

Committee: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: 12th November 2013

Agenda item: 9

Wards: All Wards

Subject: Executive Response and Action Plan - Adult Skills and Employability

Lead officer: Chris Lee, Director of Environment & Regeneration

Lead member: Councillor Andrew Judge, Cabinet Member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration

Contact Officer: Sara Williams, Future Merton Programme Manager
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Recommendations:

- A. That the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel note the recommendations endorsed by Cabinet in relation to their task group review of Adult Skills and Employability;
- B. That the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel note the action plan arising from the scrutiny review of adult skills and employability; and
- C. That the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel appoint a review champion to monitor the delivery of the Action Plan and update the Panel on a agreed regular basis until all the recommendations have been fully implemented.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. To provide the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel with an Executive Response to the recommendations made by the Adult Skills and Employability Task Group and present an accompanying Action Plan detailing how and when the agreed recommendations will be implemented. The Action Plan will provide the Panel with a document that they may performance monitor, at appropriate intervals, to ensure that their recommendations have been fully and successfully implemented.

2. DETAILS

- 2.1 The Council's Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel agreed to the Action Plan which aims to increase economic viability and prosperity of the borough by reducing unemployment and attracting inward investment.
- 2.2 Cabinet considered the findings and recommendations of the Adult Skills and Employability Task Group at its meeting held on 16th September 2013. Cabinet had regard to the recommendations of the Panel:
 - 2.2.1 That Cabinet considers the report and recommendations (attached in Appendix 1) arising from the scrutiny review of adult skills and employability undertaken by the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel;
 - 2.2.2 That Cabinet agrees to the implementation of the recommendations through an action plan being drawn up by officers working with relevant local partner organisations and Cabinet Member(s); and
 - 2.2.3 That Cabinet decides whether it wishes to formally approve the action plan accompanying any agreed recommendations prior to the Executive Response and Action Plan being submitted to the sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel at the 12th November meeting.
- 2.3 Councillor Martin commented that due regard should be given to care leavers (18-25 year olds) when considering apprenticeship schemes and advised members on the forthcoming employment conference.
- 2.4 The accompanying Action Plan, Appendix 1 details how the agreed recommendations will be implemented; it outlines the recommendations, the proposed actions to be taken, the responsible officer and the timescales for completion.
- 2.5 The Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel may wish to performance monitor delivery of the Action Plan, at appropriate intervals.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1 The Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel could choose not to receive a response to their recommendations and not to performance monitor the delivery of the agreed recommendations to ensure that the intended outcomes of Scrutiny reviews are delivered.

4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

- 4.1 None for the purposes of this report.

5. TIMETABLE

- 5.1 The Action Plan will be delivered according to the timescales outlined in Appendix 1.

6. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None for the purposes of this report - financial, resource and property implications of implementing the agreed recommendations have been accounted for in the Final Report of the Adult Skills and Employability Task Group submitted to Cabinet for consideration.

7. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None for the purposes of this report – legal and statutory implications of implementing the agreed recommendations have been accounted for in the Final Report of the Adult Skills and Employability Task Group submitted to Cabinet for consideration.

8. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 None for the purposes of this report – human rights, equalities and community cohesion implications of implementing the agreed recommendations have been accounted for in the Final Report of the Adult Skills and Employability Task Group submitted to Cabinet for consideration.

9. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 None for the purposes of this report – crime and disorder implications of implementing the agreed recommendations have been accounted for in the Final Report of the Adult Skills and Employability Task Group submitted to Cabinet for consideration.

10. RISK AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 None for the purposes of this report – risk management and health and safety implications of implementing the agreed recommendations have been accounted for in the Final Report of the Adult Skills and Employability Task Group submitted to Cabinet for consideration.

11. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THIS REPORT

- 11.1 Appendix 1 –Action Plan

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 12.1 Minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 16th September 2013.

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