

**Decision Session - Executive Member for
Culture, Leisure and Tourism**
Report of the Assistant Director
(Communities, Culture and Public Realm)

24 June 2016

York Learning Strategic / Service Plan: 2016/17

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 2016. 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. For the academic year 2016/17 funding for the service will be £2.4m.
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. Following this report a detailed scorecard will be developed to support the outcomes in this report and to allow reporting against projected numbers and targets. This will follow a similar pattern to the 2015/16 plan.

Consultation

5. The plan is presented for consultation and approval. It has gone through some internal service consultation with senior managers

and is in part as a result of 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 Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee twice yearly in the form of an update report.
9. In December, 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.

Council Plan

10. The format of the plan highlights where the service contributes to wider council objectives as part of the new council plan and to the city's Skills Strategy. The latter is currently under review: the previous strategy covered the period 2013-16 and if there are significant changes then these will be reflected in subsequent versions of the plan.

Implications

11. **Financial:** This service plan is designed to be implemented at zero base cost to the Council. Variations in expenditure and income will be reported through the usual management financial reporting arrangements.
12. **Equalities:** The report has no equalities implications that arise directly from the attached Strategic/service plan, although some of actions will be subject to equalities impact assessments.

Service managers are fully aware of duties under the equalities legislation and implement equalities actions as part of a regular cycle of quality improvements and actions.

13. **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.
14. **Property:** There are no immediate property implications; however, one of the service actions is to reduce costs associated with its 16-18 programmes and this may have property implications in the future.
15. There are no additional Human Resources, Legal, Information Technology, or Other implications arising from the report.

Risk Management

16. 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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**Report
Approved**

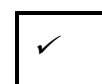


Date: 13 June 2016

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes: York Learning Strategic Plan 2016/17