

REPORT TO: Employment, Learning & Skills PPB

DATE: 23 June 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director Environment

SUBJECT: Workforce and Skills for the Logistics Industry

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide members with information around the necessary infrastructure and training mechanisms within logistics that the Council and its partners must put in place to ensure that the 3MG project does not fail for want of a workforce and that local people are fully supported to access the new employment opportunities afforded by the project and in so doing contribute to the vitality of the wider community of Halton.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- (1) Policy and Performance Board members consider the report

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Provided in the PPB Topic Terms of Reference appended to this report.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Logistics is a key growth sector for the borough of Halton and the 3MG development has already featured in local and regional press. This PPB Topic should help maximise the media/communication possibilities associated with 3MG, in particular the 3MG website, newsletters and press releases.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

Schools (including the Education Business Partnership) have a key role to play in promoting logistics as a possible new career option for young people leaving education, given the significant expansion of the sector in the borough.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

The SSP will lead on supporting training and employment for the logistics sector, and sub-groups will continue to liaise closely with the 3MG landowners. Partners will need to continue to influence public spending on training/employment initiatives related to the logistics sector.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

3MG will provide new and better employment. It will assist those currently out of work to access the new jobs and will also help up skill those in employment to raise expectations and develop careers paths. In doing so it will raise standards of living, promote healthier living, provide better access to health care and health facilities.

6.4 A Safer Halton

None

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

3Mg is providing 21st century infrastructure to support high levels of economic growth. It is tackling dereliction and contamination and improving the image of the borough and the borough's position within the national logistics industry.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

There are limited risks associated with this topic:

- The 3MG project collapses – this is extremely unlikely
- Local people are not equipped with the required skills to obtain jobs within logistics as a result of partners not working collaboratively to plan and fund provision – a 3MG Skills Group has been active for 18 months already, working together to ensure local training for local people will be made available for the logistics industry. Partners include those from the learning, employment and skills sectors.

A full risk assessment for this topic is not required.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

This report focuses on a boroughwide opportunity and any work associated with it will be inclusive. Employment/training initiatives will focus especially on those adults residing in the key Working Neighbourhood priority wards and who are workless.

(NB ONLY INCLUDE 9.0, 10.0 AND 11.0 BELOW IF THE REPORT RELATES TO A KEY DECISION INCLUDED ON THE FORWARD PLAN)

9.0 REASON(S) FOR DECISION

10.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

11.0 IMPLEMENTATION DATE

12.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
'Current and potential future skills needs of the logistics, warehousing and distribution, freight and haulage companies Draft Final Report October 2007'	Kingsway Learning Centre	Siobhan Saunders
3MG Skills Group meetings agendas and papers	Kingsway Learning Centre	Siobhan Saunders

**(NB
IF THE REPORT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE, IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC, THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH ALSO NEEDS TO BE COMPLETED – CONTACT COMMITTEE SERVICES IF YOU NEED ANY ADVICE)**

13.0 JUSTIFICATION FOR TAKING THE ITEM IN PART II

13.1 Which Paragraphs apply?

Paragraphs ??? (ie relevant exemption paragraphs or categories in the Act, not the report.)

13.2 Public Interest Test

There is a public interest in disclosing as ... *insert reason why the public would be interested in this item eg what impact it would have on them as residents and Council Tax payers..*

The public interest in not disclosing is ...*insert reason.*

13.3 Conclusion

The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.