

Review Recommendation	Progress Report of Action taken to implement recommendation	Resib'ty	Timescale
<p>2). That Durham County Council monitors the progress of the North East Area Based Review and the full devolution of the Adult Education Budget within the context of future FE provision within County Durham.</p>	<p>The North East Area Based Review commenced in September 2016 and was completed by February 2017, with the final report published in August 2017.</p> <p>Fifteen recommendations were agreed by the North East Area Review Steering Group, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bishop Auckland College, Derwentside College, East Durham College and New College Durham to continue to operate as stand-alone institutions, working with neighbouring colleges on a collaborative curriculum offer. • East Durham College and Northumberland College to develop a land based strategy that better meets the needs of the land based economy across the North East. • Formation of a shared services company across East Durham College, Derwentside College and Sunderland College. • Development by colleges, the LEP and local authorities of an enhanced offer for SEND students. • The formation of a strategic forum to monitor progress and provide oversight of the implementation of the review recommendations. <p>Since 2016-17, funding for the non-apprenticeship element of Adult Skills, Community Learning and Discretionary Learning has been combined into a single Adult Education Budget, as part of the transition towards devolution of non-apprenticeship skills funding from 2018-19 for those areas that have devolution agreements in place. Following the decision of NECA not to proceed with the proposed devolution agreement for the North East, preparatory work in anticipation of devolved funding has been on hold.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>

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<p>3) That Durham County Council (DCC) via the Regeneration and Economic Development (RED) Service Grouping is pro-active in promoting with SMEs and training providers in the county the various top up grants available from the County Durham Apprenticeship Programme (CDAP) together with the availability of support to employers to assist in applying for the various available top ups.</p>	<p>The Economic Development Team have been active in promoting apprenticeship take up amongst SMEs since the development of the Apprenticeship action Plan and associated launch of the County Durham Apprenticeship Programme in November 2011.</p> <p>In that time over 1076 residents have accessed apprenticeship opportunities supported through the programme, with 711 Companies creating apprenticeship opportunities.</p> <p>Funding for the subsidy was sourced from Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE) derived from the SFA with a £1,000 top up offered by DCC. The AGE funding concluded in July 2017 and all DCC funds supporting this programme have at present been committed.</p> <p>With the delivery of the Durham Works Programme a series of support grants to business for the creation of employment opportunities for young people are available and these are the main tool currently offered to local companies to assist in bringing forward apprenticeship roles</p> <p>Linked to Recommendation (1) The Economic Development Team will undertake a review of take up and seek to determine whether the new funding arrangements result in barriers to small business participation in the delivery of apprenticeship vacancies and develop recommendations accordingly.</p>	Graham Wood	Ongoing

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<p>4) As part of the monitoring arrangements for the DurhamWorks Programme the Council ensures that the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive updates on the progress, performance and delivery of the programme.</p>	<p>An update on the progress, performance and delivery of the DurhamWorks Programme was provided to members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 26th September 2016 and 13th January 2017. Further updates are scheduled for 26th September 2017 and 5 April 2018.</p> <p>A DurhamWorks Strategic Partnership is also in place to oversee delivery of the DurhamWorks Programme. This is complemented by an Operational Group consisting of DurhamWorks Delivery Partners. Its role is to review performance, identify mechanisms to improve delivery and develop best practice.</p>	<p>Linda Bailey/Helen Radcliffe</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

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<p>5) That Durham County Council is pro-active in promoting with schools the importance of providing young people with good quality Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) together with an opportunity for meaningful work experience placement with local employers, and continues to monitor take up of provision by schools.</p>	<p>Durham County Council continues to be pro-active in promoting with schools the importance of providing good quality Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance through its CEIAG Network for schools and colleges, a termly newsletter, and a range of professional development opportunities that are offered to teachers as well as support staff.</p> <p>During the 2016-17 academic year, over 1,000 young people at County Durham schools undertook a meaningful work experience placement that was arranged by the Durham Education Business Partnership. At the end of the academic year, the decision was taken to cease delivery of work experience and careers guidance interviews. However, County Durham schools were signposted to alternative providers.</p> <p>For the 2017-18 academic year, Durham Education Business Partnership will be delivering a range of exciting Work Related Learning and Enterprise activities in those schools that have a Service Level Agreement in place with Durham County Council. This will include meaningful contacts with local employers.</p>	Linda Bailey	Ongoing

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<p>6) That the Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) continue to develop local skill projects and initiatives and where appropriate share across the AAP network and work with the Children and Young People's Services Service Grouping to determine whether any elements of individual AAP projects can be used to complement the DurhamWorks Programme.</p>	<p>AAPs have continued to support a range of employability and Apprenticeship projects.</p> <p>In terms of activity by AAPs we saw this peak in 2014/2015 with over 51 apprentices supported through the Area Budget Grant and an additional 36 apprentices from the targeted welfare reform grant monies that AAPs also received.</p> <p>In year 2015 / 2016 this dropped down to 33 from Area Budget grants and 3 from the Welfare Reform grant. This change was due to a change in AAP priorities.</p> <p>We are seeing a number of schemes being developed this year and Employability, Enterprise and Skills is a priority for 8 of the 14 AAPs. All 14 AAPs have Children and Young People as a priority so there's scope in this priority to also look at skills development amongst young people.</p> <p>AAPs have engaged well with Durham Works Staff and AAP Boards have received a presentation about Durham Works and the opportunities available.</p> <p>There are also opportunities on the horizon for a greater link with Durham Works through a EU funded project that is available within 5 AAP areas (Chester-le-Street, Stanley, Derwent Valley, Spennymoor and Bishop Auckland. The Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme is a funding stream of circa £3.8m over 4 years to target employability and entrepreneurship. Due to the existence of Durham Works this is to be focused at people aged 25 yrs and older. Given it runs for 4 years this programme may</p>	<p>AAPs</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

	<p>need to be reviewed in line with the predicted end of Durham Works. The CLLD money can't target the same client group as Durham Works as they are both funded through the EU.</p> <p>We have also seen innovative use of AAP money piloting work with after school clubs around the creation of 'Coding Clubs' to teach basic computer coding. These are proving very popular as a way of teaching new emerging skills to a young audience.</p>		
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<p>7). That key partners within the county be encouraged through the County Durham Economic Partnership (CDEP) to use the same labour market tools and share data so that there is a consistent approach to predicting employer's future skill requirements.</p>	<p>The development of accurate, timely and predictive Labour Market Information remains a significant challenge for the skills system in general.</p> <p>DCC and colleges have access to various LMI tools which can profile recent skills requirements and cross reference information when working on joint initiatives. However predicted skills requirements - particularly where new investments or emerging technologies are concerned remains problematic.</p>	CDEP	Ongoing

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<p>8) That the Business and Education Board build upon the success of 'Get the Buzz' week by continuing to work with partners to identify and develop future opportunities for business and education engagement across County Durham.</p>	<p>A lack of available funding has prevented delivery of further 'Get the Buzz' type events. However, Durham Education Business Partnership continues to offer delivery of Work Related Learning events to schools (on a traded basis), which brings together businesses and education providers.</p> <p>During 2016-17, over 800 volunteers (Ambassadors) from County Durham businesses were engaged to support business education links by County Durham Education Business Partnership.</p>	<p>Tarryn Lloyd-Payne</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

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<p>9) That a review of this report and progress made against the recommendations will be undertaken six months after the report is considered by Cabinet including as part of this process the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of AAP activity currently undertaken across the county focusing on skills development. • A summary of activity undertaken to develop further opportunities for business and education engagement. • An update on the progress of the three local apprenticeship programmes (Teenage Parent Apprenticeship Programme, ICT Apprenticeship Hub Programme and the CDAP). 	<p>See Recommendation 6</p> <p>See Recommendation 8</p> <p>Teen Parents Apprenticeship Programme utilising funding from public health team and linking with the existing One Point Teen Parent Programme a focused intensive support programme resulted in 19 teen parents (male and female) progressing into apprenticeship opportunities.</p> <p>County Durham Apprenticeship Programme The Apprenticeship Programme was launched in November 2011, with the aim of assisting in the creation of apprenticeship opportunities for unemployed residents who live in Co Durham and who are aged between 16-24 years.</p> <p>The programme has provided an incentive to employers (SMEs or Social Enterprises) who may be considering recruitment and offers financial support as well as advice and guidance from the Council, Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and associated training providers.</p> <p>At the end of March 2017 there have been 1,076 starts across a variety of sectors, with the most popular apprenticeship frameworks being;</p>	<p>AAPs</p> <p>CDEP</p> <p>Graham Wood</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Administration – 181 (L2 = 130, L3 = 50, L4 = 1) • Engineering – 143 (L2 = 61, L3 = 82) • Joinery – 78 (L2 = 68, L3 = 10) • Electrical – 62 (L2 = 42, L3 = 20) • Construction – 52 (L2 = 35, L3 = 17) <p>Of the 1,076 starts to date, 674 (63%) are aged 16-18 years, with 398 (37%) between 19-24 years. The range of statistics indicates that we are making good progress in terms of focussing on the younger age range which continues to be a priority of the Skills Funding Agency.</p> <p>In relation to the ICT Apprenticeship Hub Programme the 6 young people have now completed their the two year ICT Apprenticeship Pilot with Durham County Council. As apt of the apprenticeship the apprentices were rotated around the different areas of ICT to gain experience and confidence including working with school engineers and external businesses. Five of the apprentices have gone onto full employment with 1 apprentice employed by Durham County ICT Operations Schools Team, 1 apprentice with DCC's Health & Safety Team, 1 employed by Sedgefield Community College, 1 employed by the Passport Office, 1 employed at St. Cuthbert's Hospice and 1 awaiting news of a permanent position.</p> <p>Work is currently taking place looking at ways to Progress this initiative further with future apprentices.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Alan Patrickson</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ongoing</p>
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