

Internal Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Friday, 12 July 2019

Electoral Division affected: All Divisions

Lancashire Statement of Priorities for 16-19 Education and Skills Report

(Appendix 'A' to 'C' refers)

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Executive Summary

This report presents the Lancashire Statement of Priorities for 16-19 Education and Skills documents for the consideration of Internal Scrutiny Committee. The documents provide a strategic overview of the education and training provision being accessed by Lancashire residents aged 16-19 and those aged 19-24 who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Recommendation

Internal Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- (i) Note the information in this report; and
- (ii) Suggest improvements or amendments for the next version of the Lancashire Statement of Priorities for 16-19 Education and Skills

Background and Advice

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 an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

To fulfil this duty, the Department for Education (DfE) recommends that local authorities have a strategic overview of the provision available in their area. In response to this, Lancashire County Council (LCC) produces the Statement of Priorities document on an annual basis to set out the county's educational priorities for the young people in the age groups mentioned above. The document is presented in three parts:

- Statement of Priorities for 16-19 Education and Skills (Appendix 'A')
- Overall Lancashire County Review (Appendix 'B')

- District Summaries (Appendix 'C')

By providing this strategic overview, LCC hopes that this will contribute to:

- Increasing the participation of 16-18 year olds and 19-24 year olds with an EHCP resident in Lancashire in relevant and appropriate education and training;
- Ensuring that all young people have the qualifications, skills and experience to make a successful progression into sustainable employment, contributing to economic growth within the county; and
- Supporting local education and training providers, partners and other interested parties in planning post 16 provision and developments within their area for the benefit of Lancashire residents.

These documents provide us with an evidence base which allows for informed conversations to take place with post 16 education and training providers in relation to their provision offer and the key priorities for the districts they serve. Informed discussions can also take place with key stakeholders, such as the Education and Skills Funding Agency, OfSTED and district councils, as appropriate.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Whilst no risks have been identified in relation to the production of this document, it is important to note that the local authority has a statutory duty in relation to securing sufficient and suitable education and training provision. The Statement of Priorities provides a focus for meeting this duty, with the aim of ensuring that all young people in Lancashire are able to access appropriate education and learning opportunities so they can achieve their potential, in line with LCC's Corporate Strategy.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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N/A