

Update on engagement with the West Midlands Combined Authority

West Midlands Combined Authority

- Governance and co-ordination
- Employment Support
- Adult Education and Skills
- Commonwealth Games
- Strategy alignment – RSP and RIS
- Careers
- UKSPF
- Brexit

Joint work with West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA)

General Coordination

- BCC officers working through the WMCA Productivity and Skills Officer working group and other governance structures to ensure that all relevant parts of the Council's services are linked into the WMCA education, employment & skills activity. Pressing for a partnership relationship which is transparent and applies the principles of subsidiarity to ensure response to local need.

Employment Support framework

- Attending Employment Support framework Task force meetings.
- Feed into call for evidence through sharing of evaluation findings/documents
- Moving forward Deep Dive work in Druids Heath
- Overall aim is to influence and inform use of future devolved resources including Shared Prosperity Fund

Joint work with WMCA (continued..)

Employment Support Pilots (Connecting Communities)

- Involved in evaluation and selection of tenders for Shard End and Washwood Heath pilots, which collectively draw down around £1.8 million worth of employment support delivery in these key target neighbourhoods over 2 years. Pilots commenced in August/September 2018 with delivery through Shaw trust/Prospects in Shard End and Remploy in Washwood Heath.
- Involved in on-going contract monitoring/management led by WMCA.
- Seeking to ensure learning around commissioning localised delivery is reflected in future devolution approach.

Joint work with WMCA (continued..)

Adult Education & Skills

- Influencing WMCA use of devolved Adult Education Budget allocation (i.e. £126 million pa regionally- 85% rolled forward but revised grant relationships with existing local providers and colleges; 15% newly commissioned innovative provision in key communities and localities)
- Explore potential for ESIF match with Council and FE provider AEB allocations
- Produced Birmingham priorities note to inform service specifications
- Future involvement in evaluation and selection of providers

Commonwealth Games

- see earlier slide

Joint work with WMCA (continued..)

Response to strategy consultation

- Provided comments, feedback and briefings on adoption of;
 - ✓ Regional Skills Plan
 - ✓ Regional Industrial Strategy

Careers

- Arranged for BCC Careers input into WMCA Careers Hub workshop group

UKSPF

- Upcoming issues: widening of representation on Regional Skills Board (currently through LEPs only); need to influence future devolution of resources particularly around Shared Prosperity Fund proposals.

Brexit

- As per earlier presentation

Questions?