
Subject:

Information, Advice and Guidance

Cabinet Member: Councillor Donna Martin, Children, Schools & Families

1. RECOMMENDATIONS / DECISION REQUESTED

- 1.1 That the budget for the commissioned 13-19 (up to 25 for LLDD) Information Advice and Guidance Service is reduced by _____ from April 1 2013.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The changes to Local Authority Statutory duties (from September 2012) which include:

- The need to no longer provide a 'universal' service of Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) for 13-19 year olds (repealed in the Education Act 2011)
- Assisting the most vulnerable young people and those at risk of dis-engaging with education and/or work
- Ensuring those young people who are vulnerable are offered a service of Information, Guidance and Support to enable them to make well informed realistic decisions into Post 16 Education, Employment and/or Training
- Ensuring the whole cohort of young people are tracked and monitored to ensure engagement in Education Employment and Training and to record young people's post 16 destinations
- The duty to encourage, enable and assist young people's participation in Education and Training in line with Raising the Participation Age (RPA) agenda

3. ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

- 3.1 In light of the changes to statutory duties placed on Local Authorities a new specification has been drawn up to ensure those young people who are vulnerable are offered a targeted Information, Advice and Guidance Service.
- 3.2 Discussions are taking place across Greater Manchester exploring the possibility of commissioning data collection across the whole of GM.

4. BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

- 4.1 The Education Act 2011 has inserted a new legal duty on schools to secure access to independent and impartial careers guidance for all pupils in years 9-11, which has replaced

the prescription on local authorities to provide a universal IAG service for young people in their area. The duty applies to all schools, including special schools and pupil referral units, and comes into effect in September 2012. Academies and Free Schools are subject to the same requirements through their individual funding agreements.

- 4.2 The Education Act 2011 also states that the statutory duty remains with Local Authorities to ensure those young people who are vulnerable from year 9 to the age of 25 are provided with targeted Information, Guidance and Support into Education, Training and Employment.
- 4.3 We currently commission _____ to deliver the Connexions Service for 13-19 year olds (up to 25 for LDD). This contract is due to end in March 2013 and we are proposing to re: tender against a new specification for a targeted information, advice, guidance and support service for vulnerable young people.
- 4.4 The Local Authority will also be required to track and monitor young people to ensure they are engaged in education, employment and training and to record young people's post 16 destinations. We are currently exploring with other Greater Manchester Authorities the possibility of commissioning data collection across the whole of Greater Manchester.

5. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN / REQUIRED

- 5.1 The Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Families has been consulted.
- 5.2 Consultation has taken place over a period of 12 months with a range of stakeholders including Skills Lead Group members, Greater Manchester LA Colleagues, Rochdale Secondary Schools, Colleges, 3rd sector providers and support agencies to consider the implications and ways forward to ensure statutory duties are met and Rochdale Borough's priority of reducing NEET continues to be maintained.
- 5.3 A Task and Finish group was established (from above partners) to review in detail how Rochdale Borough can continue to maintain our partnership approach to reducing NEET whilst recognizing that statutory duties have changed. The Task and Finish group have helped to develop the new specification for a targeted service and have also ensured that schools recognise and deliver against their new statutory duties.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. **Theme:** Building Success
- 6.2. **Proposal Title:** Reduce the contract value for Information, Advice and Guidance.
- 6.3. **Breakdown of Savings from the Service:**

Service Name: Children, Schools and Families

Area of Service: Support for Learning

Cost Centre affected:

Is this a cost or additional saving: a saving

	Savings 2013/14 £000		Savings 2014/15 £000		Total Savings £000	
	Ongoing	One Off	Ongoing	One Off	Ongoing	One Off
Employees						
Other Costs	640				640	
Income lost (Show as minus)						
Net Savings	640				640	

Additional Income Generated (show as a positive figure)				
Total Savings Implementation Costs	640			640
Total Savings less Implementation Costs	640			640

6.4 Financial Impact on another service?

There is no financial impact on another service as a result of this proposal.

6.5 Details of the Financial Impact on another service: There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

6.6 Voluntary Sector Financial Impact:

There is no financial impact on the voluntary sector as a result of this proposal.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no significant legal implications as a result of this proposal. It is envisaged that we will be able to meet our statutory duty as a Local Authorities within the reduced contract value.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The proposals within this report do not have any staffing implications for the council.

9. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

10. ASSET IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no asset implications for members to consider arising from this report.

11. JOINT WORKING

11.1 Partnership arrangements are in place across the borough with schools, providers, the National Careers Service and other partners to ensure that young people and vulnerable young people in particular have an offer of Information Advice and Guidance which supports them into Education Employment and Training

12. EQUALITIES IMPACT

12.1 **Workforce Equality Impacts Assessment:** This proposal has no staffing implications and therefore there are no workforce equality issues arising from this report.

12.2 **Equality/Community Impact Assessments:** An equality/community impact assessment will be completed for this proposal.

13. VOLUNTARY SECTOR IMPACTS

13.1 There is no impact on the voluntary sector as a result of this proposal.

Background Papers: There are no background papers relating to this report.
