

Local Authority: Wolverhampton

Young People
Partnership Structures / Sub regional Groupings
<p>There is an overarching Learning Partnership, involving the LA 14-19 team representing all 11-18 schools, FE college, Adult Education Service, WBL providers, Connexions and JC+. There is also a discreet 14-19 Partnership chaired by a member of the Learning Partnership involving FE college, WBL providers, LA 14-19 team and Connexions. This partnership looks at the offer across Wolverhampton for all learners 14-19. The LA 14-19 team leads a City wide approach to Diploma and the Reform agenda and currently has 10 Diplomas which have passed the gateway.</p> <p>The Machinery of Government Sub Regional grouping, subject to final negotiation, will see a partnership between all Black Country Local Authorities. The Wolverhampton LA has recently voted to create a strategic group to manage 11-19 governance.</p>
Progress Checks Headlines
<p>Participation in full time education now stands at 77%. The Area Prospectus is in place and well established and links well to other City wide infrastructure in the form of my-iPlan.com and CARD. Connexions produce an Education and Training Directory that supports the Area Prospectus. Employer engagement is managed at three levels, EBP management, curriculum delivery and guidance through CARD which includes experiential learning experiences.</p> <p>The City has a very wide 14-19 collaborative curriculum offer. The central purpose of the 14-19 development team is to develop, maintain and grow the offer. The City plan to offer the full 14-19 entitlement by 2011 two years ahead of National requirements</p>
Academies / Presumptions
<p>There are no presumptions.</p> <p>Two academies are being set up as part of the wave 5 BSF arrangements - Park Field High and Pendeford High.</p>
NEET/EET Strategies
<p>The LAA target for NEET is 8.8% and they are currently at 9.1%. NB The target is for the November, December, January quarter and is counted in February, so good progress is expected towards the target.</p> <p>The City wide NEET strategy includes prevention, intervention, employer engagement and cross cutting themes. Funding is via LSC ESF OCT contracts, the LA and Connexions.</p>
Young Apprenticeships
<p>Young Apprenticeships has been in operation since inception and offered in Engineering. Cohort 1 engaged 21 learners from Wednesfield and Heath Park. Cohort 2 engaged 16 learners from Wednesfield and was praised during York Consulting evaluation and Ofsted inspection. Cohort 3 saw a new partnership with Willenhall School with 10 learners from Wednesfield accessing the programme. Cohort 4 has 26 learners engaged from Wednesfield. A decision was taken not to engage in cohort 5 as it would need to be a city wide offer to fit in with Diploma delivery and the numbers available were restrictive. However, Heath Park is engaged with EU Skills with 5 learners accessing provision.</p>
Schools Engagement Programme
<p>Wolverhampton has been involved since day 1 in SEP. this activity is badged as the ReACH project across the city and aimed at those pupils at risk of disaffection. The project has been supported by the EBP with an ESF project "Just the Business".</p> <p>Cohort 1 had 160 pupils engaged, cohort 2 had 200 engaged and cohort 3 has 220. Some of the pupils engaged for C3 will be accessing foundation diplomas so numbers may decline.</p>
Diploma Summary
<p>All 10 City wide bids have passed the gateway and delivery of the first 5 starts September 2008</p>

Economic Development

The City of Wolverhampton is under-going major transformation, which is being co-ordinated by the Wolverhampton City Development Company. There is a City Centre Strategy and Action Plan, which has among its objectives, that Wolverhampton:

- Offers a first rate quality shopping, culture and leisure experience;
- Is committed to academic excellence and lifelong learning;
- Contains a thriving business community;
- Is the place for investment;
- Is a place which retains strong traditions, yet allows opportunity for innovative and exciting new development;
- Is a place which offers new opportunities and builds upon the strengths of the city's ethnic and cultural diversity; and
- Is a city which boasts high quality buildings and public spaces.

The major regeneration projects are listed below. Please note, it is the potential number of jobs stated, and this should not be viewed as a definite number.

Investment Sites	No. of jobs created	Sectors	Estimated completion date
City Centre Retail Core Expansion	2000	Construction, Retail and Hospitality	2012
Wolverhampton Homes	400 Apprenticeships	Construction Trades	2015
New Bus and Railway Interchange	2,800	Construction, Hospitality and Professional Services	2013
Wolverhampton Science Park Phase 4	100	Creative Industries Professional Services	2010
Wolverhampton Science Park Phase 5 New engineering and technology centre	100	Creative Industries, Professional Services	Late 2010
i54 Technology Corridor	6000	Construction, Business and Professional Services	2016

Overall jobs in Wolverhampton – approx 11,500

Sub-regional: Black Country

Workforce Development / Worklessness

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).

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.

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.

Quality