

**ENTERPRISE
EMPLOYMENT &
MAJOR PROJECTS
CABINET MEMBER
MEETING**

Agenda Item 9

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Enterprise, Employment & Major Projects Cabinet Member Meeting – 10
June 2009**

Written question from Councillor Turton

“Given that the Learning and Skills Council will be abolished in 2010 and responsibilities for 14-19 education and learning will be transferred to local authorities and two new agencies, (Skills Funding Agency and Young People Learning Agency), could the Cabinet Member explain (a) What preparations the City Council has made for this transfer and (b) What preparatory discussions have taken place with relevant agencies at national and/or regional level for links to be forged with these two agencies?”

Councillor Craig Turton
Labour Member for East Brighton

**Response from Councillor Ted Kemble, Cabinet Member for Enterprise,
Employment and Major Projects.**

a) The City Council is well prepared for the transfer of responsibility for the commissioning of 16-18 education from April 2010. CYPT staff began working in a virtual team with LSC staff 18 months before these announcements were made as both organisations saw the value of working more closely.

A Transition group, chaired by the Assistant Director for Learning, Schools and Skills in the CYPT, containing representatives from other CYPT Teams (Secondary and Special Schools, Quality & Performance, Finance and the Learning Partnership), Economic Development, HR and representatives from the LSC and 14-19 Partnership Board have been meeting regularly since the announcement of changes in October 2008.

A two stage process submitting the city’s vision of transition arrangements and outlining how the CYPT would engage and work in partnership with neighbouring Local Authorities has been completed and shared with TMT/Cabinet. It proposes that the three Local Authorities need to work together and plan and commission provision within the local travel to learn area that stretches out to Worthing in the west, Eastbourne in the east and Crawley in the north.

National announcements have been made on staff transfer under TUPE arrangements and a total of seven LSC staff will be absorbed into the CYPT from April 2010. The additional posts are being included in the current CYPT restructure of Tier 3 and 4 posts.

b) The Skills Funding Agency will have a regional satellite office in the city and once transference of staff to the SFA begins further preparatory work will take place.

The National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) which will have overall responsibility for all Apprenticeships in England is operational and the City Council is currently working on a Memorandum of Understanding with NAS to clarify both parties roles and responsibilities.

The Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA) will have oversight of the transition phase of 16-18 commissioning. The YPLA will have a small base in the city and further preparatory work is ongoing with both the YPLA and GOSE.