

Select Committee Chairmen: Val Letheren
Leader Scrutiny Officer: Michael Carr
Date reported to Cabinet: 28 April 2014
Lead Cabinet Member: Mike Appleyard
Lead Officer: Chris Munday

Recommendation	Agreed Yes/No	Cabinet Response including proposed action	Responsible Cabinet Member	Responsible Officer(s)	Action by date
<p>Recommendation One: A Ready for-Work Passport It is recommend that the department’s work on producing a Ready for Work Passport be developed, in collaboration with the Local Enterprise Partnership and be offered to young people (via schools and colleges) upon completion of a certified demonstrable standard of basic “work-ready” skills. This should include a broad range of recreational and voluntary activities and aimed at engaging parents as well as the young people themselves.</p>	Yes	The council has been working towards the development of a “Ready for Work Passport” for some months. The next stage of development will include consultation with parents, young people, schools and businesses to test out the concept and feed into the design. The final product is likely to be a web based, interactive passport.	Mike Appleyard	Paula Buck	October 2014
<p>Recommendation Two: Guidance to Schools It is recommended that the Cabinet Member provide clear concise guidance on the appropriate careers guidance to the delivered in schools, in line with statutory and Ofsted inspection requirements, drawing on best practice and including raising awareness of employment and key employability skills and signposting key resources for young people, parents and schools.</p>	Yes	In April 2014 the Department for Education issued an 18 page national statutory guidance document for schools on the delivery of Careers Guidance. Building on existing guidance document for schools, LA officers will produce local guidance in order to support schools with their delivery of their statutory responsibilities for delivering careers guidance to all young people in academic years 8 – 13.	Mike Appleyard	Chris Munday	September 2014

<p>Recommendation Three: Careers and Work Readiness Advice in Schools It is recommended that schools be encouraged to strengthen their capacity for careers and work-readiness delivery through an independent specialist service such as the Connexions Service. This may be accompanied by the development of in-house teaching specialisms.</p>	Yes	<p>It is agreed that schools need to strengthen their capacity to deliver; however this should be taken further by adopting a 'whole school approach' to careers education and not just by securing services from an Impartial Careers Guidance Provider, such as Connexions Buckinghamshire. A whole school approach may include the implementation of a Careers Quality Standard such as Investors in Careers or Careers Mark</p> <p>LA officers have developed a Buckinghamshire Schools Careers Network which will allow school careers leads to meet, share best practice, and to provide training opportunities to improve skills and knowledge.</p> <p>It is the schools responsibility to ensure that they secure high quality careers advice and guidance for all of their pupils from an impartial and independent careers service. Providers must have gained Matrix Accreditation and have staff who are Registered Careers Development Professionals.</p>	<p>Mike Appleyard</p> <p>Mike Appleyard</p>	<p>Chris Munday</p> <p>Chris Munday</p>	<p>September 2014</p> <p>September 2014</p>
<p>Recommendation Four: Careers Governance and Accountability in Schools It is recommended that school governing bodies appoint a lead member for careers advice and hold Head Teachers to account over their statutory duty to provide every child with high quality careers guidance.</p>	Yes	<p>It is agreed that School Governors need to ensure that Headteachers deliver to statutory requirements. The local authority will ask the Buckinghamshire Learning Trust to ensure that the training of school governors, in the Careers Guidance agenda, is undertaken as part of the traded offer to schools.</p>	Mike Appleyard	Chris Munday	Ongoing from September 2014
<p>Recommendation Five: Inspiring Children into the World of Work It is recommended that primary schools include some appropriate degree of awareness raising</p>	Yes	<p>The Careers agenda will be raised through information sharing and raising awareness at Primary Liaison Group meetings.</p>	Mike Appleyard	Chris Munday	Ongoing from September 2014

<p>of pupils so that young people start to become aware of work ready skills at an early age. This could form part of the preparation transition to secondary school.</p>		<p>Primary Liaison Officers to collate work skills and work related learning resources for distribution.</p> <p>Primary Liaison Officers to inform schools and encourage them to sign up to the free, Primary Future programme and possibly facilitate cluster events or an event for primaries.</p>			
<p>Recommendation Six: Getting Business into Schools It is recommended that schools be encouraged to invite local businesses and former pupils to speak to pupils about being ready for work as part of careers and life-skills aspects of their programme for personal, social and health education (PSHE).</p>	Yes	<p>Bucks Business First, Education Business Partnership and Connexions all have links with local businesses that can support PSHE programmes in schools. The National Careers Service is also developing a register of businesses and individuals who are keen and willing to support schools.</p> <p>Working with the different partner schools, we will identify how and when local businesses can contribute to their overall work on PSHE. This will ensure expectations on both sides are being met to the best advantage of the young people.</p> <p>The Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) are developing local case study material that will be available online and in video format which schools will be able to access.</p>	Mike Appleyard	Paula Buck	April 2015
<p>Recommendation Seven: Local Connexions It is recommended that the Connexions Service review their arrangements for referral of jobs and apprenticeship opportunities to make sure that local businesses are linked with local applicants.</p>	No	<p>The only reason for this recommendation not being agreed is the contractual requirement placed on Apprenticeship Providers to ensure that all Apprenticeship job opportunities are advertised via the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) Website. Young people from across the UK will continue to be able to apply for apprenticeships via the NAS website.</p>	Mike Appleyard	Chris Munday	Ongoing

		<p>The following activities are already being implemented or planned to support this recommendation:</p> <p>Connexions Buckinghamshire employ a dedicated full time apprenticeship broker to link unemployed young people to local apprenticeship opportunities. This scheme has resulted in placement of over 100 young people in the last 12 months. This project will reviewed with a view to widening its scope.</p> <p>LA commissioners will conduct review of Connexions work with local businesses to ensure that best practice is being implemented and unemployed young people are finding suitable employment and training opportunities. Commissioners will ensure that Connexions expand their links with local businesses by facilitating partnerships with organisations such as Bucks Business First (BBF), the LEP and Chambers of Commerce.</p>	<p>Mike Appleyard</p> <p>Mike Appleyard</p>	<p>Chris Munday</p> <p>Chris Munday</p>	<p>October 2014</p> <p>April 2015</p>
<p>Recommendation Eight: Business Links It is recommended that local businesses be encouraged to form links with schools and colleges within their local community and within the County, so as to increase pupil's awareness of work and business in their community.</p>	Yes	<p>The LEP recognise the need for local businesses to develop ongoing relationships with schools in their area. There are a number of companies in Bucks which whilst are not nationally known names are at the forefront of innovative development and are keen to enthuse local young people in what they do. In the LEPs Single Economic Plan, which has recently been submitted to government, funding for a programme of work to support this has been requested, which if successful, will support the development of web resources, but also</p>	<p>Mike Appleyard</p>	<p>Paula Buck</p>	<p>April 2015.</p>

		fund school/business support posts to help facilitate this closer working.			
Recommendation Nine: Supporting Young Parents into Work The commitment to the delivery of young parents' careers and skills development through Children's Centres is applauded and we recommend that programmes specifically aimed at supporting young parents be continued.	Yes	We support this recommendation and are committed to the delivery of preventative and early intervention services through Children's Centres.	Mike Appleyard	Chris Munday	Ongoing
		Children's Centres, Adult Learning, Connexions Buckinghamshire and other partners will continue to work together to ensure that young parents can access programmes to support them back into education, employment or training.	Mike Appleyard	Chris Munday	Ongoing
		The BCC led Chesham Project has piloted a partnership project between Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Health, Children's Centres and Connexions Buckinghamshire, to reduce the number of young single mothers claiming benefits. A second phase pilot will commence in the summer with best practice being developed and shared with partners across the county	Mike Appleyard	Nigel Sims	December 2014