

Operational Sub-Group

YPES Workplan Monitoring – update May 2011

Item No: 7

Date: 6 May 2011

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

Recommendations OSG members are asked to note/comment.

1 Data

- 1.1 The Data Advisory Group met on 24 March. It was updated on the package of data that will be made available to local authorities by the YPLA in 2011 and the analysis of data that will be undertaken by Young People's Education and Skills (YPES). YPES will produce three thematic pan-London overviews throughout the year (to coincide with the release of data) which will contribute to the revised *14-19 and London: an evidence base*, due to be released in September 2011.
- 1.2 DAG agreed that in addition to future meetings, a 'virtual meeting space' for the DAG is added to the YPES 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 YPES groups have such meeting spaces on the website.
- 1.3 YPES has been working with the YPLA to agree a revised Data Sharing Agreement in order that local authorities can continue to receive data on the Provider Gateway in 2011/12. It has been agreed that YPES will sign the agreement on behalf of all local authorities (as it did with the Skills Funding Agency agreement), as opposed to each local authority having to individually sign. This approach was agreed by the DAG on 24 March.
- 1.4 Other current data projects under the supervision of DAG include:-
 - **Post-16 Education and Training Projections:** YPES commissioned the Greater London Authority's (GLA) Data Management and Analysis Group (DMAG) to undertake post-16 projections over a year ago. Despite continued pressure, DMAG has failed to produce any outputs related to this project. As a result YPES is seriously considering writing to the GLA to formally request the return of the sum (£20,000) paid for this piece of work.
 - **SEN Cohort Analysis:** YPES 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. Data has now been received from the National Pupil Database Team, and the YPLA has provided a summary of this data.

YPES is undertaking further analysis of the data and developing an approach to project learner numbers, which can feed into the SEN Green Paper consultation response.

- **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:** YPES is piloting a project called Intelligent London, which has been agreed by the DAG. Intelligent London will be a portal available through the YPES 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 by the end of May.

2 Improving Choices for Young People

- 2.1 London Councils has secured agreement with UCAS to continue CHOICE until August 2011 and move the prospectus to the UCAS 14-19 platform from September 2011.
- 2.2 The data currently held on the CHOICE prospectus - information on 53,000 courses with 634 schools, colleges and providers across London - will transfer to the UCAS 14-19 prospectus from September 2011. The increased benefits this will bring include a larger geographical area from which to search and consider options, an important benefit for young people in our outer London boroughs, and the opportunity for London's schools, colleges and providers to deliver their duty to provide 14-16 year olds with impartial advice on post-16 options in partnership with an acknowledged leader in the field of education.
- 2.3 UCAS will work with the Improving Choices for Young People's Group, to ensure that the longer term vision for the prospectus forms part of London's broader plans for the provision of high quality impartial information for all London's young people.
- 2.4 Local Authorities are being asked to continue to encourage local providers to submit prospectus information. If providers need support with data submission, they can contact the CHOICE Helpdesk, a dedicated team who help to ensure that the data is accurate, up to date and accessible:
- 2.5 We have met with the Transition Adviser from the Department for Education's all age careers service project, Dr Sharon Goddard, and agreed that she will present to the Local Authority Forum on the 9 June and will in future participate in the ICYP Sub-group.

3 ESF

ESF Preventative NEET and Apprenticeship Activity

- 3.1 Decisions to award contracts to deliver the ESF Preventative NEET and Apprenticeship specifications have now been made and names of successful organisations will be public after 12 May. The contract award panel met on 14 April and agreed to offer 16 bidders contracts to deliver the ESF Preventative NEET and Apprenticeship specifications. There is now a formal period of contract negotiations and this will include a briefing on 26 May for successful bidders and local authorities (further details to follow). Activity will commence in early summer.

ESF NEET Activity

- 3.2 We are pleased to confirm that the future of the LDA's ESF NEET specifications has been secured and the Skills Funding Agency will now commence the procurement process. The LDA has agreed to pass over half of its ESF Priority 1.2 funding to the Skills Funding Agency and the Agency has undertaken to utilise under-spend from its 2007-10 ESF Priority 1.2 allocation in order to secure £15 million ESF funding for NEET activity in London. The Agency will deliver the draft LDA specifications with some changes and will now start an additional procurement round in order for provision to be in place in September 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, undertaken in consultation with local authorities through the ESF Working Group.
- 3.3 ESF NEET specifications procurement timetable:
- PQQ - launches 3 May
 - ITT - June
 - Assessment, moderation and contract award – July/Aug
 - Activity starts – September

All organisations interested in delivering these opportunities must register on the SFA e-tendering portal: <https://skillsfundingagency.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.shtml>

4 LLDD

- 4.1 The SEND Green Paper was published in early March and included a brief case study (page 113) on London Councils, indicating the work currently being undertaken in London to bring consistent practice to transition and explore options for managing resources and budgets across the region.
- 4.2 There have subsequently been a number of meetings of the Working Group in order to discuss the arrangements for consulting on and implementing the regional protocols; in the context of the Green Paper consultation. It has been agreed to run two Regional workshops on 11 May 2011 to discuss taking forward the London region proposals for managing budgets to support 16-25 year old young people with learning difficulties and disabilities (LLDD).
- 4.3 The workshops will focus on what we need to do in the short and medium term to finalise and implement the protocols for London, accelerate the expansion of local provision and agree where regional and/or sub regional working might bring improvements to services.
- 4.4 London Councils will also be hosting an 'expert practitioner' panel (from CYP, SEN and Adult Services) on 18 May in order to feed into the Green Paper consultation response.