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**Report to:** Employment and Skills Panel

**Date:** 2 March 2018

**Subject:** Further Education Developments

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## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Panel on developments within further education (FE) in the Leeds City Region.

## **2 Information**

### **Delivery Agreements/Preparation for Devolution**

- 2.1 The reviews with the seven West Yorkshire FE colleges of Delivery Agreements have now been completed. A light touch review will take place during June and July 2018, when the headline measures will be reviewed. Outcomes of the review will feed into the refresh of current agreements following the formal review planned for the Autumn after a full academic year's activity.
- 2.2 Following from the review of college Delivery Agreements in Autumn 2017 meetings were also held with local authority community learning teams and independent training providers (as reported in December 2017). A workshop was held in partnership with Jobcentre Plus in January to bring together key delivery partners from across West Yorkshire to facilitate future joint working and planning of provision, which is supported by the Adult Education Budget (AEB) against the new requirements of Universal Credit clients.
- 2.3 DWP shared a new 'customer journey' with the 50 delegates who then discussed district level localised planning and delivery. All geographical areas agreed to continue to meet and work to progress a shared agenda and collaborative delivery programme. It is envisaged that this will provide a wider range of support for Jobcentre Plus clients and make better use of current and future AEB allocations.

### **FE Performance**

- 2.4 Annual assessments of the financial health of colleges were published on 15 November, with two major West Yorkshire colleges, namely Bradford and Kirklees, affected by Notices to Improve.
- 2.5 Both colleges have met with the FE Commissioner and the reports are expected to be released by the end of the February.
- 2.6 Since November 2017, Ofsted inspections have taken place in the following FE colleges in the City Region:
- Bradford College - overall effectiveness graded as requires improvement
  - Selby College - overall effectiveness graded as good
  - Craven College - overall effectiveness graded as good
  - Leeds College of Building - overall effectiveness graded as requires improvement
  - Calderdale College - report yet to be published
  - Leeds City College - report yet to be published

### **Skills Capital Progress**

- 2.7 Good progress is being made in completing the Skills Capital programme. New or refurbished facilities have now been completed and opened in the following colleges:
- Shipley College – refurbishment of two listed buildings at Saltaire
  - Kirklees College – new build of Process Manufacturing Centre
  - Selby College – extension of Aspiration Building
  - Wakefield College – new build of Advanced Skills & Innovation Centre
  - Leeds City College – refurbishment of Printworks III
  - Bradford College - dental equipment for Advanced Technology Centre (Nordec)
  - Calderdale College – refurbishment of Percival Whitley main campus building.
- 2.8 Construction is now underway on the three remaining capital projects at:
- Leeds College of Building – Hunslet Road Phase II
  - Kirklees College – Dewsbury Learning Quarter
  - Leeds City College – Quarry Hill campus

## **3 Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

## **4 Legal Implications**

- 4.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

## **5 Staffing Implications**

5.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

## **6 External Consultees**

6.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

## **7 Recommendations**

7.1 The Panel is asked to note and comment on the developments within the FE sector.

## **8 Background Documents**

None.

## **9 Appendices**

None.