

Appendix C to the Cabinet Report

Impact and Achievements of the Raising Participation Partnership (RPP)

The Raising Participation Partnership (RPP) has co-ordinated and led education, learning and skills support activity for the Local Authorities of Slough, West Berkshire, Wokingham and Reading. These activities support maintained Schools and School Sixth Forms, Academies, Further Education Providers and Independent Private Providers, amongst others, to improve outcomes learning and life outcomes for young people.

Support has led to a developed curriculum/provision offer and support mechanisms to reduce the likelihood of non-participation, social disengagement and/or exclusion. Whilst the success and impact of this work will be demonstrated over a longer-term, such as reduction in NEET and associated individual/public costs, the RPP has secured additional in-year funding and resource in kind to further build capacity and ensure longer term sustainability of current projects and initiatives.

Amongst others, these include:

- A successful bid to the Department for Education (DfE) to participate in the fourth round of the RPA pilot programmes. Funding secured for 2012-13 is £100,000, with an additional £150,000 match funded by the Local Authorities and Colleges. This will support the equivalent of 27 Transition Worker posts working with 270 young people at risk of disengaging by providing motivational and pastoral support over the transition period following leaving compulsory secondary learning.
- A successful and unique bid to the Education Funding Agency (EFA) to provide sustainable post-16 provision in Pupil Referral Units (PRU) or alternative settings. The additional £127,000 will support 60 young people annually, who will benefit from an extended period in their secure setting and an enhanced managed move process to further learning or employment with training.
- Five successful bids to the Young People's Learning Agency (now the EFA) to access the 2011-12 Demographic Growth Capital Fund. Funding secured was £1.791 million and will provide additional capital places for approximately 200 additional young to participate in further learning.
- Four successful bids to the EFA to access the 2012-13 Demographic Growth Capital Fund. Funding secured is £3.14 million to provide additional capital growth in two schools and purpose built accommodation at two colleges to young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. This includes £1.754 million for East Berkshire College and £661,125 for Slough and Eton College.
- A successful bid to the EFA to secure additional funded learner numbers to commission niche employer based provision: "Work Pairing" for NEET young people. Associated revenue funding for 2012/13 is estimated at £500,000 to support an additional 125 young people reengage in learning and/or employment.

- A successful bid to the EFA to increase the 16-19 Bursary Fund for disadvantaged young people. Additional funds secured totalled £43,570 to support young people facing financial barriers to entering and remaining in learning to do so.
- Support to Schools Sixth Forms and Academies to revisit and amend success rate data used by the EFA to calculate future funding. Successfully submitted business cases to revise data ensured an estimated £1 million of revenue funding was not lost between the academic years 2010/11 and 2011/12. A similar exercise took place in 2011 and 2012.
- Curriculum and funding support given to School Sixth Forms led to an increase in revenue funding of £916,389 to support an additional 171 funded learner numbers between 2011/12 and 2012/13, ensuring future capacity to meet the challenges of RPA.
- A 12% or £213,148 increase in the RPP's proportion of the EFA 2012/13 National Placement Budget for Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities (LLDD), of which £151,092 is for Slough young people.