ISLINGTON

Children's Services
222 Upper Street, London N1 1XR

Meeting of:	**Date:**	**Ward(s):**
Children's Services Scrutiny Committee	18 October 2016	All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt

SUBJECT: Post-16 Education, Employment and Training: Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance in Islington's secondary schools

1. Background

1.1 Numerous national reports published since 2012 have indicated that the provision of careers education and guidance across England's schools varies in its extent and quality. These include those from Ofsted[1], The Gatsby Foundation[2]and the National Careers Council[3]

1.2 In order to address the challenges set out In these and other analyses of the current position and to respond to the future economic and skills needs of London, the London Enterprise Panel (LEP) published 'London Ambitions' in 2015. London Ambitions is a London-wide, best practice careers offer which aims to meet the needs of all young Londoners and comprises of seven elements. London Ambitions is set out at Appendix 1.

1.3 The Islington Employment Commission recommended that the council, schools and local employers should work better together to ensure that young people "get the support they need to get the careers they deserve"[4].

1.4 In response to the recommendations and reports set out in 1.1 to 1.3 above, Islington Council has been undertaking a range of work. This report will focus on work which is supporting schools.

1.5 In late 2014, two secondary headteachers agreed to act as 'Employment Champions' in order to support schools to develop their work with students related to careers, employability and work-related learning.

1. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/careers-guidance-in-schools-going-in-the-right-direction
2. http://www.gatsby.org.uk/education/programmes/good-career-guidance
3. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/354644/bis-13-919-national-careers-council-report-an-aspirational-nation-creating-a-culture-change-in-careers-provison.pdf
4. https://www.islington.gov.uk/~/media/sharepoint-lists/public-records/communityandliving/qualityandperformance/reporting/20142015/20141124finalreportoftheemploymentcommission

1.6 The employment champions felt that schools would welcome the addition of some short term expertise to help them to build their capacity to deliver the Employment Commission's recommendations. As a result, the council has appointed a Careers Education, Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) Specialist. This is a short term intervention for 2 years to 'kick start' the development of careers programmes in Islington's secondary schools. The CEIAG Specialist came into post in February 2016.

1.7 Through this post, the council offers Continuing Professional Development Opportunities (CPD) to school staff, bespoke one to one consultancy support in schools, a termly careers network meeting and a newsletter for information sharing.

2. CEIAG in Islington's Schools

2.1 All schools are subject to statutory guidance which requires them to:

- secure impartial and independent careers guidance for students between school Years 8 and13;
- provide information on a range of education or training options including apprenticeships and other vocational pathways, and
- provide informtion on the range of options at post 14, 16 and 18, including options outside of school at 14+, options other than the school sixth form at 16 +, and options other than university at 18+.

2.2 Schools deliver CEIAG using different delivery models. Some schools will deliver careers lessons as part of Personal Social and Health Education, or as standalone lessons, some will deliver using 'drop down' days where a range of career related activities are offered including Present Yourself Days which are arranged by the Youth Employment Team. Some schools will use tutorial time to deliver some careers work. Schools will also organise trips to universities, further education colleges or to employers' premises.

2.3 Islington is particularly keen to ensure that the most vulnerable young people receive the very highest quality support to plan their next steps in learning and that they are exposed to a range of experiences.

2.4 As a response to the recommendations of previous scrutiny reviews and the Employment Commission recommendations, the council has been working through the CEIAG Specialist, to develop a 'Gold Standard' for careers provision for young people learning in New River College and in Alternative Provision. This is based on London Ambitions and is set out at Appendix 2.

2.5 The CEIAG Specialist is currently working with schools to review careers education across the borough. The intention is to identify development needs in schools, to offer support to fill delivery gaps and to identify staff professional development needs in order to ensure a high quality and consistent offer across the different schools. The provision and needs vary across the borough and are dependent on how a school has chosen to resource this area of work.

3. Opportunities for development

3.1 An ESF 'Careers Clusters' bid has recently been won by City and Islington College and the council is partnering on its delivery. This will provide additional funding to support schools to develop their CEIAG provision, especially in relation to involving employers in their programmes.

3.2 It is the council's intention to provide CPD for teachers and providers of alternative provision on the 'gold standard' to ensure its delivery. It is also intended to continue to review and update it in line with user feedback and other developments.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: London Ambitions careers offer
Appendix 2: 'Gold Standard' offer of CEIAG for learners in New River College and alternative provision

Background papers: None

Final report clearance:

Signed by:

Carmel Littleton
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