

SCRUTINY BOARD (INCLUSIVE GROWTH, CULTURE AND SPORT)

WEDNESDAY, 15TH NOVEMBER, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor A Lamb in the Chair

Councillors B Flynn, R Grahame,
M Harland, G Hyde, J Illingworth,
K Maqsood, R. Stephenson, K Wakefield
and N Walshaw

33 Late Items

There were no late items.

34 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests declared to the meeting.

35 Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors S Lay and M Robinson.

Notification had been received that Councillor B Flynn was to substitute for Councillor M Robinson.

36 Minutes - 11 October 2017

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2017 be approved as a correct record.

37 Employment and Skills - Key challenges and opportunities

The Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support submitted a report which presented information in line with the Board's key area of interest around local employment and skills challenges and opportunities.

The following information was appended to the report:

- The draft Leeds Talent and Skills Plan (2017-2023)
- Report for Scrutiny Board from Leeds Youth Offending Service (November 2017).

The following were in attendance:

- Councillor Mohammed Rafique, Executive Member for Employment, Skills and Opportunity
- Sue Wynne, Chief Officer Employment and Skills
- Matt Wilton, Head of Employment Access & Growth

- Andy Peaden, Head of Service, Leeds Youth Offending Service.

The Board received a PowerPoint presentation, which provided an overview of the draft Leeds Talent and Skills Plan (2017-2023).

The key areas of discussion were:

- Developing work with schools and other educational institutions around apprenticeships and possible development of a charter.
- Concern that apprenticeships were exploited by some employers for cheap labour.
- The need to develop more entry level jobs and opportunities for progression.
- An update on short and longer term interventions in relation to apprenticeships.
- An acknowledgement regarding the importance of supporting all skill levels and the role of training partners.
- Development of apprenticeships in relation to housing growth.
- The need to develop transport infrastructure to access opportunities.
- The role of Elected Members and governing bodies to challenge schools to take a greater lead in promoting apprenticeships. The Board also discussed the need for more formal engagement with head teachers.
- Developing work with West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) and partners regarding adult learning.
- Opportunities for re-skilling through the apprenticeship levy.
- The role of the Leeds Youth Offending Service in supporting young people back into the labour market and the challenges that exist in ensuring that they were job ready.
- Positive development of the right direction and skills mill programmes.
- Next steps, particularly in terms of developing further work around information, advice and guidance, opportunities for progression and work with schools and other educational institutions.

RESOLVED – That the issues raised as part of the Board’s themed update around local employment and skills challenges and opportunities, be noted.

38 Work Schedule

The Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support submitted a report which invited Members to consider the Board’s work schedule for the 2017/18 municipal year.

The Board was advised that the December themed meeting focussed on sport and active lifestyles and relevant representatives had been invited to attend.

RESOLVED – That subject to any on-going discussions and scheduling decisions, the Board’s outline work schedule be approved.

39 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 13 December 2017 at 10.00am (pre-meeting for all Board Members at 9.30am)

(The meeting concluded at 12.05pm)