

Summary of Wiltshire Strategic Priorities 2011/12

Participation

- Reduce NEET and increase participation in targeted groups of young people especially LLDD
- Support the transition of E2E into Foundation Learning (FL) for all providers working with Connexions to ensure that young people access suitable provision
- Support the most vulnerable young people to access appropriate provision to engage and maximise progression opportunities via ESF funding
- Continue to raise awareness of apprenticeship routes in the County and engage with employers to grow the provision

Achievement

- Continue to narrow the FSM gap by 19 at L2 and L3
- Explore strategies to ensure more 17 and 18 year olds are in learning irrespective of the RPA legislation with a particular focus on vulnerable groups
- Support the implementation of FL across Wiltshire ensuring achievement opportunities for all learners working at level 1 or below
- Improve the quality of CEIAG for all young people in Wiltshire; ensuring it is impartial, timely, raises aspiration and challenges stereotypes

Range of opportunities

- Explore strategies to increasing participation of young people at level 2 and level 3 particularly in vocational and applied learning
- Continue to commission high quality, cost effective provision, including A-level (currently 45.4% year 11 leavers access A-levels), Diplomas, Apprenticeships and Foundation Learning
- Support partnership working across Wiltshire to maximise opportunities for young people to access appropriate learning at all levels
- Increase participation in Wessex where numbers, including out of county are significantly lower than the rest
 of the County particularly for year 11 school leavers
- Secure quality provision on Salisbury Plain to meet the needs of learners
- Explore strategies to develop in county provision and internal collaboration to meet the needs of LLDD locally to reduce numbers that are being referred to higher cost ISPs
- Work with employers (including Wiltshire Council) to promote and expand apprenticeship opportunities
- Work with employers to increase opportunities for young people in paid employment to access training opportunities

Quality and value for money

- Secure further improvements in FE success rates, particularly at L2
- Work with providers to increase the VA in order to show positive CVA for all learners
- Secure further improvement in APS within SSF for schools who are in line or below average point scores
- To work with the schools who have the highest failure rate in A level and AS level in order to improve success rates and prevent failure
- Improve retention rates on post 16 courses
- Explore strategies which will support the sharing of effective practice, including linking higher performing providers with those who, relatively, perform less well
- Work with providers to ensure that quality provision is available to meet learner needs that are currently being met out of county through rigorous commissioning process