



# Agenda Item Introduction

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| Committee | <b>POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES, EDUCATION AND SKILLS</b> |
| Date      | <b>2 MARCH 2023</b>  |
| Topic     | <b>PATHWAY INTO FURTHER EDUCATION</b>  |

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## BACKGROUND

The Local Authority has broad duties to encourage, enable and assist young people, between the ages of 16-18, to participate in education, employment or training. The Isle of Wight Council is expected to:

- provide strategic leadership in the community to ensure that there is a network of support available which encourages, enables and assists the participation of young people in education, training and employment. This includes liaising with local partners such as employers, Jobcentre Plus, community sector organisations and youth offending teams.
- collect information about young people in the area who are not participating and to target resources on those who require them most.
- liaise with education providers to identify children under the age of 16 who are at risk of not participating post-16 and for intensive support to be provided to remedy the situation. This is particularly important in relation to children with SEND who are significantly less likely to participate post-16 in comparison to their peers without SEND.
- ensure that every young person who reaches the age of 16 or 17 in any given academic year is entitled to an offer of a suitable place, by the end of September, to continue in education or training the following year.

## FOCUS FOR SCRUTINY

- To review data on progress, performance, actions undertaken and emerging issues.
- Has the Isle of Wight continued to have higher rates of progression into education, employment and training, than the national average?
- What is the accessibility of further education to school leavers in the Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) category?
- Is the council maximising external resource for local provision for all young people; does it strategically influence Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), government departments, local agencies, businesses and providers to ensure that provision meets the needs of learners and the local labour market?
- What is the level and quality of career guidance that is available for children whilst in school?

## APPROACH

A committee report to be submitted.

## APPENDICES ATTACHED

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