

Operational Sub-Group

RPG Workplan Monitoring – update February 2011

Item No: 8

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Contact: Anna-Maria Volpicelli

Telephone: 020 7934 9779

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

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

Recommendations OSG members are asked to note/comment.

1 Data

- 1.1 Following the last meeting of the DAG on 12 November 2010, there have been some key developments in relation to data and business intelligence related to careers information and young people. The RPG has been working closely with the London Skills and Employment Observatory to investigate how labour market information can be utilised most effectively to shape and inform the future all-age careers service for young people in London. RPG is intending to host a DAG-led event to bring local authorities together to explore this issue collaboratively.
- 1.2 The RPG has also started working with the YPLA to scope a new version of *14-19 and London: an evidence base* (also known as the *Strategic Analysis*). The brevity and accessibility of the current evidence base was welcomed and it intended that this year the document will be shorter and with a staggered three stage thematic release to ensure the data presented is as timely as possible. The YPLA will be releasing further information about the format of the document shortly.
- 1.3 Finally, the RPG is undertaking a pilot currently named *Intelligent London*. It is exploring the possibility of creating a portal on the London Councils 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 way that allows user friendly interaction with data, and would provide local authorities with a valuable source of data for the work they undertake in relation to young people. The DAG will be briefed on the progress of this project at the next meeting.

2 Improving Choice for Young People

- 2.1 At the November meeting of ALDCS, officers' professional advice to Leaders was to cease the borough contributions for the London area wide prospectus, CHOICE, and task the RPG with seeking a rapid alternative option to retain the on-line prospectus, or wind it down. Alternative options are currently being explored and OSG members will be kept apprised of progress.

- 2.2 The Education Bill (published 26 January 2011) contains information on the government's policy direction for CEIAG. This information will be used as the basis of the primary agenda item for discussion for the next meeting, together with a review of the availability of CE and IAG services across London from April of this year (also, see the Data update 2.1).

3 ESF

- 3.1 RPG/YPLA/Skills Funding Agency Youth specifications (pre-NEET) were launched on 10th January and the closing date is 15th February. ITT evaluation is scheduled for 22nd February – 9th March (scoring panels from YPLA, Skills Funding Agency and NAS); the contract award panel is scheduled for 14th March (includes RPG) and it is intended that contract award letters will be sent by 31st March.
- 3.2 There is no decision yet on the LDA Youth specifications (NEET). Contingency arrangements have been discussed in detail and MV-M, Mike Pettifer (YPLA) and Paul Crosswell (Skills Funding Agency) have made it clear to GLA/LDA that unless we hear by the end of January, the procurement timeline will be too tight for the Skills Funding Agency to ensure provision is delivered when the young people need it, i.e. from July onwards.
- 3.3 Partnership information events for providers have been facilitated by GLE and supplied with relevant NEET data profiles by Glyn Parry (RPG):
- **Pan London** – 10th Nov at Mary Ward House; over 100 attendees
 - **Central Cluster** – 7th Dec at GLE; approx 45 attended
 - **South Cluster** – 15th Dec at Leonard Cheshire, Southwark Bridge Road; approx 45 attended. GLE met with local providers prior to this event; they are now working together on a package for whoever leads.
 - **East Cluster** - 10th Jan at Barking & Dagenham College; approx 60 attended. Redbridge LA has been working with potential lead organisations.
 - **West Cluster** - 14th January at Ealing Town Hall, approx 40 attended; all 5 LAs gave 5 minute presentations on young people NEET/at risk in their borough and the provision they need.
 - Providers have all completed detailed contact sheets which are available, along with all documentation from the events from the GLE website.
 - **North Cluster** – 28th January: Provider event run by Urban Futures (not GLE) at the Chocolate Factory, Wood Green.
 - **Olympic Host Boroughs** – Olympic Host Borough Unit is in dialogue with GLE; looking to facilitate partnership working
- 3.4 GLE website <http://www.gle.co.uk/consulting/ESF-NEET-Programmes.php> for updates and information on events and bidding

4 LLDD

- 4.1 Learning for Living and Work assessment framework workshops were held on 14 January 2011 at London Councils. The events were attended by 65 local authority colleagues from 31 boroughs. The sessions provided the opportunity to give feedback on the framework and discuss the Learning Disability Assessment (S139a) process and aspects of transition. The feedback will provide a significant source of information for further development of the London-wide protocols and will assist with the protocol consultations.

- 4.2 The Regional Working Group met on 24 January, primarily to discuss the arrangements for consulting on the regional protocols. The group has recommended that consultation should not take place earlier than April as the changes in staffing levels and responsibilities that are either currently taking place or are being consulted on across local authorities will need to be considered before finalising arrangements.
- 4.3 The Regional Steering Group met on 10 January. Significant matters noted for further action were home-host cross border assessment arrangements – the RPG is seeking information from local authority colleagues; and YPLA indicative local authority allocations for LLDD budgets for 2011/12 – the YPLA will share information with the group for discussion prior to issuing.