

Open Report on behalf of the Executive Director Adults and Children's

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	3 February 2012
Subject:	Improving Access to Post-16 Learning Provision in Lincolnshire – Action Plan arising from recommendations

Summary:

This report is presenting the Action Plan for comment, in response to the recommendations arising from the Improving Access to Post-16 Learning Provision in Lincolnshire Scrutiny Report. This was completed by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee in August 2011.

Actions Required:

To provide comments and notes to the Action Plan in response to the recommendations from the Improving Access to Post-16 Learning in Lincolnshire Scrutiny Report.

1. Background

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee agreed at its meeting on 10 September 2010 that there was a need for a scrutiny review to investigate the issues around Improving Access to Post-16 Learning Provision in Lincolnshire. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee agreed at its meeting on 30 September 2010 to establish a Task and Finish Group to conduct this scrutiny review, and the following objectives were approved:

To examine the following issues across each area of Lincolnshire and across Lincolnshire as a whole:

- 1. what post-16 provision is currently provided by Further Education Providers, Independent Private Providers, Independent Specialist Providers, Schools and Academies?*
- 2. how good is post-16 provision?*
- 3. what post-16 provision, both vocational (including apprenticeships) and non-vocational, is required in Lincolnshire to provide the skills necessary to meet the needs of Lincolnshire's businesses and the local economy?*

4. *what good quality provision is necessary to meet the needs of young people and the economy now: if the participation age is increased to 17 in 2013 and 18 in 2015; and over the next ten years taking into account demographic changes?*
5. *what are the barriers young people face in accessing post-16 provision, especially on the East Coast and for vulnerable young people such as care leavers and Learners with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (LLDD)? How do these barriers affect the enrolment and dropout rates for post-16 education and how should they be addressed?*
6. *how can Lincolnshire County Council best influence provision, access and quality?*

The task and finish group completed the review in August 2011. The review presented fifteen recommendations which have been developed into an action plan in order to address the issues raised within the review. The action plan is attached at Appendix A for consideration.

Attached at Appendix B is a summary of the comments made on the final report at the mock meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 11 November 2011.

2. Conclusion

The attached action plan was compiled as a result of discussions within Children's Services across a number of Officers and responds to each of the recommendations indicating proposed actions, timescales and responsibilities where accepted. A comments column is included to provide elected members with a context for each of the recommendations.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not Applicable

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Executive Response to the Improving Access to Post-16 Learning Provision in Lincolnshire - Action Plan arising from recommendations
Appendix B	Summary of comments made at the mock meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on 11 November 2011

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Keith Batty, who can be contacted on 01522 553298 or kbatty@cfbt.com.