

LSCGM 0277

24th August 2006

Review of Post-16 Education and Training in Trafford

Final Report Published

Following discussions with key stakeholders in the area, the Learning and Skills Council Greater Manchester commissioned a project to review post-16 education and training in Trafford. The final report of the review was completed in July 2006 and can now be accessed through the link below.

The primary objectives of the review were to:

- ensure that the balance and mix of provision meets the current needs and future priorities of learners of all ages, employers and communities, while enhancing quality and increasing choice
- increase participation of young people in learning within the borough of Trafford and raise achievement at age 16 and 19.

The review concludes that the best way to achieve this would be:

- the schools, colleges and training providers to work much more closely together on providing education and training for all young people aged 14-19 through 'planning forums' led by the LSC and Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council, and
- for the two colleges, North Trafford College of Further Education and South Trafford College, to merge.

The report recommends: "A culture of partnership aimed at providing high quality mixed provision focusing on the needs of learners, not institutions, could ensure that all partners were closely involved in delivering the type of provision that matched their skills,

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experience and facilities and that also provided the 'right' programmes of learning in the 'right' place within the borough."

Jane Bracewell, area director for Greater Manchester South at LSC Greater Manchester said, "The review has been very helpful at clarifying the issues facing us all in Trafford. Trafford young people are already very fortunate in the quality and range of education and training available to them: this report will help us to make it even better.

Some of the recommendations have far-reaching consequences and we will need to discuss thoroughly with the local authority and the colleges how to carry them out. I would like to say thank you to all of the people who contributed, either on the steering group or through interviews and focus groups, whose assistance has been vital."

The report will be considered by the LSC Greater Manchester's Council in September 2006 and they will advise on which recommendations should be pursued.

The report, the specification for the review and other documents are all publicly available from the Learning and Skills Council's website at:

<http://www.lsc.gov.uk/grmanchester/Documents/KeyInitiatives/trafford.htm>

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Learning and Skills Council Greater Manchester

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for planning and funding high-quality vocational education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that by 2010, young people and adults in England have the knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. Established in 2001, we work nationally, regionally and locally from a network of offices across the country.

Top Level Messages

- We plan and invest in high quality education and training for young people and adults that will build a skilled and competitive workforce.
- We help employers to get the training and skills they need for their business.
- We are transforming the further education sector to meet the needs of employers and the local community.
- We are committed to improving learning opportunities for everyone.