

# **Hodge Hill Direct Jobs and Skills Plan and Hodge Hill District**

## **Neighbourhood Challenge (Youth Employment) Update**

### **1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To inform members of the committee of progress made with the actions within the original **District Jobs and Skills Plan 2015**.
- To inform members of the committee of progress made with the recommendations in the **2015/16 Neighbourhood Challenge (Youth Employment) report**.
  - To ensure that the information contained in both documents in both current and relevant to the district and identify any gaps.
  - To seek approval of committee to merge the two documents into one single plan moving forward by bringing forward ongoing actions from the neighbourhood challenge and incorporating into the overall district jobs and Skills Plan for 2017/18.

### **2 Background**

- 2.1 The Leaders priority statement in 2014 called for **District Jobs and Skills Plans (DJSPs)** to be put in place for each of Birmingham's ten districts. In response to that call, a common framework for the plans were developed and populated with data.
- 2.2 The Hodge Hill District Plan was assembled by officers from the Council's Employment and Skills Service and includes a statistical analysis of employment and skills needs in the area, a summary of the local actions and targets to be achieved through Council programmes and also those that were negotiated with **the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)** in respect of the services they offer through the local jobcentres.
- 2.3 The Hodge Hill Jobs and Skills Plan was presented and approved by committee on 29 September 2015.

### **3 District Jobs and Skills Plan**

- 3.1 The proposed top 3 priorities to be addressed were as follows:
- Address the number of NEET young people by providing improved access to young people centred employability support: job search, CV preparation, interviewing skills plus additional support around skills and maths to move more young people into sustainable employment, traineeships and apprenticeships.
  - Increase skills attainment of local residents to the City average or above, including the delivery of ESOL and basic skills. Through greater collaboration between the FE sector and voluntary organisations to deliver skills training locally.
  - Strengthen work with families to address particular issues for young people – young carers, multi-generational unemployment, etc., low educational attainment.

#### **4 Progress to Date with Jobs and Skills Plan**

- 4.1 A member champion, Councillor Mariam Khan. Was identified for the district employment portfolio.
- 4.2 The action plan itself within the overall Jobs and Skills Plan was updated and brought to committee in July 2016 and now it has been refreshed in March 2017.
- 4.3 A Hodge Hill District Jobs and Skills Partnership Group was established in early 2016 meeting 4 times in that year and once so far in 2017 in order to progress the actions within the plan.

#### **5 District Neighbourhood Challenge (Youth Employment) 2015/16**

- 5.1 The District Members decided its first challenge exercise in 2015/16 would be on Youth Employment. The Challenge report was presented to committee and its content and recommendations approved on 22 March 2016.
- 5.2 The recommendations covered the following broad areas:
- Engagement with Young People
  - Barriers to Young People using Job Centres
  - Gaps in Provision / Additional Support Required for Young People
  - Employee Engagement
  - Working with Schools
  - Jobs & Skills Partnership activity

#### **6 Progress to date with the Neighbourhood Challenge - Youth Employment**

- 6.1 A report on the progress of the 12 individual recommendations was brought to committee in September 2016 and a more formal tracking report, as at March 2017, is attached as appendix 2.
- 6.2 Progress with the recommendations is to a large extent driven by our partners who have contributed significantly to the progress reported in the tracking report appended.

#### **7 Recommendations**

That Committee:

1. Note the progress with Hodge Hill District Jobs and Skills Plan (attached as Appendix 1)
2. Note the progress with the Neighbourhood Challenge recommendations (Appendix 2)
3. Endorse the proposal to incorporate the ongoing neighbourhood challenge recommendations into a single integrated Hodge Hill District Jobs and Skills Plan for 2017/18.

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