

## Education Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Tuesday 21 July 2015

<b>Electoral Division affected:</b> All
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### **The breadth and quality of the 14-19 learning offer for young people in Lancashire**

(Appendices A - F refer)

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#### **Executive Summary**

The report provides the background to the current position regarding the offer of learning that is available to young people aged 14-19 in Lancashire.

#### **Recommendation**

Education Scrutiny Committee is asked to receive the report, give its views and receive further reports as appropriate.

#### **Background**

Under section 15ZA of the Education Act 1996, local authorities have a statutory duty to secure sufficient and suitable education and training provision to meet the reasonable needs of all young people in their area, by influencing and shaping provision through local partnerships and by identifying gaps, enabling new provision and developing the market. The young people covered by this statutory duty are those aged 16-19 and those aged 19-24 who have a learning difficulty and/or disability and are the subject of a learning difficulty assessment.

The Education and Skills Act 2008 sets out that all young people will be required to continue in education and training to the end of the academic year in which they turn 17 from 2013. This will rise to their 18th birthday from 2015. Raising the Participation Age (RPA) defines the three primary routes to participation as:

- Full-time education (school, college or home education)
- An Apprenticeship
- Part-time education or training alongside full time employment, self-employment or volunteering for at least 20 hours a week.

This is the statutory framework which defines the role of the local authority in ensuring that there is suitable and sufficient provision available for young people and that they continue to participate in learning.

### **Make up of local provision**

The makeup of the local post 16 providers is as follows:

- Nine further education (FE) colleges – seven are general FE, one is land based and one is a sixth form (see Appendix A)
- One Foundation Learning Provider
- Fifteen School Sixth Forms (SSF) (see Appendix B)
- Nine Academies, including one University Technical College (UTC)
- A large number of providers of Apprenticeships and work based learning (see Appendix C)

West Lancashire College, which is part of Newcastle College, is also based in the county and as well as 15 local authority maintained special schools with post 16 provision. The UTC provides Construction and Engineering Provision for 14-19 year olds in Burnley and surrounding districts. This is one of the new developments within the school system, including Academies, Free Schools and Studio Schools designed to provide more specialist provision, add choice and raise standards.

These developments within the school system will over time increase the number of providers offering post 16 provision across the county. Updates on how new provision is being implemented will be provided to the Committee on a regular basis.

In addition, Lancashire residents access education and training in the neighbouring local authority areas of Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen. In Blackpool, there is one FE college, one sixth form college, one SSF and two special schools. In Blackburn with Darwen, there is one FE college, one sixth form college, two SSFs, one Foundation Learning provider, one special school and three academies.

Lancashire is a net exporter of FE and SSF learners overall, with more learners leaving the county to access provision than entering it and the main travel out of the county is to the Blackburn with Darwen local authority area.

The attached appendices list the names of the individual providers within each district with a map that shows how provision maps geographically. They also describe the main learning routes that are available to young people (See Appendices D, E and F respectively).

## Participation in learning

The following tables demonstrate how Lancashire compares with others in the participation of young people in learning

16 year olds participating in learning December 2014

England	94.2%
North-West	94.3%
Lancashire	94.4%
Blackburn with Darwen	93.8%
Blackpool	93.3%

16/17 year olds participating in learning December 2014

England	90.2%	+0.4% from December 2013
North-West	90%	-0.9%
Lancashire	89.4%	+2.6%
Blackburn with Darwen	87.2%	-4.9%
Blackpool	87.4%	-2.1%

## Achievement

The following tables demonstrate how Lancashire compares with others in relation to the achievement of young people. Level 2 equates to 5 GCSE and Level 3 to 2 A levels.

Young people achieving level 2 by the age of 19

	2013	2005	FSM eligible	2013	2005
England	85%	67%	71%		43%
North-West	86%	66%	71%		42%
Lancashire	88%	69%	72%		44%
Blackburn with Darwen	84%	64%	73%		47%
Blackpool	85%	56%	72%		37%

Young people achieving level 2 by the age of 19 including English and Maths

	2013	2005	FSM eligible	2013	2005
England	64%	45%	41%		20%
North-West	65%	45%	40%		20%
Lancashire	68%	50%	42%		23%
Blackburn with Darwen	61%	40%	48%		24%
Blackpool	53%	35%	33%		16%

## Young People achieving level 3 by the age of 19

	2013	2005	FSM eligible	2013	2005
England	56%	42%	35%		20%
North-West	56%	40%	33%		18%
Lancashire	59%	44%	33%		21%
Blackburn with Darwen	57%	38%	38%		22%
Blackpool	53%	30%	35%		12%

## Not engaged in education, employment or training (NEET)

The following table demonstrate how Lancashire compares with others in relation to the percentages of young people who are NEET

	November-January 2014	November –January 2015
North-West	5.6%	5.2%
Lancashire	5.3%	5% 2040 young people
Blackburn with Darwen	6.2%	5.8%
Blackpool	6.8%	6.5%

Lancashire March 2015 4.9% 1875 young people

However:

Burnley 6.5% (197yp) but down from 10.3% (287yp)  
Preston 7.2% (352yp) up from 6.9% (312 yp)  
Lancaster 5.9% (249yp) but down from 6.3% (265yp)  
Hyndburn 5.8% (172yp) but down from 6.8% (200yp)

Over two thirds of young people who are NEET are aged 18/19 60% of young people who are NEET have no qualifications, however 20% have 5 A\*-C GCSE. A third of young people who are NEET have been so for 1-2 years.

## Apprenticeships

Over the last year we have seen a growth in the numbers of 16-18 year olds starting an apprenticeship.

	2013	2014
Apprenticeship starts	2967	3307

However as at May 2015 there are over 500 apprenticeship vacancies.

## Quality

With regard to the overall inspection outcomes for the education and training providers in Lancashire, all of the FE colleges are deemed to be either Good or Outstanding. In terms of SSFs and Academies, all but two are deemed to be Good or Outstanding. Of the other two, one requires improvement and one is inadequate both are being seen to be taking effective and reasonable actions to improve.

**Implications:****Risk management**

There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985****List of Background Papers**

Education Act 1996 section 15ZA

Education and Skills Act 2008

**Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate**

N/A