, aimed primarily at schools, on the up-coming changes to careers guidance. A short video filmed for the Learner Voice London blog was shown as part of the presentation to highlight [young people's views of careers guidance](#).
- 2.5 The next ICYP Group is scheduled for 27 June 2012.

3 ESF

3.1 The ESF Steering Group met on 23rd May and discussed:

- 3.1.1 Education Funding Agency / Skills Funding Agency Programmes: ESF Preventative NEET, NEET Re-engagement (including vulnerable young people) and Apprenticeship Activity. Performance in those programmes that started last summer was reported to have significantly improved, while there is still considerable lag behind profile in the programmes that started last autumn / winter.
- 3.1.2 Greater London Authority Programmes: ESF Vulnerable Young People. The tenders are currently being scored and the GLA still expects contracts to start in September.
- 3.1.3 Greater London Enterprise Technical Assistance. The GLE is bidding for funds to provide additional support to local authorities.
- 3.1.4 Provider Information. The Group agreed that simply presented local information could be a more pragmatic way to share information than a national / regional system. However, future programmes (e.g. GLA) could provide better information on providers and provision from the outset.
- 3.1.5 Youth Contract. The group heard that the EFA is on track to commission the Youth Contract in conjunction with DWP. Successful providers are expected to be announced 20th June.
- 3.1.6 Group organisation. In view of the changes in the group's membership over the last year and in the nature of Co-Financing Organisations, it was agreed to hold an away day to re-establish the group and its role. Potentially increasing local authority representation will be one of the issues for debate at the away day.

3.2 The next meeting (away day) is taking place on 18th July; hosted by the GLA.

4 LLDD

- 4.1 The first phase of the Mime post-16 LLDD forecasting model has been finalised. In addition to the full regional model, individual local authority workbooks have been produced and will be available to colleagues from the Mime secure server following delivery of briefing workshops in June.
- 4.2 The model was put through its paces during the recent Demographic Growth Capital Fund (DGCF) round, with colleagues attending desk-based introduction sessions to access their data to complete DGCF proposals. A significant amount of feedback was received through this process and fed into the final phase one product.
- 4.3 The Department for Education has published its response to the school funding consultation that was put out last July. The document [School funding reform: Next steps towards a fairer system](#) explains how the Department plans to proceed from 2013-14 and invites views on areas where there are different options; the closing date for responses was 21 May 2012.
- 4.4 Of particular interest to local authorities in regard to post-16/further education funding is Section 3. The section sets out plans for reforming current education funding arrangements for pupils and students with high needs in the school, further education (FE) and alternative provision (AP) sectors, and introduces a new approach to high needs funding called "place-plus".
- 4.5 This new approach has significant operational implications for local authorities that have been set out in a [Departmental guidance](#) and have been summarised in a paper

prepared for the LLDD working group, [School funding reform: Next steps towards a fairer system – The “place-plus” approach for pupils and students aged from birth to 25](#).

- 4.6 On 15 May the Government published its response to the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Green paper, [Support and Aspiration: A new approach to special educational needs and disability – Progress and next steps](#).
- 4.7 The document sets out the Governments intentions for bringing forward legislation so that from 2014:
- parents will know what they can reasonably expect their school, college, local authority and services to provide through a clear, easy to understand local offer of support;
 - children and young people with statements or learning difficulty assessments in the current system will have a quicker, better integrated assessment and a single Education, Health and Care Plan setting out all the services they will receive for their support;
 - statutory protections comparable to those currently associated with a statement of SEN will be provided for 16- to 25-year-olds in further education so that young people will get the support they need wherever they are taught; and
 - parents will have greater control over the services they and their family use. Those whose children have an Education, Health and Care Plan will be able to express a preference for any state-funded school and have the right to a personal budget for their support.
- 4.8 A draft Bill will be published in summer 2012 and will be subject to consultation and pre-legislative scrutiny.

5 Apprenticeships

- 5.1 Development work on designing a new framework for the procurement profession is underway. London Councils is project managing this work, in collaboration with the sector skills council and professional body. It is anticipated that the new framework could be completed and ready for use in 2013. Boroughs struggle to recruit younger people into procurement roles, and there is a need for up-skilling in general in the profession.
- 5.2 The event with top 50 suppliers to boroughs has been postponed, more work is needed to identify best contacts within the companies.
- 5.3 London Councils will be holding a second London Borough Apprenticeship Awards. Entries will be welcomed from June, and winners will be announced at an event in September. Categories include best apprentice (in their first year) and best progression by an apprentice to higher level learning.

6 Consultation on Three-Year Vision

- 6.1 Following the consultation event held on 4th May, the University of London: Institute of Education has prepared a report on “Young people’s participation, progression and transition to higher study and work: A London perspective”, which is due to be discussed at the YPES Board (item 3 of the OSG agenda).
- 6.2 Having asked 14-19 Leads for examples of reports that have been produced by or relate to their borough, the response has been quite disappointing.

- 6.3 Learner Voice London has been refreshed with the new video content demonstrated at the last OSG meeting. Further marketing of the site to young people is now taking place.
- 6.4 The consultation now focuses attention on specific areas of research and strategies for action. This phase dovetails with the emerging priorities arising from the Skills and Employment Working Group of the LEP and the Mayor's Education Enquiry.