

Young People's Education and Skills Board

Vision and Strategy Consultation:

Delivering the vision for young people's education and skills in London

Item no: 8

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Summary This paper provides the Board with an update on the implementation of its decision made on 8 November 2011 to consult on delivering a 14-19 vision for young people to 2015.

Recommendations Board members are asked to:

- agree to the appointment of the University of London - Institute of Education (IoE) as an academic partner and
- note the report and agree any further action necessary.

1 Background

1.1. At its meeting on 24 May 2011, the Board agreed a paper "Proposal to consult on vision and strategy" and on 8 November 2011 it agreed a further report and developed the thinking on "Consulting on delivering the vision for young people's education and skills in London". These decisions confirmed the vision for young people's education and skills in London and committed to a consultation on its fulfilment.

2 Progress

2.1. Since the Board's decision at its last meeting:

- We are implementing a comprehensive research and engagement plan (summarised at Appendix 1) to expand the body of evidence that will underpin the strategy for realising our vision.
- We are using a number of methods to engage with professionals in the sector, including a dedicated part of our website that will be used for technical contributions.
- The initial consultation period will be followed by a continuing dialogue with stakeholders and partners in the sector, particularly on issues where no consensus has emerged.

- Before and during the consultation period and as part of the continuing dialogue, we will engage with our sub-groups to ensure their involvement in the development of the vision.
- In March, we will be launching an updated version of our Learner Blog (Learner Voice London) to capture the opinions of young people through video-based and interactive channels.
- We will use our wider circle of contacts to gather feedback on specific themes, allowing appropriate specialist, technical input into the consultation particularly as part of the continuing dialogue
- We are mindful of the Mayor's Education Enquiry which is running on a parallel timeline and has the potential for both areas of overlap and complementarity.

3 Appointment of Academic Partner

- 3.1. It is proposed to appoint an academic partner to add rigor and independence to the consultation process and to establish a critical and supportive relationship between London Councils and an academic partner for the improvement of young people's learning and opportunities across London. A three-year relationship is envisaged to allow for the maturing of the partnership, monitoring of the strategy over time as we approach the Raising of the Participation Age and the development of a range of activities to realise success
- 3.2 Following a selection process in accordance with London Councils' Financial Regulations, we propose to engage the University of London - Institute of Education (IoE) as our academic partner.
- 3.3 The IoE has a reputation for excellence in its body of research in the field of education; it's Centre for Post-14 Research and Innovation is well-placed in terms of its research, consultancy and knowledge transfer work. Its primary role will be to provide assurance that the strategy needed to realise the vision is based soundly on evidence and has academic rigor. They will be able to provide professional challenge on the developing strategy and guidance on appropriate evidence, or recommendations for further research.

4 Recommendations

Board members are asked to:

- agree to the appointment of the University of London - Institute of Education (IoE) as an academic partner and
- note the report and agree any further action necessary.

A draft of the preliminary report will be provided to the next Board meeting.

Activity	Timescale
Academic Partner engaged (and decision on any further research partners required)	March 2012
(Technical) consultation via YPES website	March – May 2012
Young people and parents	Marketing communication channels (Blog, Twitter and YouTube) from March 2012
Call for evidence from local authorities, think tanks, research bodies and other expert bodies	February – May 2012
Employer research programme	Secondary research March – April 2012 Qualitative research April – May 2012
End of year evaluation of YPES	April 2012
Discussions with Directors of Children's Services	April – May 2012
Members' event	May 2012
Discussions with central government departments and agencies	April – May 2012
Discussions with representative bodies	May – June 2012
Produce preliminary report and key action themes	June 2012