

**Council**

20 October 2016

**Agenda Item 35**

Brighton &amp; Hove City Council

**Subject:** City Employment & Skills Plan 2016 - 2020 - Extract from the proceedings of the Economic Development & Culture Committee Meeting held on the 22 September 2016

**Date of Meeting:** 20 October 2016 – Council

**Report of:** Executive Lead for Strategy, Governance & Law

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**Wards Affected:** All

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE*****Action Required of Council***

To receive the item referred from the Economic Development & Culture Committee for approval, with consideration also given to the comments by the Children, Young People & Skills Committee:

**Recommendation:**

That the Council adopts the Brighton & Hove City Employment & Skills Plan 2016-2020.

## BRIGHTON &amp; HOVE CITY COUNCIL

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &amp; CULTURE COMMITTEE

4.00pm 22 SEPTEMBER 2016

## COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

## MINUTES

**Present:** Councillor Robins (Chair), Cattell (Deputy Chair), Nemeth (Opposition Spokesperson), Druitt (Group Spokesperson), Allen, Mac Cafferty, Morris, O'Quinn, Peltzer Dunn and C Theobald.

PART ONE**22 CITY EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS PLAN 2016 - 2020**

- 22.1 The Committee considered a joint report of the Executive Director for Economy, Environment & Housing and the Executive Director for Families, Children & Learning. The report sought approval from the Committee for the final City Employment & Skills Plan (2016-2020) to be recommended to Council for formal adoption. The Committee also noted that the report would be considered by the Children, Young People & Skills Committee on 3 October 2016, before being considered by Council on 20 October 2016.
- 22.2 In response to questions from Councillor Allen it was explained that the apprenticeship levy was due to be introduced in April 2016, and there had already been significant publicity around this. Employers with a wage bill in excess of the £3M would be subject to the levy and work was currently being undertaken with the LEP to identify which employers this would likely be. The Employer Action Group had been focusing its work on the creation of a brokerage to allow employers to access the levy funds through vouchers and training. It was envisaged that the brokerage would target smaller employers to ensure they were able to take advantage of the opportunities.
- 22.3 Councillor Druitt noted that he has personally attended both of the consultation events and commended the work that had been undertaken there. He noted the event had been focused and welcoming, and felt there was scope to use this as a model for future consultation events. In response to a query it was explained that management of skill shortages was difficult; however, education had tended to be supply driven. There was in-depth work being undertaken to analysis courses that were offered against growth areas in the city; it was hoped that the introduction of the levy would allow this to be more employer lead, with a more open dialogue.
- 22.4 In response to Councillor Peltzer Dunn it was explained that work had been undertaken to encourage employers to speak to schools, and the additional apprenticeship that City College were expecting to secure were highlighted. It was noted that there was a proper

structure in place to make this work accountable, and a progress report could be brought back to a future meeting.

22.5 The Chair then put the recommendations to the vote.

22.6 **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:**

- (1) That the final City Employment & Skills Plan and the steps that will be taken to deliver the Strategic Map be noted;
- (2) That the Plan be recommended to Council for adoption; and
- (3) That the Children, Young People & Skills Committee notes the final City Employment & Skills Plan and the steps that will be taken to deliver the Strategic Map.

## BRIGHTON &amp; HOVE CITY COUNCIL

## CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE &amp; SKILLS COMMITTEE

4.00pm 3 OCTOBER 2016

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL, NORTON ROAD, HOVE, BN3 4AH

## MINUTES

**Present:** Councillors Bewick (Chair), Chapman (Deputy Chair), Brown (Opposition Spokesperson), Daniel, Greenbaum, Miller, Page, Penn, Russell-Moyle and Simson.

Co-Optees Ms B Connor, Mr B Glazebrook, Ms A Holt and Mr M Jones.

PART ONE

- 38.1 The Committee considered the joint report of the Executive Director Families, Children & Learning and the Executive Director for Economy, Environment & Culture. The report sought approval from the Committee for the City Employment & Skills Plan (2016-2020). The report was introduced by the Head of Skills and Employment (Families, Children and Learning).
- 38.2 Councillor Brown asked that regular updates on the plan be provided to the committee, and was advised they would.
- 38.3 In response to a suggestion from Councillor Miller, the Head of Skills and Employment (Families, Children and Learning) agreed that schools could provide more information about apprenticeships and said that over the coming year there would be a significant amount of work undertaken with secondary schools to promote apprenticeships as an alternative pathway to academic choices.
- 38.4 In response to a question from Councillor Miller regarding those from minority ethnic groups or who were disabled, the Head of Skills and Employment (Families, Children and Learning) said that there has been recent research regarding BME communities and people with disabilities and there would be a focus on supporting those groups and addressing issues which impacted on their ability to obtain employment.
- 38.5 In response to a question from Councillor Page, the Head of Skills and Employment (Families, Children and Learning) confirmed that the Department for Works & Pensions (DWP) were one of the agencies involved with the City Employment and Skills Plan.
- 38.6 **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:**
- (1) That the final City Employment & Skills Plan and the steps that would be taken to deliver the Strategic Map be noted; and
  - (2) That the Plan be recommended to Council for adoption.