

Local Authority: Stoke-on-Trent

Young People											
Partnership Structures / Sub regional Groupings											
<p>There is a 14-19 Strategic Partnership for Stoke-on-Trent comprising of representatives of all key organisations. Reporting into this strategic group are various subgroups e.g. IAG, strategy, WBL, area prospectus, BTEC consortium, quality, etc.</p> <p>The machinery of Government sub regional grouping, subject to Government approval, is likely to comprise of Stoke-on-Trent LA and Staffordshire LA.</p>											
Progress Checks Headlines											
<p>The quantitative indicators for the Progress Check highlight concern in all areas except PI3, proportion of 5 A*-C including English and maths.</p>											
Academies / Presumptions											
<p>Under the current reorganisation of secondary education proposals in Stoke-on-Trent, it is suggested that there will be five new academies, designated as 11-16 academies.</p>											
NEET/EET Strategies											
<p>Through commissioning Staffordshire Connexions have been successful in securing provision to support 551 young people with Pre and Post 16 provision in partnership with a cross section of providers across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.</p> <p>Current NEETs (excluding not-knowns) at the end of August 2008 is 13.1% compared to 14.8% in August 2007.</p> <p>The largest group of young people not in employment, education, and training are young offenders accounting for 20% of the NEET cohort with 13% being teenage mothers.</p>											
Young Apprenticeships											
<p>The first cohort of learners began in 2004/05. Provision has continued through each of the subsequent application rounds. A total of xx young people have participated to 2007/08. There are 130 new places available in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent during 2008/09. The following sectors and places are available:-</p> <p>Hospitality – 10 Administration – 57 Health and Social Care – 34 Construction - 29</p>											
Schools Engagement Programme											
<p>The programme began at the start of 2007/08 offering 150 places in Stoke-on-Trent. In 2008/09 there will be 200 places available with the programme being managed by Stoke-on-Trent City Council.</p>											
Diploma Summary											
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Available from 2008</th> <th>Available from 2009</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Construction and the Built Environment</td> <td>Creative and Media</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Engineering</td> <td>Business Administration and Finance</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Society Health and Development</td> <td>Hospitality and Catering</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ICT</td> <td>Manufacturing (conditions to be met)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Available from 2008	Available from 2009	Construction and the Built Environment	Creative and Media	Engineering	Business Administration and Finance	Society Health and Development	Hospitality and Catering	ICT	Manufacturing (conditions to be met)
Available from 2008	Available from 2009										
Construction and the Built Environment	Creative and Media										
Engineering	Business Administration and Finance										
Society Health and Development	Hospitality and Catering										
ICT	Manufacturing (conditions to be met)										

Economic Development

Physical regeneration projects for Stoke on Trent include:

Housing Renewal Pathfinder

Hanley – Retail, Business and Cultural districts

University Quarter

University Hospital

Initial building work will require additional skilled construction workers and once completed will add to the expected growth in Business and Professional Services, wholesale and retail and tourism and leisure sectors in the area.

More than 300 jobs could be created as a result of city centre development. The mixed use scheme aims to transform areas of Hanley and will include 35,000 square feet of office space, 35 flats and 163 parking spaces. It is anticipated that activity will commence in 2009 and will take 12-18 months to complete.

500 jobs are to be created in Tunstall, Stoke on Trent following the completion of the 3rd phase of the Jasper Square Development. The site includes a 45,000 sqft health and fitness centre and 2000 sq ft retail space.

The final phase of a £1.6 million scheme to transform Queen Street in Burslem into a vibrant hub of creative business activity has recently completed. Run down Victoria terraced properties have been transformed into state of the art live/work units offering professional work space and living accommodation under one roof.

Sub-regional:

Workforce Development / Worklessness

The introduction of the Jobs Enterprise and Training Centres (JETS) in the Burslem South (includes Biddulph), Blurton and Bentilee for Stoke on Trent priority wards will provide a physical premises in each area for economically inactive members of the community to access. This is a partnership approach across Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent and the service will provide a journey into work through a variety of interventions aimed at the 19+, 12 month unemployed harder to reach groups who live in priority wards as part of an ESF bid led by Stoke on Trent City Council.

Redevelopment of Ingestre Square in Blurton will provide a new shopping area and community hub which will house the new Jobs Enterprise and Training Centre (JET) for Blurton.

The focus for Stoke on Trent is on reducing the number of people claiming work related benefits. At the present time 18.8% of the working age population in Stoke on Trent are claiming benefits. Low skills and lack of qualifications have been identified as a major barrier to individuals securing employment. Targets have been identified within the LAA to improve the number of individuals participating in Skills for Life and Level 2 provision.

Within the north of the county, a Jobs Enterprise and Training Infrastructure (JET) is being developed, which will provide shop front community facing centres to engage with individuals who have been unemployed or economically inactive for 12 months or more to support them in their journey into sustainable employment. Additionally JET business is working closely with employers to provide interview and employment opportunities for the clients engaging with the community JETs. Refurbishment of high street properties and shop premises are underway in Knutton and Newcastle, with JETs having already been set up in Blurton, Bentilee and Burslem in Stoke on Trent

Downturn in the economy has sparked off a significant number of **potential job losses** that will impact on the worklessness agenda across Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent. Early indications suggest that a possible 3000 jobs could be at risk across the whole of the county in a variety of sectors, including Food and Drink, Manufacturing, Social Care, Retail and Information Technology.

Quality

In May 2008, two institutions in Staffordshire were issued with notices to improve (Ntl) Both institutions are in receipt of support via the Improvement advisor service (IAS) delivered by the former Quality Improvement Agency. A number of institutions have been identified at risk of receiving an Ntl in 2008/09 on the basis of success rates in 2006/07. These Institutions are either in receipt of IAS support or are in the process of completing applications.

A sector analysis of provision falling below the 45% MLP threshold for apprenticeships frameworks in

2006/07 was undertaken against the related volumes of learners. This identified four key sectors in Staffordshire and 321 associated learners. The sectors included: Hospitality & Catering, Health & Social Care, Children's Care Learning & Development and Engineering. The provision was subsequently subject to the open and competitive tendering process and has been reallocated where appropriate.

A number of Staffordshire providers are participating in the Support for Excellence programme delivered by the QIA. The purpose of the programme is to improve capacity for self assessment and self improvement via a peer mentoring approach.

Staffordshire providers are participating in the framework for excellence pilots. Rodbaston College and Stafford College have participated in version 1 pilot and Staffordshire County Council, Stoke on Trent City Council and Finning UK Ltd are participating in version 2 of the pilot commencing September 2008.

A number of Staffordshire providers have been invited to participate in the QIA's programme on Word Class Skills. The focus of the programme is on developing responsive provision and includes a package of individual consultancy and a number of themed seminars.