



## Strategic Partnership / LSB Priority Delivery Board

<b>Priority 1: Lead by example as employers and community leaders.</b>  <b>In 2013/14 we intended to:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Protect and promote the well-being of our employees, volunteers &amp; the community.</li> <li>2. Support lifelong learning &amp; employability of our employees &amp; volunteers.</li> <li>3. Improve the education, training &amp; employment prospects for young people up to 25 years of age.</li> </ol>		
<b>Progress status</b>	<b>Progress RAG</b> 	<b>Outcome RAG</b> 
<b>What we did in 2013/14</b>	<p>For 2014 / 2015 most delivery work has been focused around the third sub priority:- Improve the education, training and employment prospects for young people up to 25 years of age as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with the public, private and voluntary sectors to increase the number of apprenticeships, traineeships and work experience opportunities.</li> <li>• Set a marketing strategy to communicate the range of apprenticeship and training programmes available.</li> <li>• Identify the skills gaps for an increased number of apprenticeship and alternative programmes and investment in training.</li> <li>• Continue to develop and increase the number and range of Communities First Job Club programmes.</li> <li>• Support the development of the Young Entrepreneur Programme with the Flintshire Business Entrepreneurship Network.</li> <li>• Implement skills development programmes in partnership with local employers.</li> </ul> <p>One of the major challenges faced by the partnership was to quantify the impact of interventions.</p>	
<b>What went well</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Youth Engagement and Progression Framework.</li> <li>• Interim provision mapping and database design.</li> <li>• Self-Employment continues to illustrate improvement for young people, particularly with the success for Dragon's Den.</li> </ul>	
<b>What did not go so well</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The partnership was severely short-staffed for most of the year.</li> <li>• We need to improve our intelligence mechanisms.</li> </ul>	

**Our evidence for this is:**

**(i) Achievement milestones**

Brief description of key activities and milestones achieved in the year are:

### **National Youth Engagement and Progression Framework**

- The new **National** Youth Engagement and Progression Framework has enabled new standardised performance information and analysis to and the local implementation plan highlights a number of consistent themes about labour market information, harmonised information systems across the county and ensuring an up-to-date mapping of provision in order to improve understanding.

### **Information Sharing Protocol**

- An Information Sharing Protocol (ISP) is complete and is being quality assured.

### **Apprenticeships**

- Flintshire has provided Board level leadership with the development of the Construction Industry Training Apprenticeship Scheme this will create at least 50 additional apprenticeships per year. Regionally, we are working with Welsh Government to promote the range of apprenticeships and training programmes available to young people, this rapidly progressed from a local priority to a national priority.

### **Engagement with Businesses**

- Work has been undertaken with the Deeside Enterprise Zone to engage businesses to work closely with schools around the STEM subjects identifying business needs. Argoed High School's head has started working with local employers, Coleg Cambria and HEIs to analyse employer expectation and how key skills can be embedded.

### **Communities First Activity**

- Communities First is continuing to work in partnership with Business Supporting Communities and Groundwork to take forward the Jobs Growth Wales & Young Recruits Programme and further opportunities are being explored. Especially to support community-based job opportunities for young people in Flintshire who require more intensive support in the work place. We will also be helping many young people who require more intensive support.

## **(ii) Achievement measures**

There are two measures to illustrate progress with this priority in lieu of baseline setting for revised targets for levels of qualification held among the local population and further examination of unemployment figures.

### **NEET**

With the NEET measurement (measured within year), progress is consistent and high performing. The NEET measurement is a measurement of 16 year olds only and at 2.3% is the second lowest in Wales.

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Flintshire	3.7	2.8	2.7	2.3

<b>Registered 18 – 24 year old unemployment</b>	January 2010	1,185	9.5%
	January 2011	1,000	7.9%
	January 2012	1,040	8.4%
	January 2013	890	7.2%
	January 2014	710	5.8%

The table above illustrates the progress made with bringing unemployment levels down for 18 – 24 year olds in Flintshire. In 2010 young people were feeling the impact of the recession and downturn as employers placed training and apprenticeship programmes on the “back-burner”.

### **(iii) What we will do in 2014 onwards**

From 2014 the partnership will build upon the excellent impact already made by improving life opportunities for young people over the previous year. We will be looking to deliver a combination of:

1. Disseminating lessons from effective programme delivery
2. Ensure that Flintshire is at the heart of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board’s activity.
3. Develop new programmes.
4. Securing funding and resources for the delivery of programmes.

### **Key areas of work from 2014 will include:**

- Develop a comprehensive mapping of service provision in order to improve education and training outcomes for young people.
- Development of apprenticeship frameworks, particularly among SMEs and in industry specific groups.
- Delivery of the Flintshire Youth Engagement and Progression Framework.
- Improved delivery of the Youth Guarantee.
- Delivery of an information sharing protocol.
- Further engage with local businesses to secure outcomes for young people and meet business needs.
- Promote the positive impact of Communities First Activity and expand the programme’s lessons into further interventions.