

Young People's Education and Skills Operational Sub-Group

Partner Update – GLA April 2012

Item No: 5

Date: 20 April 2012

Contact Anna-Maria Volpicelli

Telephone: 020 7934 9779

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

Summary This paper provides an update from the GLA as an OSG partner member.

Recommendations OSG members are asked to note/comment.

1 GLA: Economic & Business Policy Team

1.1 The London Enterprise Panel

- 1.1.1 The London Enterprise Panel is the local enterprise partnership for Greater London and is co-Chaired by the Mayor and Harvey McGrath, Chairman of Prudential Plc. A further six business representatives and three nominees from London Councils have been appointed to the Panel as well as the Mayor's adviser for regeneration, growth and enterprise who is an ex-officio member. A decision on whether to appoint a further two members will be out to the Mayor post-election.
- 1.1.2 The Panel met for the first time on 21 February 2012 and is due to meet again on 29 May 2012. Its role is to advise the Mayor on how best to attract strategic investment to support private sector growth and employment, promote enterprise, increase skill levels and protect and enhance London's competitiveness.
- 1.1.3 The Panel has established a Skills & Employment Working Group which is chaired by Grant Hearn (Executive Chairman of Travelodge) with Jack Morris (Chairman of Business Design Centre Group) as Vice Chairman. A number of co-opted members are also being appointed to the Group ahead of its first meeting on 2 May.
- 1.1.4 Further information on the Panel can be found at www.london.gov.uk/londonenterprisepanel

1.2 The London Enterprise Panel: Skills & Employment Working Group

- 1.2.1 The first meeting of the Skills & Employment Working Group will take place on the 2nd May and is made up of the following members:

Chair: Grant Hearn, Executive Chairman, Travelodge
Vice-Chair: Jack Morris, Chairman of Business Design Centre Group

Members:

- Emma Stuart - Women Like us on behalf of LVSC
- Ian Ashman - Chair, London Association of Colleges
- Ian Mulheirn - Social Market Foundation
- Nigel Carrington - Rector, University of the Arts
- Cllr Steve Reed - Executive Member for Children Services, Skills & Employment, London Councils
- Roy O'Shaughnessy - Chief Executive, CDG & Work Programme
- Sue Terpilowski, Chairman London Policy Unit at Federation of Small Businesses
- John-Paul Marks - JCP
- Ray Auvray - Chairman of Prospects representing London First

1.2.2 Prior to their first meeting the LEP Skills & Employment Working Group were awarded £500k by BIS via the City Skills Fund on the 30th March 2012. The GLA is seeking ESF Technical Assistance to bring the fund up to £1.1m. The TA should be awarded in May.

1.2.3 The core aim of the Fund is to support the development, publication and implementation of a Skills Plan for London as well as ensuring that the Plan is kept up to date. The Plan must outline the London Enterprise Panel's key priorities over the next, 2, 3 and 5 years. To achieve the creation, publication and implementation of the Plan, the fund will also support the following activity in London:

- the development of a robust evidence base on the London Skills & Employment Observatory (LSEO);
- research to support the improvement and development of skills and employment activity, published on the LSEO;
- stakeholder consultation;
- employer focused engagement activities, including the Apprenticeships campaign but also including campaign activity on part-time jobs, business growth and major regeneration schemes; and
- supporting providers within the system to demonstrate their accountability to the priorities set out by the Panel within the Plan.

1.2.4 The City Skills Fund will provide the framework for the Skills & Employment Working Group's 2012/13 Work Plan.

1.3 ippr – Youth Transitions Report

1.3.1 ippr are still working on the report which is due to be published jointly after the purdah period is over. Both the GLA and ippr would like to thank the boroughs of Croydon and Newham for their assistance and Mary Vine-Morris and Yolande Burgess for assisting in the editing of the paper.

1.4 Careers Guidance Report - LSEO

1.4.1 The report will be published by the LSEO on their site post purdah.

The LSEO would like to thank the schools, providers and Local Authority staff who gave up some of their time to take part in the research and share their opinions with

us and Yolande Burgess at London Councils for her support and guidance with the work.

1.5 Apprenticeships Campaign

- 1.5.1 In 2011 the GLA team working with the National Apprenticeships Service secured 40,000 new Apprenticeship starts in London. A 99% increase on the previous years performance.

2. GLA: Children & Young People's Unit

2.1 Youth Transitions to Adulthood in London

- 2.1.1 A well-attended and successful, half-day event was held on 5 March for senior leaders across London to develop new thinking and ideas to address youth transition challenges and improve support to young Londoners. It was facilitated by Ernst & Young whose pro bono involvement is continuing to support the steering group of GLA, London Councils (YPES) and ALDCS to develop next steps.
- 2.1.2 The selected scenarios were:
- Transition for a young person who is not engaged in education, employment or training (NEET)
 - Transition for a young offender
 - Transition for a young person with learning difficulties and disabilities (LLDD).
- 2.1.3 A report of the day's discussions with ideas generated and potential new initiatives that emerged will be disseminated shortly to all those who attended, which included a number of YPES Board Members and officers. Feedback will be sought on a 'big ideas' section to inform the steering group's development of next steps. The report will include a GLA economic context section placing young Londoners' situation within London labour market trends.
- 2.1.4 Emerging trends identified were:
- Promoting independence for young people/young adults through integration of support and targeted interventions that build on educational attainment.
 - Engagement with employers building their involvement in providing better career pathways, whether through the targeting of new sectors, provision of incentives to encourage employers to work with schools/ students or bridging the gap between school and jobs/ apprenticeships
 - Bring together the leadership roles of ALDCS, the LEP and the YPES Board to ensure their activities do not overlap and identify any gaps.
 - Rather than creating an entirely new model for youth transitions, it would be more effective to delineate current best practice to learn from existing models.
- 2.1.5 The report will be brought to OSG as the event formed one element of the wider consultation by the Young People's Education and Skills Board (YPES) of its 14-19 vision for young people to 2015.

2.2 Education Inquiry

- 2.2.1 The Education Inquiry's "First Report: London context and call for evidence" was published by the GLA on 24 February. It is published online as a full report and executive summary version at the Inquiry's website page:

<http://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/young-people/education-training/mayors-education-inquiry> (some hard copies are available).

On the same day, the Inquiry held a key stakeholders symposium with 80 educationalists and others with a strong interest (including business and culture sectors), which engaged them well in the Inquiry's early thinking and the workshops led by Panel Members provided many ideas and valuable input. The First Report has been circulated widely along with the call for evidence by 24 April.

- 2.2.2 The report found that London schools have improved at a faster rate than the rest of the country in recent years, and noticeable successes include:

- London pupils are more likely to achieve both 5 A*s to C at GCSE and the English Baccalaureate than pupils nationally
- Children growing up in poverty in London do better than their counterparts nationally
- London's schools are more likely to receive a good or outstanding rating from Ofsted than the national average

- 2.2.3 Area of concern cited included:

- Nearly one in five children leave primary school failing to achieve the benchmark in literacy and numeracy
- Only 16 per cent of London school children achieved the new EBacc measure in 2011
- London faces unique challenges – half of state school children hold English as a second language (with some ethnic groups outperforming national average – e.g Chinese, Asian, Nigerian students)
- The population is growing fast, meaning an additional 70,000 school places are needed over the next four years
- Changes in funding will mean a reduction of average funding per pupil in London
- One third of all families did not manage to get their child into their first choice school place in 2011

- 2.2.4 The Inquiry is now in its second stage of fieldwork through a focused work programme that is prioritising school-to-school improvement, exploring the idea of a 'London curriculum' and connecting young people to the global city. The last area will address the following questions:

- How can we improve the take-up of STEM subjects and modern foreign languages in London?
- What kind of careers advice do young Londoners need and how can this be linked more strategically to employers and FE/HE?
- What good models of practice exist to help young people from the most disadvantaged groups access higher education?