

Extract of Executive Board Minutes Relevant to the Employment, Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 16 MARCH 2017

114	APPRENTICESHIP SERVICES AND HOUSHOLD APPROACH TO SUPPORTING RESIDENTS INTO WORK
------------	--

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources, on the delivery of Apprenticeship Services in the Liverpool City Region (LCR).

The Board was advised that the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) had offered Halton the contract to deliver Apprenticeship Services for the LCR. It was reported that funding would be used to deliver a series of Apprenticeship Hub-related activities across the LCR, as detailed in the report, with the value of the contract set at approximately £875k. Halton would have overall financial management of the contract, with elements of activity commissioned out to partner organisations.

It was reported that, in line with the introduction of Universal Credit, the LCR recognised the importance of working with, and having a better understanding of, household poverty and unemployment. There was a need to work with whole households to improve the retention and progression of residents into work. This approach would have four key principles:

- Household focus;
- Holistic focus;
- Employer focus; and
- Partnership focus.

Local arrangements within each of the six constituent Council areas, would ensure that provision was locally situated and integrated. However, it was noted that the number of Halton families that would be offered assistance had not been finalised.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) progress on both projects be noted; and
- 2) Halton Borough Council accept the Skills Funding Agency contract on behalf of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority to deliver Apprenticeship Services.