

## Local Authority: Dudley

<b>Young People</b>
<b>Partnership Structures / Sub regional Groupings</b>
<p>Dudley has a single 14-19 Strategic Partnership led by the Local Authority. This group reports into the Dudley Children's Trust Executive Board. The Strategic Partnership has representation from the LA, LSC, Connexions, EBP, colleges, WBL Provider Network and schools in all five consortia groups. It has two sub-groups including the NEET Steering Group and Economic Well Being Group which also link into the Trust Executive Board via the Children and Young Peoples Implementation Group. It has other sub groups to support borough-wide developments such as e-Infrastructure (e.g. common application process, Area Prospectus), college management and 14-16 work.</p> <p>The LA 14-19 team leads on the borough approach to Diplomas and the wider reform agenda. There are five consortia groups with representation from schools and colleges and more recently WBL providers. The groups are as follows; North Dudley, Central Dudley, West Dudley, Stourbridge and Halesowen.</p> <p>The Machinery of Government sub-regional grouping, subject to final negotiation, will likely see a partnership between all four Black Country Local Authorities.</p>
<b>Progress Checks Headlines</b>
<p>Six of the quantitative indicators in the Progress Check are Amber/Green and one area (employer links) is Amber/Red with an overall average score of 2.2. The Economic Well Being Group is tackling the issues raised relating to the employer links indicator. The average score for the qualitative indicators is 2.3.</p>
<b>Academies / Presumptions</b>
<p>Windsor High School has recently been successful in gaining a sixth form through presumption and the LSC is providing capital funding to support this development. There are currently two academies being planned in Dudley with plans to open in September 2009 - Crestwood and Pensnett Academy and Castle Academy. The sixth form provision for learners at these schools will be delivered in partnership with Dudley College.</p>
<b>NEET/EET Strategies</b>
<p>There is a well established Dudley NEET Steering Group led by Connexions which meets regularly to review progress in terms of Local Area Agreement targets and strategies to increase participation. Lead organisations delivering all LSC funded pre- and post-16 NEET projects report into this group.</p> <p>In August 2008 the level of NEET in Dudley was 5.8% (6.2% same time last year) made up of 517 young people – not including this years summer leavers. There are currently 298 job ready clients (potential NEET) out of 4,456 in total. The LAA target is 4.9% (average between November 2008 and January 2009). The level of 'not known' is low at 3.2% (3.8% this time last year). In terms of the biggest groups of learners who become NEET this is FE learners who leave their course early, employed learners who become unemployed and e2e drop out. There are currently 116 LDD young people who are NEET.</p> <p>In terms of the September Guarantee 93% of young people received an offer by the end of September 2007.</p>
<b>Young Apprenticeships</b>
<p>Dudley has been very successful in gaining funding for YA and in 2008 has three programmes running.</p> <p><b>Cohort 4</b> - Dudley West – 21 learners, Dudley Central – 27 learners</p> <p><b>Cohort 5</b> - Dudley West – 21 learners, Dudley Central – 27 learners, Dudley College- 24 learners</p>
<b>Schools Engagement Programme</b>
<p>The Dudley School Engagement Programme (known as the 'ENGAGE programme') is due to commence in September 2008. An ENGAGE Board has been set up to oversee the process of recruitment and monitoring of the programme.</p>
<b>Diploma Summary</b>
<p>Of 21 applications for Diploma's in Gateway 1 and 2 the borough were successful in 7 (33%).</p> <p><b>Confirmed delivery to commence in 2008</b> Creative and media by Halesowen Consortia, Society health and development by Halesowen Consortia</p>

**Confirmed delivery to commence in 2009**

Engineering at Dudley North Consortium, IT at Halesowen Consortium, Hair and beauty at Halesowen Consortium, Construction at Stourbridge Consortium

Conditions need to be met for further diploma's in September 2009 (Hair and beauty at Dudley Central and Hospitality and catering at Halesowen) and September 2010 (Society health and development at Dudley Central and Business admin at Halesowen)

**Economic Development**

Brierley Hill has been designated as one of the four strategic centres for the Black Country. All regeneration work is led by the Brierley Hill Regeneration Partnership. In addition, Dudley Town centre has been designated as a tourism and leisure centre for the Borough.

Some of the Dudley Economic Regeneration aims for the coming year include -

- The delivery of training and local jobs for local people through Future Skills Dudley
- Facilitate progression of Castle Hill and Dudley Zoo project
- Development of Area Action Plans for Brierley Hill, Stourbridge and Halesowen
- Create an Arms Length Company for the regeneration of Dudley Town Centre
- Support the development and delivery of the Next Generation Local Area Agreement
- Coordinate the delivery of the City Strategy Pathfinder initiative

<b>Investment Sites</b>	<b>No. of jobs created</b>	<b>Sectors</b>	<b>Estimated completion date</b>
Brierley Hill High Street/Lower Brierley Hill/Daniels Wharf	20000	Retail, leisure and catering. Business and professional services. Health and Social Care	2013
Waterfront II, Dudley - Residential, Office and Leisure facilities.	150	Business and Professional Services / Leisure /Hospitality	2009
Townscape Heritage Initiative Stage 2 - Mix of commercial and retail uses	109	Retail and Commercial	2011
Dudley Town Centre Master Plan - Master plan - Tower Street	3000	Retail, residential and Commercial	2017
Castle Hill and Castle Gate, Dudley - Mixed development of business, employment, leisure and housing	673	Retail, leisure and catering	2014
Halesowen Town Centre - Asda Store - Adoption of Halesowen Area. Action Plan. Development of the Cornbow Shopping Centre. Completion of Halesowen Bus Station	300	Retail and Commercial	2011
Glasshouse Project - Part of the Ruskin Mill Educational Trust	90	Design and Crafts	2010
Local Improvement Finance Trust (LIFT) – A new Health and Social Care Centre in the heart of Brierley Hill Town Centre	12	Health and Social Care	2010
South Black Country Innovation Campus,	410	Business and professional service	2013

Dudley			
Employment Heart - Redevelopment of under utilised industrial sites adjacent to the Dudley Southern Bypass	Full application to AWM to be developed	TBA	Development Period – Feb 2009
Stourbridge Area Action Plan	Development of the Action Plan		

Please note, it is the **potential** number of jobs stated, and this should not be viewed as a definite number.

**Sub-regional: Black Country**

<p><b>Workforce Development / Worklessness</b></p> <p>The four Local Authorities in the Black Country each have a city strategy local management group focusing on worklessness. The groups were established before the city strategy pathfinder and are therefore expected to continue into the future. They all feed into the wider sub-regional economic development partnerships and onto the Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs).</p> <p>In Walsall the worklessness group has established links with homelessness to ensure information is shared on the client groups and the necessary links and referrals are in place. Sandwell are developing links to a sports pathways project, using sport to engage clients group, whilst Dudley are making the links to health.</p> <p>All four Local Authorities have included a target to reduce worklessness in their Local Area Agreements and are currently developing delivery plans to achieve the targets. The LSC is working closely with all partners to ensure that ESF, DAF, NLDC and the Working Neighbourhood Fund are all aligned and avoid duplication.</p>
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<p><b>Quality</b></p>
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