

**Decision Session - Executive Member for
Culture, Leisure and Communities**

22 July 2019

Report of the Assistant Director (Communities and Culture)

York Learning – Strategic / Service Plan 2019/20

Summary

1. This report sets out the strategic direction of York Learning and presents a one year service / business plan for the academic year commencing in September 2019. This forms a key part of the governance arrangements for the service.

Recommendations

2. The Executive Member is asked to consider the attached Strategic / Service Plan and approve it subject to any suggested changes.

Reason: To provide a sound governance arrangement for York Learning Services.

Background

3. York Learning is a council service which delivers a range of learning programmes to support people into employment, to improve their skills and to support their personal development. The service is funded almost exclusively from external contract funding and fee income. For the academic year 2018/19 this is in the region £3.3m, an increase of about £400k on the previous year.
4. This report gives an overview of the service and sets out some of the opportunities and challenges that the service faces over the next 12 months and beyond. It includes a detailed action plan to achieve service ambitions for the next 12 months.

Consultation

5. The plan is presented for consultation and approval. It has gone through some internal service consultation with senior managers and is influenced by a rigorous self-assessment process which is ongoing.

Options

6. The attached plan is presented for comment and amendment by the Executive Member prior to approval.

Analysis

7. This will be a dynamic document with actions added as appropriate. Any major changes to the plan will be approved by the Executive Member.

Monitoring and Review

8. Performance against the action plan is reported to Children, Education and Communities Scrutiny Committee twice yearly in the form of an update report.
9. In January, the Executive Member receives the service's self-assessment report which draws on performance in the previous academic year and helps to shape the strategic plan for the following academic year.

Corporate Objectives

10. Any plans and strategies developed are set within the context of the council plan but also respond to a number of sub-regional, regional and national policy objectives.

Implications

11. **Finance:** The service is fully funded via external contracts and grants. Whilst the service has robust procedures in place to ensure the services maximises income this is not without some risks.
12. **Crime and Disorder:** Whilst there are no direct crime and disorder implications contained within the plan, the service has a strategy to support the "Prevent" strand of the Governments Anti-Terrorism strategy, and this is part of clear contractual and legal requirements.

13. The report has no additional Human Resources, Equalities, Legal, Information Technology, Property or other implications beyond those highlighted in the plan.

Risk Management

14. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy the main risks that have been identified associated with the proposals contained in this report are those which could lead to the inability to meet business objectives and to deliver services, leading to damage to the Council's reputation and failure to meet stakeholders' expectations. The level of risk is assessed as "Low". This is acceptable but means that regular monitoring is required of the operation of the new arrangements.

Contact Details

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Learning

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Equalities)

**Report
Approved**

Date 10 July 2019

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

1. Annex 1 Learning Services Strategic Plan 19/20.