

Appendix 1

14 - 19 Strategic Commissioning Statement Summary of 2014/15 Outcomes and latest verified data

1. Purpose of this document

Within this document are the priorities from the 2014-2015 14-19 Strategic Commissioning Statement and a summary of the delivery successes achieved in collaboration with and by the 11-19 Partnership and individual institutions, organisations and services within Halton. To review the detail of the key focus areas that sit underneath each priority please refer to the 2014-2015 14-19 Strategic Commissioning Statement.

This document also provides the latest verified data available to the Council to support identification of priorities for 2015/16.

2. Priority 1: Ensure there is sufficient suitable provision in place to meet our statutory duties for vulnerable young people aged 16-25

2.1 Summary of successes

- Local Offer published setting out in one place information about provision across education, health and social care.
- Task and Finish Group was established to support the development of Halton's Education Health and Care Plan and associated processes. These are now being implemented with positive feedback from families.
- Further developed and implemented a Halton High Needs Students Assessment Framework and process to manage funding applications for Post 16 high Needs Students. 89 applications for funding approved for the academic year 2014/15.
- Joint commissioning across education and social care of places for high needs students in Independent Specialist Providers took place in 2014/15.
- Transitional arrangements for the transfer of Learning Difficulty Assessments to Education Health and Care Plans is published on the Local Offer and being implemented.

- Figures at June 2014 indicate that 80.2% of Halton 16-18 year olds with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LDD) were in Education, Employment or Training (EET), higher than the national figure (77.1%) at the same period.
- Final year data for 2012/13 indicates a slight increase in the proportion of LDD clients starting an apprenticeship programme. 7.4% of 16-18 starts declared themselves as LDD in compared to 6.3% in 2011/12. Similarly, 5.8% of 19-24 starts declared LDD in 2013 compared to 5.1% the previous year.
- 10.8% of the 16-18 year old LDD cohort were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) in June 2014 compared to 11.8% regionally and 11.3% nationally.
- At March 2014, 75.0% of the Halton 16-18 Youth Offender cohort was in EET, compared to 61.5% in June 2013.
- Data reported to Department for Education (DfE) indicates that 68% of the Halton 16-18 care leaver cohort were in EET at March 2014 which is higher than both the regional (63%) and national average (59%).
- Data sharing agreements are in place to ensure the appropriate sharing of information on vulnerable young people to support them in the transition into education, employment or training.
- The NEET Vulnerable Young People Case Conferencing Group met regularly during 2014 to discuss Year 11 school leavers who were identified at risk of not making a successful transition to post 16 education or training. The group has been successful in ensuring 81% (76 of the 96 referrals made) of young people referred had a positive post 16 destination compared to 76% (35 of the 47 referrals made) in 2013.
- Of the 61 vulnerable young people aged 16-18 referred into the NEET Vulnerable Young People Case Conferencing Group during 2013/14 62.3% are in now education employment or training.

2.2 Additional data and information to support 2015/16 priority identification

- The Office of National Statistics (ONS) estimate the number of Halton teenage mothers under 20 years old at March 2014 to be 142. 58% of these Teenage Mothers are known to Local Authority Support Services, which is higher than both regional and national figures.
- Conception rate data published by ONS shows that rates for under 18 year olds per 1000 have declined in recent years though remain above national averages. Conception rates show a higher proportion of post-16 conceptions compared to pre-16.
- Figures show an increasing proportion of Teenage Mothers aged 16-18 in Education, Employment or Training (EET) with 23% of this cohort in EET at March 2014, a 2% increase compared to the same period last year.
- In 2013/14 the Local Authority contracted with 9 Further Education and Independent Specialist Providers supporting 81 new and continuing High Needs students. To date in 2014/15 there have been 99 applications received for new and continuing High Needs students from 11 Further Education and Independent Specialist Providers.
- On average, there are 20 Halton Children in Care (CiC) aged between 16-18.
- As at January 2015 there are 14 Year 11 learners who are electively home educated.
- The average age that young people left care during April 2013 – March 2014 was 17 years and 5 months.

3. Priority 2: Put in place an effective strategy to reduce the number of young people at risk of becoming or who are already NEET or their circumstance is not known

3.1 Summary of successes

- Directory of training, engagement and careers guidance provision for young people aged 16 to 18 has been developed, is kept updated and is available electronically to view and download.
- Riverside College has responded to the need to provide flexible provision for young people who are NEET or at risk of NEET by commissioning 3rd sector and Work Based Learning providers to provide additional routes into full-time education.
- Education and Training Providers, Youth Service and young people's support services are meeting regularly and working in partnership to offer progression routes and supported programmes to young people.
- Halton continues to support secondary schools with the development of Risk of NEET Indicators (RONI) tools to prevent young people from becoming NEET upon leaving school. A trial to provide information on young people transitioning from year 6 to year 7 was carried out with a secondary school to support transition plans and identification of young people in need of additional support moving into secondary education.
- September Guarantee data for 2013/14 shows that 97.3% % of the year 11 cohort had an offer of learning made to them upon leaving Secondary School, demonstrating the progress made since 2009/10, when the recorded figure was 95.9%.
- The number of information sharing arrangements that the Council has in place with providers and services has further expanded. Consent to Share sensitive personal information has been implemented.
- New systems to identify young people whose activity is Not Known are being piloted and will continue to be developed. Canvassing of young people who are Not Known to identify their activity and implement support if NEET has been received positively with families asking for further information on programmes and careers guidance. Of 660 doors canvassed in November 2014 there has been a response rate of 82%.
- Halton 16 year olds Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) has reduced by 1.1% as is now at 4.1% of the cohort in June 2014.
- A Peer Coaching programme for 16 to 18 year olds was commissioned and has been extended after a successful pilot. Of the 27 young people who started the Peer Coaching programme, the majority of whom had been out of education for over 6 and 12 months, 18 have progressed to full-time education in a range of

settings including Sixth Form College, School Sixth Form, Work Based Learning Provider, FE College and Apprenticeships.

- Based on the number of Youth Contract participants as a proportion of 16/17 year old NEET young people in March 2014, Halton has a Youth Contract penetration rate of 9.9%, significantly higher than both regional (4.4%) and national (7.5%) averages.
- Data shows that at 30 November 2014, 31 Halton young people aged 16 to 18 had participated in the ESF funded Xpand Engagement Provision, through Warrington Collegiate. Of these young people, 21 completed the programme and 18 progressed into full-time education or training.

3.2 Additional data and information to support 2015/16 priority identification

- Figures at June 2014 indicate 8.9% of Halton 16-18 year olds are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET); compared to 8.8% in June 2013. This has been during the period when the service up to March 2014 was decommissioned and a new service came into place in April 2014.
- The proportion of 16-18 with activities identified as 'Not Known' has varied in recent years. The lowest result achieved for Halton 16-18 year cohort was in June 2013 (3.3%). The new Young People's Tracking Service is now responsible for reporting this information and is working towards reducing the number of Not Known currently recorded, in December 2014 the Not Known percentage was 4.9%.
- The NEET cohort itself is not a static cohort. During 2013/14 an average of 32 young people aged between 16-18 joined the NEET group from learning or employment destinations each month. Similarly, during the year an average of 29 young people left the NEET cohort each month into positive EET destinations.
- A study of the Halton 16-18 NEET cohort indicates that the average length of stay in NEET has increased compared to 2013. On average, learners within the cohort are not engaged for 25 weeks, an increase from 23 weeks for the 2013 NEET cohort, though there is high variance depending upon the age of the learner.
- An analysis of the 16-18 NEET cohort at June 2014 identifies that nearly a third had achieved 5 or more A*-C grades including English and Maths. Similarly, two-thirds of young people within the cohort achieved 5 or more A*-C grades (Level 2) and over 80% had achieved 5 or more A*-G grades (Level 1). Less than 5% of the NEET cohort had failed to achieve any qualifications at Key Stage 4.

4. Priority 3: Plan and meet requirements for the raising of the participation age to 17 by 2013 and 18 by 2015

4.1 Summary of successes

- Within the last 12 months there has been a decrease in the proportion of Halton 16-18 year old young people in employment without training. In March 2014 2.4% of the cohort were within this group, a 3.9% decrease from the 2013 position.
- Year 11 Activity Survey data indicates that the proportion of Halton 16 year olds progressing from Year 11 into employment without training destinations has declined in recent years. In 2013/14 the figure was 6 learners, equivalent to 0.4% of the total 16 year old cohort.
- Overall participation rates at June 2014 for 16 and 17 year olds in Halton have continued to increase, 88.8% in June 2014 compared to 88.1% in 2013.
- Only 3.4% of the 2013/14 year 11 cohort have been identified as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), equivalent to 47 sixteen year olds.
- The Halton Participation Strategy, developed in response to the Raising the Participation Age statutory guidance, was launched in April 2014. Commissioned services are staffing are all in place.

4.2 Additional data and information to support 2015/16 priority identification

- When split by age, participation rates for Halton 16 year olds are higher than those for 17 year olds (92.5% compared to 84.6%), this is the trend both regionally and nationally.
- Year 11 Activity Survey data indicates that the number of Halton 16 year olds progressing from Year 11 into employment without training destinations in 2013/14 was 6 learners, equivalent to 0.4% of the total 16 year old cohort. In 2012/13 the figure was 5 learners.

5. Priority 4: Ensure young people have access to appropriate progression routes

5.1 Summary of successes

- Commissioning of Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) support has allowed 5 education and training providers, to date, to benefit from assistance to review and develop CEIAG strategies and resources. Eight education and training providers are now making the U-Explore software available to young people including young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) through Career Connect Connexions.
- A Halton Participation Strategy Facebook page is live and plans are in place to take feedback from young people about further developments to this page.
- Development of the interface of Mersey Interactive has been informed by feedback from partners and young people, and continues to be developed and rolled out to pre and post-16 providers of education and training, young people and their families.
- The proportion of 16-18 Apprenticeship starts at Level 3 has increased by 11% (from 22% in 2009/10 to 33% in 2012/13).
- Four out of ten 19-24 apprenticeship starts are at Level 3 or above, final data for 2012/13 showed an increase compared to the previous year from, 38% in 2011/12 to 40% in 2012/13.
- Overall 2012/13 success rates for Halton residents attending Further Education and Sixth Form Colleges (excluding school 6th forms) have increased to 84.5% and remain in-line with the national position. Riverside College success rates for Halton Residents were higher than the national average at 86.1%.
- The proportion of Halton young people achieving a Level 3 qualification by age 19 has increased significantly in recent years. In 2013 53% of 19 year olds had achieved at least 2 A-Levels or equivalent qualifications (Level 3), a 10% increase when compared to performance in 2010.
- Latest verified DfE performance measures indicates that 91.9% of A Level learners in Halton institutions achieved at least 2 A* - E grades (this is the measure for Level 3 achievement by 19 years of age). The national average percentage for A Level learners is 91.8% achieving at least 2 A* – E grades. Provider level performance

identifies the local further education college and two of the three local school sixth forms achieve well above this national average.

5.2 Additional data and information to support 2015/16 priority identification

- Apprenticeship Starts for 16-18 year old Halton residents have fallen since 2009/10 after having seen a sharp increase up to that point. An estimated 8% of 16-18 year old residents began apprenticeship programmes in 2013 compared to 9% in 2009/10.
- The proportion of 19-24 year olds starting apprenticeships has declined to 5% of 19-24 aged residents started a programme in 2013 compared to 6% in 2011/12.
- The most popular apprenticeship frameworks in 2013 for 16-18 Halton residents were Business Administration and Governance (97 starts) and Science, Engineering & Manufacturing (58 starts). For 19-24 year olds popular frameworks include Business Administration and Governance (180 starts) and Adult Social Care (78 starts).
- In 2012/13, 59.8% of 16-19 Halton resident FE and Sixth Form College enrolments were at Level 3, an increase compared to 2011/12 (58.0%). Enrolments at Level 2 had also increased year on year (from 14.9% in 2011/12 to 16.0% in 2012/13), whilst entry level enrolments have declined sharply (from 6.3% in 2011/12 to 3.6% in 2012/13).
- Since 2011/12 there has been a 26.8% increase in the number of aims undertaken in School Sixth Forms and Academies. The majority of the 2012/13 qualification aims studied were at A or AS level (equivalent to 61.5% of all aims studied).
- The number of residents studying at Level 3 in School Sixth Forms and Academies has increased by 19.1% (from 423 in 2011/12 to 504 in 2012/13).
- Data from the Higher Education Statistics Authority (HESA) identifies an estimated 27% of Halton residents aged 18-19 progressing to study at UK higher education institutions (800 residents in 2012/13, compared to 950 in 2011/12).
- Since September 2012 universities in England were able to raise tuition fees up to £9,000 per year. This corresponds with the slight reduction in the proportion of Halton residents aged 18-19 estimated to progress to study at UK higher education institutions.

6. Priority 5: Put in place effective strategies to meet the requirements of the Alternative Provision Statutory Guidance (July 2012)

6.1 Summary of successes

- An Alternative Provision Strategy for the borough has been agreed and is in place.
- A Directory of Alternative Provision is in place and shared with partners.
- The Alternative Provision Strategy Group is chaired by the Operational Directory for Children's Organisation and Provision and the Alternative Provision Monitoring Group is chaired by The Bridge School Headteacher.
- A new Headteacher has been appointed to The Bridge School and taken up post. A new staffing structure for the school has been established and recruitment is taking place in spring 2015.
- The Alternative Provision Strategy is a key element of the new vision for The Bridge School.
- A database of all young people who access Alternative Provision is now in place.
- Development of an Emotional, Health and Wellbeing Strategy is taking place with colleagues from the Clinical Commissioning Group.

6.2 Additional data and information to support 2015/16 priority identification

- The KS4 Engagement Service provides provision for 14-16 year old learners who are at risk of exclusion from school. The number of young people starting on an engagement service programme was 43 in 2013/14, an increase from the previous year.
- The Halton Education Business Partnership (EBP) provides extended work experience placements for 14-16 year olds learner. The service offered 91 places in 2013/14, compared to 102 in 2012/13.