

## Draft Terms of Reference: Apprenticeships Review

1. Scrutiny Panel: Scrutiny Panel B
2. Membership:
  - a. Councillor Paffey (Chair)
  - b. Councillor Kaur
  - c. Councillor Furnell
  - d. Councillor Shields
  - e. Councillor Baillie
  - f. Councillor Norris
  - g. Councillor Turner
3. Purpose:

To examine the Southampton Apprenticeship Action Plan and consider how the number of high quality Apprenticeships in Southampton can be increased.
4. Background:
  - a. The Council introduced the Southampton Apprenticeship Action Plan at the start of the 2012/13 academic year, in partnership with the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) and Southampton Skills Development Zone (SSDZ), to generate Apprenticeship growth in the city.
  - b. Southampton has seen an increase in the number of residents starting Apprenticeships. NAS data for 2011/12 shows 1,493 residents, across all ages, started an apprenticeship in-year, 13% higher than the previous year. However, this is below regional and national growth rates, at 20% and 17% respectively.
  - c. The number of young people in Southampton aged 16-18 starting Apprenticeships is not consistent with overall growth figures. NAS data for 2011/12 shows 354 young people started an apprenticeship in-year, 4% lower than the previous year. Regional and national growth rates for 16-18 year olds stand at 4% and 2% respectively.
  - d. The Government is increasing the age to which all young people must continue in education or training, requiring them to continue until the end of the academic year in which they turn 17 from 2013, and until their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday from 2015. With effect from September 2013, Raising of the Participation Age (RPA) will significantly increase the demand for Apprenticeship opportunities from young people in Southampton. The Council has a duty to secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for all young people as part of RPA.
5. Objectives:
  - a. To examine the work already delivered by the Council and its partners to generate Apprenticeship growth in the city
  - b. To examine the impact of Apprenticeships on the city economy

- c. To examine ways to significantly increase the numbers of Apprenticeships in Southampton, particularly for 16-18 year olds, to figures above regional and national averages.
6. Methodology and Consultation:
    - a. Undertake desktop research, including national policy and activity
    - b. Identify and consider best practice
    - c. Seek stakeholder views
    - d. Conduct interviews with cabinet members leading on issues relating to education, employment and skills, Executive Director for Environment and Economy, Senior Managers and other relevant officers
  7. Proposed Timetable: 5 meetings from April - August 2013.
  8. Review Programme to be developed.