

Public Document Pack



Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community Policy and Performance Board

Monday, 31 January 2022 at 6.30 p.m.
Council Chamber - Town Hall, Runcorn

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David W R', positioned above a faint rectangular stamp.

Chief Executive

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Eddie Jones (Chair)	Labour
Councillor Ellen Cargill (Vice-Chair)	Labour
Councillor Victoria Begg	Labour
Councillor Marjorie Bradshaw	Conservative
Councillor Eddie Dourley	Labour
Councillor Stan Hill	Labour
Councillor Geoffrey Logan	Labour
Councillor Carol Plumpton Walsh	Labour
Councillor Tom Stretch	Labour
Councillor Aimee Teeling	Labour
Councillor Louise Whitley	Labour

*Please contact Ann Jones on 0151 511 8276 or e-mail
ann.jones@halton.gov.uk for further information.
The next meeting of the Board is to be confirmed.*

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Part I

Item No.		Page No.
1. MINUTES		1 - 5
2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST (INCLUDING PARTY WHIP DECLARATIONS)		
	Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Other Disclosable Interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached or as soon as the interest becomes apparent and, with Disclosable Pecuniary interests, to leave the meeting during any discussion or voting on the item.	
3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME		6 - 8
4. EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES		9 - 11
5. DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY ISSUES		
(A) BOROUGH OF CULTURE UPDATE		12 - 18
(B) PRESENTATION - HALTON'S WELCOME BACK PROGRAMME		19 - 20
(C) APPRENTICESHIP SUPPORT BY BE MORE UPDATE		21 - 37
(D) LIBRARY SERVICE		38 - 40
(E) LIVERPOOL CITY REGION EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS UPDATE		41 - 44
(F) NEW LEISURE SERVICE		45 - 48
6. PERFORMANCE MONITORING		
(A) PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS - QUARTER 2 OF 2021/22		49 - 61

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

**EMPLOYMENT, LEARNING AND SKILLS, AND COMMUNITY POLICY AND
PERFORMANCE BOARD**

At a meeting of the Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community Policy and Performance Board on Monday, 20 September 2021 in the Council Chamber - Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Jones (Chair), E. Cargill (Vice-Chair), Begg, M. Bradshaw, S. Hill, Logan, Stretch, Teeling and Whitley

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Dourley and C. Plumpton Walsh

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: W. Rourke, A. Jones, C. Hart and P. Corner

Also in attendance: M. Murphy – Riverside College and one member of the press

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

Action

The Board observed a minute's silence in honour of Councillor Howard, who sadly passed away last week.

ELS11 MINUTES

The Minutes from the meeting held on 28 June 2021, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

ELS12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.

ELS13 PRESENTATION - RIVERSIDE COLLEGE

The Board welcomed the Principal from Riverside College, Mary Murphy, who presented an update on the College's strategic priorities; this included the quality of teaching and learning; enrolments; funding; and key developments.

The presentation outlined the type of students and areas where they were being educated – 16-18 year olds, those with special educational needs, adults, higher education, apprenticeships and fee paying courses. In total

there were 6,686 students currently on roll over the 3 campuses – Riverside College, Cronton Sixth Forum College and CRMZ.

The college was proud to say it worked with 700 employers locally and 45 high schools in Halton, the Liverpool City Region and Warrington. It was noted that 90% of students of all ages who enrolled stayed at College and achieved their qualifications. In March 2020, the College was inspected by Ofsted and was awarded an outstanding rating; extracts from the inspection report were provided for Members. The report also gave details of investments made in teaching and learning facilities totalling £28m over the past 8 years.

To conclude Members were presented with some case studies of students achievements at the College and how they had progressed on to further education or secured careers.

The Board welcomed the information presented and some Members commented that they had in fact attended the College themselves, at some point in their life.

In response to Members' questions, it was commented that there would always be challenges ahead – aside from the impacts of Covid, there was a new Secretary of State for Education and an impending spending review, which could affect funding and apprenticeships.

Mary invited all Board Members to tour the Colleges at a future date; this would be arranged as part of a future study visit.

RESOLVED: That the presentation be received and action points noted.

Operational
Director -
Economy,
Enterprise &
Property

ELS14 ECONOMIC PROGRESS AND ASSESSMENT

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, which provided an update on developments in the economy in recent years. Members also received a presentation in support of this.

It was reported that an in depth assessment was made based on information specific to Halton and analyses of local economic information, in order to understand progress with *Halton 2030* and the economic issues raised. Members were updated on the progress over the last two years, which used the following categories as a measure:

- The Economic Overview;
- Enterprise and Jobs;
- The Resident Population;
- Skills; and
- Land, Infrastructure and Transport.

The report outlined the key findings of progress in the economy within the following areas:

- Economic Value (GVA) and Growth;
- Employment and Economic Activity;
- Skills;
- Economic Inactivity and Unemployment;
- Housing; and
- Land and Property Markets.

It was noted that Halton was in a good position generally with just a couple of areas that needed attention. The following was discussed in response to Members' questions:

- The HGV driver situation – there were some issues with the shortage of HGV drivers in Halton that were affecting businesses who were part of a supply chain for example and receiving late deliveries. It was a difficult profession to recruit to for the reasons discussed, so it was important to work towards future training and recruitment and support business to do this.
- Those economically inactive – this was higher than the national average but information regarding the actual demographics of these residents was not available. It was suggested that the topic group on *Health and Employment* (see minute below) could investigate this with help from colleagues in Public Health, who have more detailed data in this area.
- The definition of having no formal qualifications meant those with no qualifications from the standard examination boards. People may have qualifications from jobs they have held previously but are not recognised by other employers as there is no certificate.
- Apprenticeships were important as they offered young people the qualification and experience which are easily transferrable.

- Halton People into Jobs (HPIJ) ran a number of schemes for the Council which were bid for on a competitive basis against commercial organisations. They had continually strived to bid for these contracts to retain the ability to help local residents and had been successful in doing so. As well as helping residents they worked with a number of employers who contact them asking for advice and suitable staff.

RESOLVED: That the presentation and comments made be noted.

ELS15 TOPIC GROUP ITEMS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22

The Board received the proposed scrutiny topic group titles for the Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community PPB, for the municipal year 2021/22.

Further to the PPB meeting in June, Members confirmed that they would like to progress two topics – *Health and Employment* and *The Provision of Business Support in the Borough*. Taking into consideration resource constraints, it was agreed that the priority would be the *Health and Employment* topic and the second item would be progressed later in the year and would link to future study visits.

Members received the two templates appended to the report which outlined the purpose and objectives of each topic and set out the format for the meetings and identified possible expert witnesses and areas for discussion.

It was agreed that all Members would be invited to join one or both Topic Groups and the dates of the first meetings would be sent out as soon as possible.

RESOLVED: That Members note the report and consider the scope of the topic groups as set out.

Operational
Director -
Economy,
Enterprise &
Property

ELS16 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS FOR QUARTER 1 OF 2021/22

The Board received the Performance Management reports for Quarter 1 of 2021-22 (1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021) and were requested to consider and raise any questions or points of clarification in respect of these.

It was noted that the key priorities for development of

improvement in 2021-22 were agreed by Members and included in Directorate Plans for the various function areas reported to the Board as follows:

- Enterprise, Employment and Skills; and
- Community and Environment.

The report detailed progress against service objectives and milestones and performance targets and provided information relating to key developments and emerging issues that had arisen during the period.

RESOLVED: That the first quarter Performance Management reports be received.

Meeting ended at 8.00 p.m.

REPORT TO: Employment, Learning, Skills and Community Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 31 January 2022

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources

SUBJECT: Public Question Time

WARD(s): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider any questions submitted by the Public in accordance with Standing Order 34(9).
- 1.2 Details of any questions received will be circulated at the meeting.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That any questions received be dealt with.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Standing Order 34(9) states that Public Questions shall be dealt with as follows:-

- (i) A total of 30 minutes will be allocated for dealing with questions from members of the public who are residents of the Borough, to ask questions at meetings of the Policy and Performance Boards.
- (ii) Members of the public can ask questions on any matter relating to the agenda.
- (iii) Members of the public can ask questions. Written notice of questions must be given by 4.00 pm on the working day prior to the date of the meeting to the Committee Services Manager. At any one meeting no person/organisation may submit more than one question.
- (iv) One supplementary question (relating to the original question) may be asked by the questioner, which may or may not be answered at the meeting.
- (v) The Chair or proper officer may reject a question if it:-
 - Is not about a matter for which the local authority has a responsibility or which affects the Borough;
 - Is defamatory, frivolous, offensive, abusive or racist;

- Is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months; or
 - Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.
- (vi) In the interests of natural justice, public questions cannot relate to a planning or licensing application or to any matter which is not dealt with in the public part of a meeting.
- (vii) The Chair will ask for people to indicate that they wish to ask a question.
- (viii) **PLEASE NOTE** that the maximum amount of time each questioner will be allowed is 3 minutes.
- (ix) If you do not receive a response at the meeting, a Council Officer will ask for your name and address and make sure that you receive a written response.

Please bear in mind that public question time lasts for a maximum of 30 minutes. To help in making the most of this opportunity to speak:-

- Please keep your questions as concise as possible.
- Please do not repeat or make statements on earlier questions as this reduces the time available for other issues to be raised.
- Please note public question time is not intended for debate – issues raised will be responded to either at the meeting or in writing at a later date.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 **Children and Young People in Halton** - none.

6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton** - none.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton** – none.

6.4 **A Safer Halton** – none.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal** – none.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO: Employment, Learning, Skills and Community
Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 31 January 2022

REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: Executive Board Minutes

WARD(s): Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Minutes relating to the Community Portfolio which have been considered by the Executive Board are attached at Appendix 1 for information.
- 1.2 The Minutes are submitted to inform the Policy and Performance Board of decisions taken in their area.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Minutes be noted.

3.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 None.

4.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

5.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None

5.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

5.3 A Healthy Halton

None

5.4 A Safer Halton

None

5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

6.1 None.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

Extract of Executive Board Minutes Relevant to the Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2021**EXB 31 | PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY**

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, which sought approval of Halton’s Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) 2021 – 2037.

Halton’s Playing Pitch Strategy set out the Council’s strategy for identifying and meeting the playing pitch and associated facility needs of the Borough from now, through to 2037. It considered how well the existing playing pitch provision and associated facilities met the needs of communities in terms of supply and demand throughout this time period.

It was noted that the Strategy had been produced in accordance with national planning guidance using the Sport England Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance, which was very rigid in its approach and provided robust and objective justification for future playing pitch provision throughout Halton.

Appended to the report was the *Halton Borough Council Strategy and Action Plan* (appendix 1) which set out a series of initial recommendations for further consideration; and the *Halton Borough Council Playing Pitch Strategy Draft Assessment Report* (appendix 2) which set out the latest background information for each sport.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Assessment Report and the accompanying Strategy and Action Plan be approved;
- 2) the Assessment Report and the accompanying Strategy and Action Plan be published on the Council’s website; and
- 3) the Halton Playing Pitch Strategy 2021 – 2037 be the basis for making strategic decisions on future playing pitch provision and associated facilities across the Borough.

REPORT TO:	Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	31 st January 2022
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Employment, Learning and Skills and Community
SUBJECT:	Borough of Culture
WARDS:	Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an interim review the Borough of Culture project.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION that the report be noted

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Background to borough of Culture

The award of Liverpool City Region Borough of Culture was inspired by the UK City of Culture programme that followed Liverpool's European Capital of Culture in 2008. The new initiative launched in 2018 as Liverpool celebrated its 10th Anniversary as the UK's only European Capital of Culture.

The Borough of Culture initiative is a non-competitive process that rotates around the City Region with the aim of encouraging each Borough to collaboratively develop its local talent and potential, while reflecting the ambitions and aims of the Regional Culture and Creativity Strategy that looks to build sustainable capacity across the City Region.

The overall aim of the programme is to stimulate talent, aspiration and promote creativity and economic growth through cultural engagement and activity across the City Region. Each Borough needs to weave five key elements into their creative programme:

- accessing, enjoying, learning and thriving through culture and creative engagement with skills and talent pathways
- positive outcomes – wellbeing, health, education, cohesion and future of work

- communities – increased participation, particularly the ageing society
- distinctiveness of place – promoting the creative and cultural offer to local people and visitors
- infrastructure – leaving a legacy through better infrastructure for culture and creativity

The aim of Halton's Borough of Culture year was to:

increase participation in quality cultural activity across Halton, helping more people to experience the arts and to benefit from the role that culture can play in transforming lives - improving health and wellbeing, reducing social isolation, increasing community cohesion, inspiring creativity, supporting learning and making Halton a great place to live and work.

The programme has been delivered under the banner of 'Celebrate Halton'; celebrating Halton's past, present and future through a diverse programme of activity

3.2 Operational overview

The internal project group comprised:

Julie Griffiths (Head of Libraries) – Borough of Culture Lead Officer
Steph Davies (Lead Funding Officer) – funding support, Culture HQ lead
Wesley Rourke – Operational Director lead
Michelle Osborne – Marketing lead

Members of the HBC project group undertook this project in addition to their substantive roles.

In 2019 Artreach were appointed through the Council's procurement process and funded by HBC to support the development of the Borough of Culture programme. Artreach are sector experts with significant experience delivering, curating and creating cultural programmes across the UK.

3.3 Celebrate Halton Programme

The Celebrate Halton programme was developed in partnership with ArtReach and following consultation with stakeholders. The programme was devised during the pandemic and as a result had an agility and flexibility that enabled delivery to flux dependent on national restrictions. Early activities took place online and were well attended. These included:

MakeFest: Originally designed to be the follow up to the successful 2019 event that took place in Halton Lea Library, this event was reimaged in a digital format due to lockdown restrictions. 1600 online learning sessions have taken place so far via haltonmakefest.co.uk

Halton Libraries Festival Season: Despite restrictions Halton Libraries began their festival season at the start of 2021 with a mass make involving residents creating origami cranes and sharing on social media.

From 17th May changes in restrictions enabled the delivery of live events.

3.4 Funding

An allocation of £200k was made by the CA with an expectation that match funding was also secured to enhance the programme.

3.5 Marketing

The project website is celebratehalton.co.uk The events calendar hosted details of all the core commissions alongside events that were funded by the Made In Halton grants programme, and events uploaded by community groups.

Social media platforms were utilised to provide the latest marketing and information:

Twitter: @Halton2021

Instagram: @Halton2021

Facebook: CelebrateHalton

3.6 Outputs & outcomes

- The Celebrate Halton project delivered a programme of more than 500 activities across multiple venues and online; forming new partnerships & strengthening existing ones, working with new creatives, and facilitating new opportunities for residents.
- More than 150 artists & creatives have been supported by the project.
- The project team leveraged more than £600k in additional external funding from multiple agencies.
- Made in Halton small grants programme invested in 15 local projects including theatre workshops, music for people living with dementia, summer schools, art exhibitions, & comedy shows.
- Culture HQ retail unit in Runcorn Shopping Centre created an accessible event space where people could attend activities such as artist talks, exhibitions & workshops. The reimagined use of this busy retail environment offered access to non-traditional audiences, supported local artists, and connected people with creative interests. Evaluation of this project is currently underway.
- Celebrate Halton supported the high street economy through a programme of street theatre and live music increasing footfall & dwell time, as well as bringing joy to shoppers.
- Working with existing volunteer groups Celebrate Halton invested in activity to amplify the profile of Halton's culture assets including the

Victoria Park Glasshouse, which hosted The Squirrel installation in December.

- Celebrate Halton's Music Weekend supported the revival of the night-time economy, working with local pubs and venues to host live music.
- The project worked across Halton's parks revitalising the bandstand programme and, through the Liberty UK festival, bringing arts activities to open spaces.
- Celebrate Halton invested in projects at both Catalyst Science Discovery Centre & Norton Priory Museum & Gardens.

Where There Is Light – part of a UK tour, this Squidsoup installation was hosted at Catalyst Science Discovery Centre during heritage month, enabling visitors to experience the artwork for free across 2 weekends.

Museum of the Moon – Luke Jerram's ubiquitous installation spent a month at Norton Priory Museum supported by a wide programme of complimentary activities including music performances and children's story sessions.

Light! – Working with Liverpool Lantern Company the project created an event to introduce a new audience to the ancient woodlands that surround Norton Priory. More than 2000 residents wandered the snow covered trail uncovering wonderful wildlife sculptures and captivating animations.

These programme elements all utilised the Borough of Culture brand to promote the existing culture offer in Halton through a new lens to attract more diverse audiences.

- Celebrating Halton's Heritage, the heritage project strand of Celebrate Halton, has created a programme that will run into 2022. This includes establishing a Heritage Hub in Widnes and working with artist Laurence Payot to deliver an outreach digital museum. Halton's heritage came out as one of the most important aspects that residents wanted to see in the Borough of Culture programme.
- The overall project has supported skills development, working with local talent and creating an apprenticeship as part of the Heritage strand.
- Celebrate Halton featured in the Liverpool Echo every 2 weeks as part of their Culture Diary, a wraparound advertisement featured in the print version of the Weekly News alongside online advertising, features were included in Inside Halton, as well as information being continuously provided via corporate press releases, a dedicated website & social media channels. The programme was also supported via partner websites and social media accounts.
- Evaluation is being delivered by researchers from Liverpool John Moores University and a report will be produced.

3.7 Legacy

- Celebrating Halton's Heritage

The Celebrating Halton’s Heritage public programme will begin in January 2022:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A
Bleach packers Projections 1 Runcorn Shopping City	■							
Bleach packers Projections 2 Tesco Widnes	■							
Bleach packers AR Locations across borough	■							
Heritage Exhibition 1		■						
Associated events/activities & Opening event		■						
Heritage Exhibition 2					■			
Associated events/activities & Opening event					■			
Heritage Exhibition 3								■
Associated events/activities & Opening event								■

This strand of the Borough of Culture programme will focus on ‘trades’ in Halton over the years, from the 1500s to the present day. A specific piece of work will focus on the ‘nasties’ theme and the role of bleach packers, to be delivered via a commission with lead artist Laurence Payot who will work with a group of young people to develop a series of monologues and projections revealing key voices and stories with a contemporary and critical perspective. The monologues will take life when projected onto buildings/structures during a series of events.

Heritage Architects will engage local residents in the design and delivery of three themed exhibitions that aim to inform people about the daily lives and conditions of local workers in new and innovative ways, delivering ‘exhibition experiences’ rather than having displays in a museum or static exhibitions. The atmosphere of the exhibition space will change dramatically within each category in order to bring the theme to life through lighting, projection, layout and dressing the space with colour, texture and sound.

- Culture HQ

A new funding stream will enable Culture HQ to remain open until April 2022 while a group of artists / creative organisations develop a business case to source longer-term financial support to keep the facility as a more permanent culture asset.

- Culture Strategy

A key legacy from the Borough of Culture project will be the creation of a culture strategy for Halton.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

HBC is obligated to offer in kind support as part of external funding agreements.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

One of the five core elements of all Borough of Culture programme is aimed at Children and Young People – accessing, enjoying, learning and thriving through culture and creative engagement with skills and talent pathways. A young people's panel has been developed as part of the programme development. The panel have curated Bounce Festival that took place in December:

Saturday: am	Launch – samba band, hip hop workshop, make up tutorials, goody bags	Glasshouses
Saturday: pm	Digital workshops	Widnes Library
Saturday: evening	Dance workshop, art workshop, after party with live music and pizza	The Studio
Sunday	Drama workshop & performance, pottery workshop, after party with food stalls and gifts	Norton Priory Museum

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

One of the five core elements of all Borough of Culture programmes is Positive Outcomes – including for education and future of work – enhancing the cultural offer locally, along with the introduction of nationally renowned organisations and artists will kick start skills development and employment opportunities in the creative industries. On a number of project elements, local talent was paired with commissioned organisations & experts to increase local ambition and foster learning - Festival Producer Sashwati Serengupta worked alongside Louise Nulty, CE of The Studio on Celebrate Haltons Music. Artreach have consistently shared specialist knowledge and skills with local teams including the Celebrate Halton project team, and the Norton Priory events team.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

One of the five core elements of all Borough of Culture programmes is Positive Outcomes – including for wellbeing and health – research supports that engagement in cultural and creative activities has a positive impact on wellbeing. Culture HQ has been a hub for local organisations supporting residents health and wellbeing including Mind Halton, Weaver Arts Community Group and, Recharge and Restore.

6.4 Safer Halton

Not Applicable

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

There is liaison between the Celebrate Halton project team and wider regeneration work currently taking place across the Borough.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

There are no risks associated with the report.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

The Borough of Culture programme offers opportunities for the whole community through a range of activities and events.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO:	Employment Learning and Skills and Community Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	31 st January 2022
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Employment Learning and Skills and Community
SUBJECT:	Presentation Halton's Welcome Back Programme
WARD(S)	Borough-wide

1.0 **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To receive a presentation on the Welcome Back Programme and how it has been delivered in Halton.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION: That the Board notes the presentation and action points.**

3.0 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 Members will receive an update on the borough's Welcome Back Programme. This is funding that Council's received to build on the Reopening High Streets Safely Fund in 2020.

3.2 The presentation will outline how, in line with the grant criteria, the funding has been used in Halton to meet the following activity strands:

1. Support to develop an action plan for the safe reopening of local economies
2. Communications and public information
3. Business-facing awareness raising activities
4. 4. Temporary public realm changes to ensure that reopening of local economies can be managed successfully and safely
5. Support and promote a safe public environment for local area's visitor economy
6. Allow local areas to develop plans for responding to the medium-term impact of CV-19 including trialling new ideas particularly where these relate to the High Street.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no further policy implications.

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no financial implications.

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 The fund has enabled the Council to put in place additional measures to create and promote a safe environment for local businesses and trade, particularly in our high streets, and, therefore, the programme supports the Council's Employment, Learning and Skills, Safer Halton and Environment and Urban renewal priorities.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 There are no risks identified

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 There are no equality and diversity issues directly related to the presentation.

9.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

9.1 There are no background information in respect of the Act.

REPORT TO:	Employment, Learning & Skills and Community Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	31 st January 2022
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community & Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Employment Learning & Skills and Community
SUBJECT:	Apprenticeship Support by Be More Update
WARDS:	Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this information paper is to provide an overview on the Apprenticeship Support by Be More contract managed by Halton Borough Council (HBC), on behalf of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority. (LCRCA)

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Policy and Performance Board receives the information and comment, as relevant.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

The strategic delivery of the Be More Programme is led by the LCRCA Skills and Apprenticeship Hub (SAH), together with its delivery partners, Halton Borough Council, Growth Platform and Greater Merseyside Learning Provider Federation. It provides a one-stop shop for skills advice and support across the Liverpool City Region (LCR) in line with the Combined Authority's One Front Door approach to business support. The SAH offers an opportunity to simplify how employers and learners navigate the local skills system, providing much-needed strategic leadership and accelerating the delivery of the local skills strategy.

The Apprenticeship Support (AS) by Be More Team is a delivery partner, which is managed by Halton's Employment, Learning & Skills Division. The service provides free information advice and guidance (IAG) about Apprenticeships to schools, young people, parents and residents. The contract is currently under a Service Level Agreement from November 2019 to September 2022.

Prior to this contract and the rebrand of the service in 2019 the team were formally known as the Liverpool City Region Apprenticeship Hub;

established in 2014 working on behalf of the LCRCA and managed by Halton Borough Council.

HBC held a contract with the Education & Skills Funding Agency from 2017 to 2019 and were highly praised by the agency for our service in terms of its innovative delivery, contract performance and compliance. During that time the AS team delivered 1131 IAG outreach meetings to 25,290 residents, 33 Skills Shows to 14,933 individuals, commissioned and launched 13 Skills for Growth Action Plans. Please refer to appendix 1 for further information.

Service Delivery Outputs

The current contract outputs stipulate the delivery of 750 promotional events, of which 438 have been delivered so far to 26,071 residents, which includes 46 in Halton to 1712 residents. Additionally, the team have delivered 297 one to one support, advice & guidance interventions to residents.

A typical day for the team to deliver a promotional event on apprenticeships includes some of the following activities that may involve a 2-hour session one day or project managing the delivery of an event over 12 months;

- Plan and deliver a Skills Show to over 5000 students and residents
- Conduct 121 and group IAG events to JCP customers, parents and students
- Present an interactive event to a classroom of Adult Learners to support their progression
- Carry out mock interviews with students to prepare them for the world of work
- Deliver a question and answer session to student year groups after they have watched one of our live theatre performances
- Support an employer promote their vacancies at careers fairs in schools and local community venues
- Lead and support on Skills and Employment strategic initiatives for both the CA and HBC supporting multiple projects, events, reports and pilot programmes
- Create, organise and deliver an LCR Graduation event to celebrate the achievement of apprentices
- Work on multiple projects to raise the profile of apprenticeships and engage with SEN, Care Leavers and individuals from ethnic minority backgrounds in partnership with key stakeholders
- Deliver LCR ambassador conferences and networking events
- Create apprentice case studies and news articles of employers, training providers and residents to inspire and education readers to access the service and be informed

In the summer of 2020, IAG sessions were changed from physical activity to live presentations via Zoom, Microsoft Teams and the Learn

Live platform. This enabled the continuation of the service throughout the Covid pandemic to all students and residents to deliver a more varied programme (with external moderation of the chat facility built in). The sessions often include apprentices and employers from our Apprentice Ambassador Network.

Since the start of the new academic year in 2021, schools and Job Centre Plus offices are once again running physical careers fairs, interview events, parent's evenings, workshops and one-to-one sessions allowing the Apprenticeship Support team to deliver apprenticeship IAG to students, careers teachers, parents and residents in person. Supporting these activities are a group of trusted Ambassadors bringing a taste of the world of work to the sessions.

The AS team have developed 3 inspirational and humorous theatre plays, which provide a comprehensive suite of apprenticeship information for students from Year 7 through to sixth form college/Year 13. The content of the productions aims to strengthen students' knowledge and understanding around key themes of information relating to apprenticeships. Each play lasts 20 minutes and are being delivered to over 250 student year groups across LCR.

8712 apprenticeship vacancies have been advertised on the Apprenticeship Support by [Be More website](#) since November 2019. 96 News Articles have been published as well as a number of Employer Case Studies and 12 Newsletters to a growing subscriber database. These help inspire readers on the many apprenticeship opportunities available in LCR and direct them to the live LCR vacancies on Be More.

Our latest promotional campaign was launched in October 2021 aimed at encouraging more employers to upload their apprenticeship vacancies to the Be More website and encouraging more job seekers to use the Be More website as a 'go to' resource. The campaign premise is around rethinking apprenticeships and dispelling the commonly held myths around apprentices and apprenticeships by both employers and job seekers. Locations for the campaign include bus advertising, digital screens, billboards, kiosks, social media campaigns, landing pages, direct mail, print/magazine and radio advertising.

The AS team are also working on specific projects to support people from black and ethnic minority backgrounds. In partnership with the CA and other partners a pre-employability programme is being developed to support and offer school students from an ethnic minority background a structured programme to enhance their chance of getting an apprenticeship. This is in reaction to the local data stating the low number of apprentices being from an ethnic minority background.

Please refer to Appendix 2 for further information.

Forthcoming Events/Projects

The AS team will be delivering 2 large events in 2022 which include an LCR Skills Show on the 1st and 2nd March at the Exhibition Centre, Liverpool and an Apprenticeship Graduation event in September. Further details are contained in the ELS LCR update PPB report included in your papers.

The SAH team are working towards ensuring that the Be More portal meets the CA's aspiration of the website becoming the 'go to' resource for localised careers content and guidance and are currently overseeing the scope of development planned for Be More, which includes detailed careers information on the key sectors across LCR and information on the roles within them and how individuals of all ages can access opportunities.

The content for the updated Be More Portal will be focused around three themes; Attract, Recruit, and Retain as well as providing careers IAG relating to opportunities across LCR, be a central resource for careers materials, and provide a job posting and application service as well as maintaining links and connectivity with vacancy sites such as the National Apprenticeship Service. It is intended for Be More to provide a comprehensive careers IAG service to all LCR residents, employers, schools, and stakeholder groups and for each area within LCR.

It is hoped that the SAH team will be in a position to engage their preferred web developer in February '22, with the view of relaunching Be More circa May 2022.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding for the Apprenticeship Support by Be More Team is set to end in September 2022. There are 6 members of staff in this team that are employed by Halton Borough Council and deliver this contract on behalf of the CA.

The CA have secured funding and a contract extension to March 2023 to support some of the CA SAH delivery team but that does not include the Apprenticeship Support Team.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

There are no implications associated with this report.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

The service plays an important role in meeting Halton's Employment, Learning and Skills priorities. It promotes access to apprenticeships and emphasises the benefits of balancing practical and theoretical training in and out of the work place.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

There are no implications associated with this report.

6.4 A Safer Halton

There are no implications associated with this report.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

There are no implications associated with this report.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

In line with an orange book assessment there is no likelihood or impact of this work beyond the team performing the task.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

There are no equality or diversity issues.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

Events supporting and promoting wider career choices held in Liverpool City Region

Our target was **30 Skills Shows...**
 We delivered **33, over achieving by 10%.** In total we reached out to **14,933 people.**

No	Skills Shows	Date	Attended
1	Big Bang Fair	4 th Jul 17	392
2	Training & Apprenticeship Fair	20 th Jul 17	69
3	Engineering Open House Family Day	28/29 th Jul 17	589
4	Get Hired Liverpool	30 th Aug 17	11
5	iCan Unemployed Skills Show – MYA	19 th Sep 17	35
6	JCP Kirkby Jobs Fair	20 th Sep 17	90
7	iCan Schools Skills Show - Savio Salesian	27 th Sep 17	85
8	JCP Everton Jobs Fair	4 th Oct 17	165
9	St Helens Chamber Jobs Fair	25 th Oct 17	46
10	iCan Schools Skills Show – Mosslands	7 th Nov 17	30
11	iCan Schools Skills Show - Wade Deacon	20 th Nov 17	30
12	Liverpool City Region Health Skills Show	28 th Nov 17	797
13	iCan Schools Skills Show – St Nicholas	4 th Dec 17	30
14	iCan Schools Skills Show – Knowsley College	14 th Dec 17	29
15	St Helens Chamber Jobs Fair	10 th Jan 18	228
16	iCan Schools Skills Show – Cowley	12 th Jan 18	39
17	Knowsley Works Jobs Fair	15 th Jan 18	140
18	JCP West Derby Jobs Fair	7 th Feb 18	105
19	iCan New Year New You	10 th Feb 18	31
20	JCP Everton Jobs Fair	21 st Feb 18	176
21	JCP Kirkby Jobs Fair	28 th Feb 18	77
22	Wirral Hive Skills Show	6 th Mar 18	909
23	iCan Make a Life, a Living & a Difference	7 th Mar 18	50
24	Sutton Academy Careers Fair	15 th Mar 18	881
25	Liverpool City Region Skills Show	18 th Jun 18	4,017
26	Agent Academy Parents’ Skills Show	30 th Jul 18	59
27	Go Construct (Magenta)	14 th Nov 18	27
28	Liverpool VE Week Skills Show	4 th Feb 19	534
29	Sefton Skills Show	26 th Feb 19	367
30	Knowsley & St Helens Skills Show	28 th Feb 19	349
31	Wirral Young Chamber Skills Show	6 th Mar 19	1,148
32	Halton Skills Show	20 th Mar 19	289
33	What Career Live	22 nd Mar 19	3,109



HALTON

3 SHOWS
 9% of the total delivered
1,756 PEOPLE
 12% of the total reached

KNOWSLEY

4 SHOWS
 12% of the total delivered
899 PEOPLE
 6% of the total reached

LIVERPOOL

14 SHOWS
 42% of the total delivered
4,312 PEOPLE
 29% of the total reached

SEFTON

3 SHOWS
 9% of the total delivered
2,136 PEOPLE
 14% of the total reached

ST HELENS

5 SHOWS
 15% of the total delivered
1,935 PEOPLE
 13% of the total reached

WIRRAL

4 SHOWS
 12% of the total delivered
3,895 PEOPLE
 26% of the total reached

Targeted outreach meetings to promote and provide brokerage support of Apprenticeship opportunities including Information, advice and guidance in Liverpool City Region

We profiled **936** targeted outreach meetings and delivered **1,131**. In total we reached out to **25,290 people**.



HALTON

214 MEETINGS
 19% of the total delivered

3,215 PEOPLE
 13% of the total reached

KNOWSLEY

227 MEETINGS
 20% of the total delivered

3,137 PEOPLE
 12% of the total reached

LIVERPOOL

257 MEETINGS
 23% of the total delivered

7,533 PEOPLE
 30% of the total reached

SEFTON

154 MEETINGS
 14% of the total delivered

5,213 PEOPLE
 21% of the total reached

ST HELENS

97 MEETINGS
 9% of the total delivered

2,836 PEOPLE
 11% of the total reached

WIRRAL

182 MEETINGS
 16% of the total delivered

3,356 PEOPLE
 13% of the total reached

Meeting Audience Type	Total	%
Employers	199	18%
Residents / Schools	781	69%
Stakeholders & Partners	138	12%
Training Providers	13	1%
TOTAL	1,131	100%

Referral Enquires:

Referral Enquires for One-to-One Support Overall		Enquiry Source		Enquirer Type		Age Group	
Halton	41	Email	74	Employer	68	Under 16	30
Knowsley	149	Event	239	Learner / Resident	408	16-18	118
Liverpool	179	Referral	13	Stakeholder	69	19-24	81
Sefton	46	Telephone	3	TOTAL	545	25+	76
St Helens	26	Website	216			Not Known / Not Provided	240
Wirral	68	TOTAL	545			TOTAL	545
Out of Area	24						
Unknown / Not Stated	12						
TOTAL	545						

School Engagement:

Local Authority	No of Schools	No of Engagements	No of Pupils
Halton	9	23	2,385
Knowsley	8	29	2,818
Liverpool	20	47	6,700
Sefton	17	44	5,532
St Helens	9	23	4,031
Wirral	14	34	3,952
TOTAL	77	200	25,418

Skills for Growth Action Plan launch events to articulate Liverpool City Region sector-specific shortages or need in particular sectors

These Skills for Growth Action Plans provide a comprehensive analysis of supply and demand issues detailing what is specifically needed to capitalise on key growth opportunities within the City Region.

Referencing official quantitative statistics and identifying headline actions to help achieve this, in addition to complementary accessible careers materials which highlight a number of 'best practice' case studies, concentrating on local examples addressing the Skills for Growth agenda and drawing on national and international exemplars.



APPRENTICESHIP SUPPORT by BE MORE

Jan 2022

Funded by the Liverpool City Region Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) and the European Social Fund (ESF)



LIVERPOOL
CITY REGION
COMBINED AUTHORITY

METROMAYOR
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION



European Union
European
Social Fund

What we do...

Provide **free information advice and guidance** about Apprenticeships to schools, young people, parents and all Liverpool City Region residents. This includes:

Schools Support Sessions

- ✓ Recorded Presentations through our portal Learn Live
- ✓ Educational Theatre Productions performed in schools
- ✓ Virtual or Live presentations to students
- ✓ Mock Interviews
- ✓ Careers Fairs

Job Centre's & Partners Apprenticeship Information Sessions and 121 IAG with Individuals

Deliver LCR Skills Show and Careers Events and the Liverpool City Region Apprenticeship Graduation

Working with Schools

Innovative Delivery

Inspiring Educational Theatre: 250 live theatre productions will be performed in schools, sixth form and college settings across the Liverpool City Region. **3** different productions have been created to provide a comprehensive suite of information for students from Year 9 through to sixth form or college Year 13. The content of the productions will aim to strengthen the students' knowledge and understanding around set key themes of information around apprenticeships. We have delivered **79 performances** in LCR schools so far.

Virtual Delivery: Adapted our IAG sessions from physical activity to live presentations via Zoom, Microsoft Teams and the Learn Live platform. This has enabled us to engage all students and deliver a more varied programme with external moderation of the chat facility built in. The sessions often include apprentices and employers from our apprentice Ambassador Network.



- ❑ Since Nov 19 we have delivered **291 school activities** so far reaching **22,454 students**
- ❑ **Strategic partnership** working with both LCR ASK providers and the CEC to ensure coordinated and targeted delivery of services to LCR schools promoting apprenticeships.

Working with Job Centre Plus and Key Stakeholders



Adapted our delivery from physical presentations to live presentations via Zoom and Microsoft Teams. This has enabled us to engage larger groups of residents and deliver a more varied session to all JCP's across LCR. Inviting along apprentices and employers from our Ambassador Network, giving a real life flavour to how Apprenticeships work.

Since Nov 19 we have delivered **224 sessions** so far reaching **2136 local residents** and **18-21 year olds** through their **Youth Obligation Programme**.

Current Focus: Working in partnership with the DWP to support the new **Youth Hubs** and developing a be-spoke **Digital Apprenticeship Information Session** tailored to support suited JCP customers with live chat facility. Pilot programme launched Dec 21.

Peter Jamieson
@PeteJamiesonDWP

Team #Haltonheld their first Be-More Apprenticeship support event. A virtual group session to showcase the latest opps. Thankyou to Sam @TheHubLCR for hosting the day with 14 young people joining. Excellent feedback and another event booked for 27/08 at 2pm

BE MORE
BE AN APPRENTICE

Search Explore Help

be-more.info

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION METROMAYOR HALTON APPRENTICESHIP SUPPORT European Union

Apprenticeship Vacancies and Newsletter Articles

Over 8712 Apprenticeship Vacancies advertised on Be More website so far.

Since Jan 2021 created 96 News Articles, 12 Employer Case Studies and produced 12 newsletters to a growing subscriber database, inspiring readers on the many unknown apprenticeship opportunities and directing them to the live LCR vacancies on Be More.



BE MORE



Page 33

be-more.info

Be More Marketing Campaign Promotional examples



Highlights so far

100% increase in unique visitors to the Be More website as a result of the campaign
 136,495 social media reach from advertising

LCR Be More Apprenticeships
 Sponsored · 🌐

Never too late to make a career change. There are hundreds of opportunities in the Liverpool City Region looking for experienced people just like you.

APPRENTICESHIPS ARE FOR PEOPLE EARLY IN THEIR CAREER
 Make smart career choices.

Nina, 42
 Art Technician

our future apprenticeships

Next career move here:
www.be-more.info/your-future
 0800 074 0724
[be-more.info](http://www.be-more.info)

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Like Comment Share



George, Level 2
 Engineering operative

INVESTING IN APPRENTICESHIP TAKES UP A LOT OF TIME

...is nurturing a new generation.

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Rethink apprenticeships

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Find your next apprentice:
 Website: www.be-more.info/rethink
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 Email: info@be-more.info



Apprenticeship Vacancies

Employers and Training Providers



BE MORE



FIND A VACANCY

BE MORE
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Search



Explore



Help

be-more.info



APPRENTICESHIP
SUPPORT
BY BE MORE

Large Promotional Events Coming Soon

Skills Show

Event to hold approx. 100 exhibitors and 5,000 attendees and will include a twilight session for residents parents, guardians.

Apprenticeship Graduations

Event to be held in September 2022 to 150 apprentices & guests. Our first event was held on the 25th November 2021 at Grand Central Hall.



Join us at...

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION SKILLS SHOW 2022

BOOK NOW

Brought to you by: **APPRENTICESHIP SUPPORT**

1 & 2 MARCH
Exhibition Centre Liverpool
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Thank You



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HALTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL



**APPRENTICESHIP
SUPPORT**
BY BE MORE



European Union
European
Social Fund

REPORT TO:	Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	31 st January 2022
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Employment, Learning and Skills and Community
SUBJECT:	Library Service
WARDS:	Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the library service.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION that the report be noted.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Library Services during the pandemic (2020/21)

In line with government advice, all library buildings closed to the public and library teams on 23rd March 2020. Library teams worked quickly to shift activity to digital platforms. Budgets were reallocated to increase resources and support new demand. An intensive social media campaign was used to engage audiences and highlight digital resources to new and existing customers.

There was a 350% increase in new members during those first lockdowns.

Home Library Service:

During lockdown library staff continued to deliver books to more than 100 Vulnerable and isolated residents, as well as increasing provision to include new customers who were shielding. The library outreach team contacted all Home Library Service customers by phone a number of times to provide updates on the service and offer support and triage to other agencies. The Home Library Service continued to be a valuable and increasingly popular service.

Choose & Collect:

In June 2020, a contactless collection service was introduced for customers. The majority of frontline library staff were now redeployed but a core team rolled out this new initiative to support the value of reading for mental health and wellbeing that has been heightened during this time. Customers could request books via telephone, email or social platforms, library staff choose an appropriate selection of titles, and these bundles were then collected from outside the buildings.

Since July 2020 Halton's library buildings have been open to the public with restrictions lessening and activities being added in line with government guidance.

3.2 Halton – November 2021

This is a snapshot review of Halton's library service in November 2021, using data from November 2019 as a comparison to benchmark against.

All library buildings are fully open to the public and, since May 2021, there has been a return to the delivery of an in-person events programme, with focus on the Borough of Culture festival programme.

Overall physical visits to library buildings continue to fluctuate and remain well below 2019 levels at approximately 20% percent, while physical book issues have recovered well and are at approximately 80% of what they were in 2019. This is in line with data collected nationally.

The issues of ebooks and eaudio titles have now levelled out at around double what they were in 2019. Not as high as they were earlier in 2021 but an increase in use that will continue to have a significant impact on stock budgets over the coming year.

There continue to be substantial increases in the use of the online newspapers and magazines platform, 200% vs 2019, and the online images library which has more than doubled site visits vs 2019.

There has also been an eager return by families and schools. The reintroduction of Rhymetimes, story sessions for 0-4 year olds, at all libraries has seen numbers return to what they were pre-pandemic. More than 600 school children took part in class visits to libraries in November 2021.

3.3 Challenges and constraints.

At this time, it remains difficult to establish an understanding of recovery trends across the sector due to the inconsistency of delivering in a Covid society; evolving guidance and fluctuating pandemic cases continue to have an impact even since the data was produced for this report.

Like many frontline services, the offer from library buildings is restricted by not wanting or being able to fully market to get all the users back, or attract new users to buildings.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

Library Services support children and young people to develop

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

Library Services provide space and resources for learning

6.3 A Healthy Halton

Library Services support the health and wellbeing of communities across Halton

6.4 A Safer Halton

Not Applicable

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

Not Applicable

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

There are no risks associated with the report.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO:	Employment, Learning & Skills and Community PPB
DATE:	31 st January 2022
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community & Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Employment, Learning & Skills and Community
SUBJECT:	Liverpool City Region Employment & Skills Update
WARDS:	Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To update Members on a number of employment and skills developments in the Liverpool City Region.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Policy and Performance Board receive the information and comment as relevant.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority leads on a number of employment and skills initiatives. This report sets out a number of these, providing most recent information.

Adult Education Budget (AEB) Procurement

- 3.1.1 AEB is now devolved from Government to the Combined Authority (CA). The CA is now in year 3 of its commissioning cycle and recently went out to re-procurement for its contracted provision. It will be a single stage process this time, therefore making it a simpler process and the contract will be a 5 year one (1+1+1+1+1) to help give the sector more stability. The closing date was 19th November 2021 and the CA is currently scoring the submissions from training providers.
- 3.1.2 Halton's Adult Learning Service and Riverside College receive AEB via a grant and are therefore not subject to the AEB procurement process.
- 3.1.3 The council meets regularly with the CA to review progress against the AEB profile. Covid has had and continues to have a significant affect upon progress as a result of a combination of factors including centres being closed, staff and learner absences through Covid related illness and lack of confidence in learners to access online learning.

3.1.4 During the various lockdowns, AEB provision transferred to an online delivery model. Given the procured training providers were no longer able to offer their original curriculum offer as training centres were closed, they took to offer alternative provision. The market was flooded with online employability provision from the procured AEB providers who, in many instances, were able to offer incentives to learners such as free laptops to enrol. As a local authority AEB provider, the Adult Learning Service was not able to offer such incentives and enrolments were adversely affected. This situation has been fed back to the CA and we have asked that, as part of the procurement process currently being worked up, the CA ensures that any procured provision must not duplicate existing provision offered in Halton by the grant funded providers. Delivery of the procured provision will commence 1st August 2022.

LCR Skills Show & Apprenticeship Graduation Ceremony

3.1.5 Halton's Employment, Learning & Skills Division manages the Apprenticeship Support by Be More service on behalf of the Combined Authority. The service offers impartial advice and guidance to residents on apprenticeships and promotes and celebrates all things apprenticeships. The team were leading on a large, interactive Skills Show due to take place on the 18th and 19th January 2022 at the Exhibition Centre Liverpool.

3.1.6 Figures before Christmas showed there were 105 exhibitors confirmed and 46 group bookings from schools (totalling 3763 individuals) and an additional 60 individual bookings for the twilight session on the 18th. Halton's school bookings made up 10.26% of the overall school bookings.

3.1.7 Given the recent Omicron variant, which has significantly increased the numbers of positive Covid cases in the UK and the nature of an interactive skills show, a number of exhibitors and schools cancelled their involvement in early January 2022. Further cancellations were expected so a decision was made to postpone the Skills Show to the 1st and 2nd March. All existing bookings will be honoured.

3.1.8 Further details of what the Skills Show will bring to the City Region can be found [here](#).

3.1.9 The Apprenticeship Support by Be More Team also delivered an Apprenticeship Graduation Ceremony for LCR apprentice graduates in November 2021. 60 apprentices, their guests, colleges/training providers and invited dignitaries attended a fabulous evening at Grand Central Hall in Liverpool. Guest speakers included Metro Mayor Steve Rotherham and Olympic gymnast Beth Tweddle MBE, who inspired guests with their own apprenticeship stories. A further Graduation Ceremony will take place in September 2022 and discussions are currently underway as to what this will look like, where it will take place etc. We expect numbers to be greater than the November 2021 event as there is a greater lead in time.

- 3.1.10 Funding for the Apprenticeship Support by Be More Team is set to end in September 2022. Discussions are currently underway with the CA regarding options post September.

LCR Insights

- 3.1.11 The Combined Authority is developing an insights tool regarding Job Vacancies in LCR. There are many jobs available in the city region and the CA have already developed a central portal [LCR Jobs](#) to bring various job vacancy resources into one place. However, there is a mismatch of job vacancies and suitable applicants to fill these vacancies. Currently there are 19500 vacancies in LCR with an average salary at £23500. LCR Insights is not a vacancies website for jobseekers, rather it is a tool for those supporting people into employment in their local areas to understand what vacancies are out there. Obviously as new vacancies arise, the data will be updated.
- 3.1.12 It is also likely that a targeted marketing campaign to attract applicants from outside the City Region will be developed.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Covid has impacted adversely on the delivery of the adult education budget within the City Region, including Halton's Adult Learning Team. Underperformance may result in funding being clawed back, which then has an impact on budget levels as staff and premises costs still need to be covered.
- 5.2 Funding for the Apprenticeship Support by Be More Team is set to end in September 2022. Discussions are currently underway with the CA regarding options post September. There are 6 members of staff in this team.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The LCR Skills Show's main target audience are young people from year 9 onwards. Nearly 4000 school pupils were set to attend the event in January. Many young people have missed out on comprehensive and interactive careers advice over the last 2 years. Should the March event also have to be postponed to any later, then it will be too late for those in Years 11 and 13 to benefit from such a valuable event.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

There are no implications associated with this report.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

There are no implications associated with this report.

6.4 A Safer Halton

There are no implications associated with this report.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

There are no implications associated with this report.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

In line with an orange book assessment there is no likelihood or impact of this work beyond the team performing the task.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

There are no equality or diversity issues.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO:	Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	31 st January 2022
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community and Resources
PORTFOLIO:	Employment, Learning and Skills and Community
SUBJECT:	New Leisure Service Division.
WARDS:	Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the creation of a new Leisure Services Division as part of a restructure that has taken place within the Community & Environment department.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 On 1 September 2021 a new Operational Director Community & Environment was appointed following the retirement of the previous post holder.

On that date the Community & Environment Department was organised as shown in the table below.



A review was undertaken by the new Operational Director and it was considered that the existing structure, which had evolved into being over 10 years ago, no longer fitted the way in which the Council organises its portfolios. Furthermore there were anomalies in terms of the reporting

structure with a number of sections having no Divisional Manager (and thereby reporting directly to the Operational Director).

Stresses within the two Divisions that made up the department were also a consideration. It was felt that the workload of the technical teams within the Open Space Service and Waste & Environmental Improvement could be better organised if those teams merged.

The Community & Environment department is one of the biggest in the Council and it was realised that changes to the structure would have to be undertaken as different phases.

A phase 1 proposal was presented to the Senior Management Team in October 2021 and was agreed. It then progressed through Steering Group and meetings took place with the relevant portfolio holders. From 1 January 2022 the Community & Environment department was configured as per the table shown below.



A Divisional Manager was appointed to head the Environment Services in late November 2021 and is now in post.

3.2 The new Leisure Services Division also came into being on 1 January 2022 and consists of the following services:

- Brindley Theatre and Events*
- Community Centres*
- Leisure Centres and Sports Development Team*
- Libraries*

The division will also have responsibility for the promotion and development of the council's cultural aspirations.

The new Leisure Services Division suite of services align with the Leisure, Community and Culture portfolio.

At the time of writing the post of Divisional Manager Leisure Services was in the process of being recruited and it is hoped that they will be in place by 1 March 2022 (if not earlier). Once the Divisional Manager is in

post they will be tasked with looking at the suite of services to see what realignments, within the division, might be beneficial going forward.

There are a number of major capital investments that will be taking place within this service area including a new leisure centre and an extension at the Brindley which will allow library service functions to be housed there. These projects will form an important part of the Divisional Manager Leisure Services work.

- 3.3 There will be future phases of restructure within the Community & Environment department in the coming months.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The creation of the Leisure Services Division will assist the council to deliver on its policies through a better integration of its services.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The first phase of the restructure of the department including the creation of the Leisure Services Division has been delivered at no additional cost to the council.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

All of the core services that make up the Leisure Services Division contribute directly to this priority.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

Library Services provide space and resources for learning.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The Leisure centres and the functions of the Sports Development team support the health and wellbeing of communities across Halton

6.4 A Safer Halton

All of the core services that make up the Leisure Services Division contribute directly to this priority.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

The creation of a new Leisure Centre and the Brindley extension will contribute directly to this priority.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

There are no risks associated with the report.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

There are no equality and diversity issues.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO:	Employment, Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board
DATE:	31 January 2022
REPORTING OFFICER:	Strategic Director (Enterprise Community and Resources)
SUBJECT:	Performance Management Reports for Quarter 2 of 2021/22
WARDS:	Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider, and raise, any questions or points of clarification, in respect of performance management for the second quarter period to 30th September 2021.
- 1.2 Key priorities for development or improvement in 2021 -22 were agreed by Members for the various functional areas reporting to the Board as detailed below:
 - Enterprise, Employment and Skills
 - Community and Environment

The report details progress against objectives and milestones, and performance targets and provides information relating to key developments and emerging issues that have arisen during the period.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That the Policy and Performance Board

- 1) Receive the first quarter performance management report;**
- 2) Consider the progress and performance information and raise any questions or points for clarification; and**
- 3) Highlight any areas of interest and/or concern where further information is to be reported at a future meeting of the Board.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Departmental objectives provide a clear statement on what services are planning to achieve and to show how they contribute to the Council's strategic priorities. Such information is central to the Council's performance management arrangements and the Policy and Performance Board has a key role in monitoring performance and strengthening accountability.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no policy implications associated with this report.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no other implications associated with this report.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Departmental service objectives and performance measures, both local and national are linked to the delivery of the Council's priorities. The introduction of a Thematic Priority Based Report and the identification of business critical objectives/ milestones and performance indicators will further support organisational improvement.

6.2 Although some objectives link specifically to one priority area, the nature of the cross - cutting activities being reported, means that to a greater or lesser extent a contribution is made to one or more of the Council priorities.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 At the time at which annual business plans are developed, Directorate Risk Registers are also refreshed and updated.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 Not applicable.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTIONS 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Not applicable.

Employment, Learning, Skills and Community PPB – Priority Based Monitoring Report

Reporting Period: **Quarter 2 – 1st July 2021 – 30th September 2021**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of issues and progress against key service objectives/milestones and performance targets, during the second quarter of 2021 / 22 for service areas within the remit of the Employment, Learning, Skills and Community (ELSC) Policy and Performance Board.
- 1.2 Key priorities for development or improvement in 2021 - 22 were agreed by Members and included in Directorate Plans, for the various functional areas reporting to Employment, Learning, Skills and Community (ELSC) Policy & Performance Board i.e.
- Employment, Learning and Skills
 - Library and Culture and Leisure Services
- 1.3 The emergence of the global COVID19 pandemic early in 2020 has had a significant and unavoidable impact upon Council services the full extent of which is yet to become known. The Council, along with key partner agencies, has prioritised its resources upon mitigating the serious risks to public health, the protection of vulnerable residents, and the social cohesion of the local community. In developing appropriate responses to emerging national and local priorities this situation is likely to remain the case for the foreseeable future.
- 1.4 The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within Section 7 of this report.

2.0 Key Developments

- 2.1 There have been a number of developments during the period which include:-

Employment, Learning & Skills

- 2.2 The Division commissioned the **production of 2 videos** during Q2:
- Prevent video – to raise awareness for learners/customers of radicalisation and the Prevent programme, which is used as part of their induction into adult learning and throughout their time with us <https://vimeo.com/617860016>
 - Adult Learning Welcome video (final draft still to be signed off)

Both videos were funded from the £40k Access Grant awarded by the Combined Authority, to support the safe return of adult learners back in to our centres.

- 2.3 As part of the Skills Capital works at Kingsway Learning Centre, a **mural was painted** on one section of the main corridor to depict the challenges that were faced by tutors/learners during the Covid Pandemic and the opportunities that would be available once centres started to reopen, including courses, access to HPIJ

and the Apprenticeship Support by Be More Team. Feedback has been really positive and a news piece will be produced for the November Inside Halton, following a visit by Cllr Nolan.

2.4 Q2 saw the **return of face to face** adult learning provision – the centres fall under DfE Covid Guidance, which is the same as school settings. Access to Teams Education will allow for a return to online learning should any further lockdowns occur.

2.5 Additional **accommodation for HPIJ** has been provided at Kingsway Learning Centre. This is to allow for the expansion of the team following the award of new employment programmes including JETS and Restart.

2.6 The Division commenced delivery of the **Supported Internship Programme** for 16-24 year olds with an EHC Plan. The programme is being delivered on behalf of the Council's 14-19 Team. Additional safeguarding measures have been implemented as the service has not delivered training to under 19s before.

2.7 Crystallised won the **Apprenticeship Support Promotional Campaign** contract in Q2 and have worked up their concepts with the team. There are 2 aspects to the contract – general promotion of apprentices to residents of the City Region; and increasing the number of apprenticeship vacancies being posted on the [Be-More Portal](#) by local employers.

Library, Culture and Leisure Services

2.8 Library Service

2020-21 saw a significant increase in library use, mostly via digital platforms. Residents continued to use libraries during the pandemic and new members discovered resources that supported their lifestyle during lockdown. An iterative approach to delivery & agile allocation of resources ensured Halton continued to have a vibrant, relevant library service even when building access was limited.

2.9 Other Culture

The Brindley Theatre

The Brindley Theatre reopened with full capacity on Monday 27th September 2021 after working with Public Health to produce COVID guidance and safety measures for both the staff and public.

The venue continues to be used by the NHS as part of the COVID vaccinations programme.

A third application has been submitted to the Government's Culture Recovery Fund (CRF) with a decision due shortly. The CRF funding summary to date is below;

Round 1 (1 October 2020 – 31 March 2021) - £230,660 Application Successful

Round 2 (1 April 2021 – 30 June 2021) - £114,780 Application Successful

Round 3 (1 November 2021 – 31 January 2022) - £114,780 Application Decision October 2021

TOTAL £460,220

2.10 Leisure Centres

The government lifted all restrictions on 19th July, however, a slow and cautious approach was taken in the centres, with some restrictions still in place to keep staff and centre users safe and prevent crowding. Participation has increased significantly, specifically the pools. Occupancy levels for all sessions increased.

Increased swimming capacity from 26th July 2021 at Brookvale Recreation Centre, 2nd August at Kingsway Leisure Centre; providing more pool space and participation over the summer.

Indoor casual sports bookings returned 31st August; further increasing participation.

Brookvale Recreation Centre (BRC)

Refurbishment and extension of Astro turf pitch at Brookvale Recreation Centre: Football Foundation grant award £303,284, total project cost estimate, including changing rooms works £587,284 will provide a state of the art pitch; thus increasing the quality of facility, attracting more users, increasing revenue and participation. Project to start in November with completion expected by end of January 2022.

BRC	GYM	SWIM	DRYSIDE	TOTAL
JULY	2636	3327	1785	7748
AUGUST	3157	3493	2601	9251
SEPTEMBER	1596	5016	1204	7816
3 MONTH TOTALS	7389	11836	5590	24815

Kingsway Leisure Centre (KLC)

Vending area returned, providing better social space for customers to have a drink after their activities.

Kingsway sports change lighting upgrade to LED tube lights, changing rooms brighter, more efficient. Foyer area lighting upgrade, all ceiling panels changed to LED, brighter, modern look to the entrance/foyer area, energy efficient fittings.

Indoor Bowls returned Tuesday 28th September, increased footfall and income during off peak hours.

Cheshire Junior Netball League, every Sunday through until May 2022, increased footfall and income for the site.

KLC	GYM	SWIM	DRYSIDE	TOTAL
JULY	4137	6419	2705	13261
AUGUST	3395	7242	2425	13062
SEPTEMBER	2642	7014	3348	13004
3 MONTH TOTALS	10174	20675	8478	39327

Fitness

Class capacity increased from 23rd August. Additional Aqua classes' added and Aqua numbers increased to: KLC = from 20 to 35; BRC = from 12 to 20; Runcorn Swimming Pool (RSP) = from 16 to 20

National Fitness Day Wednesday 22nd September - 14 free classes and opened the centres free to all. Free swims = 97 non-members; Free gym passes = 48; Free class attendance = 137.

NEW class timetable launched, additional classes at KLC and new class Power at BRC launched. KLC launched Active Combat each week day.

A 'Join today get rest of the month free and next month half price' was offered in September to celebrate National Fitness Day. Results - KLC – 149 (51 on the offer); BRC – 55 (21 on the offer);

Memberships increasing steadily - KLC 1,244, BRC 661, RSP 84. Total memberships 1,989, which is 186 higher than last quarter.

Holiday Activity

BRC 'Kops n Kids' Summer Programme - total participation of 1087. Delivered over 8 days, supported by Community Shop, supplying packed lunches and drinks for the children. Halton Speak Out and their youth engagement Bright Sparks also involved. Feedback from all partners was excellent.

Active Soccer – two week soccer camps, 130 children over 2 weeks.

£1 Swim over summer - 196 participants.

KLC 'Kops n Kids' Summer Programme; organised in partnership with Cheshire Police. Multi-sports activities, all free of charge (Funded by Cheshire PCC). Total participation – 473 (50-60 each day).

HAF Multi-flex Summer Programme for 3 weeks in August. Free packed lunches provided - 126 children

3.0 Emerging Issues

3.1 A number of emerging issues have been identified during the period that will impact upon the work of services including:-

Employment, Learning & Skills

3.2 The Apprenticeship Support by Be More Team will be delivering the latest LCR [Apprenticeship Graduation Ceremony](#) at Grand Central Hall in Liverpool on 25th November. 150 apprentices will 'graduate' and be joined by their family, friends and employers. The guest presenter will be the Olympic gymnast Beth Tweddle MBE.

3.3 The Apprenticeship Support by Be More Team will be delivering the [LCR Skills Show](#) on the 18th and 19th January 2022 at the Exhibition Centre in Liverpool. 6000 visitors are expected, with the twilight session on the 18th targeted at job seekers and parents and the main event on the 19th targeted at school/college students. The show will be highly interactive, giving visitors a real taste of what it is like to do that job role.

Completion of the Adult Learning **Self-Assessment Report (SAR)** is due in Q3. It is highly likely that the service will receive an Ofsted inspection end 2021/early 2022 and the SAR is the key document that Ofsted will use as the benchmark for the inspection.

Library and Culture and Leisure Services

3.4 Library Service

Based on experiences during the pandemic, and projections for the future, rebalancing the library service offer across physical, digital, & outreach platforms will be essential to ensure we maintain a customer base in line with what was achieved during 2020-21. Dedicating resources to reallocating finances, updating technology, utilising funding, & redeveloping staff structures to ensure objectives are met & capacity exists to meet future customer expectations.

4.0 High Priority Equality Actions

- 4.1 Equality issues continue to form a routine element of the Council's business planning and operational decision making processes. Additionally the Council must have evidence to demonstrate compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which came into force in April 2011.
- 4.2 The Council's latest annual progress report in relation to the achievement of its equality objectives is published on the Council website and is available via:

<http://www4.halton.gov.uk/Pages/councildemocracy/Equality-and-Diversity.aspx>

5.0 Performance Overview

The following information provides a synopsis of progress for both milestones and performance indicators across the key business areas that have been identified by the Directorate.

Employment, Learning & Skills

Key Objectives / milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q2Progress
EEP 01a	To manage and sustain employment support programmes Work Programme by March 2022	
EEP 01b	To deliver a Liverpool City Region Skills Show by January 2022	

Supporting Commentary

EEP 01a

Implementation of new DWP Restart Programme and HBC Supported Internship Programmes commenced. Delivery of the ESF Ways to Work programme, Kick Start, JETS and Work & Health Programme continued.

EEP 01b

The Liverpool City Region Skills Show will be held at the Exhibition Centre Liverpool (ECL) on the 18th Jan (16.30 – 19.00) and 19th Jan (09.30 – 15.00). To date we have over 50 exhibitors and 2,597 individuals booked for the event. This includes group bookings from 31 LCR schools, of which 2 are from Halton. An exhibitor masterclass will be held at the ECL on the 18th Nov 2021 to encourage more businesses to exhibit with industry experts available to help provide ideas and inspiration on how to create interactive stands.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	20/21 Actual	21/22 Target	Q2 Actual	Q2 Progress	Direction of travel
EEP LI 08	Number of Enrolments (Adult Learning).	698	TBC	766		
EEP LI 09	Number of People supported into work (HPIJ).	333	750	231		
EEP LI 10	Percentage of learners achieving accreditation.	15%	35%	30%		
EEP LI 11	Total number of job starts on DWP Work and Health and JETS programmes (Ingeus).	142	582	200		
EEP LI 12	Total number of job starts on DWP Restart programme (G4S). <i>(New)</i>	N/A	265	2		
EEP LI 13	Number of Businesses Supported.	1091	500	307		
EEP LI 14	Number of individuals supported into paid work placements (ILMs)	22	47	11		
EEP LI 15	Number of adult learners who feel prepared for choosing the next steps (e.g. into employment, another course, college/university etc.)	90%	100%	97%		
EEP LI 16	Number of adult learners who have progressed onto another course	49%	52%	36%		
EEP LI 17	Deliver supported internships <i>(New)</i> .	N/A	10	11		
EEP LI 18	% Increase coverage in disadvantaged wards <i>(New)</i>	N/A	10%	5%		N/A

Supporting Commentary**EEP LI 08**

Enrolments continue to be affected by Covid. Uptake in Children's Centres and schools remains low at the moment. There has been no delivery in these venues for at least 18 months due to Covid and it will take time to rebuild confidence of potential learners.

CCs are still limiting face to face delivery which hampers efforts to re-engage/market. Learner numbers have increased 55% compared to the same period last year – it should be noted though that KLC was shut for refurbishment during that period. Intensive efforts were made to market new Autumn offer e.g. roundabout advertising, banners, social media events, community events, partnership work and targeted marketing to wards with a high proportion of unemployed adult/low take up ratio.

EEP LI 09

231 people supported into work in Q2 via HPIJ's suite of employment programmes. Cumulative total for 21/22 is 401 people supported into work.

EEP LI 10

Due to Covid and the increased mental health needs of local residents, plus the disrupted effect on longer term commitments we anticipated that the ratio of accredited/non-accredited would shift downwards slightly. In addition, KLC closure in Autumn and local lockdowns impacted on both longer term course enrolments and achievement results in lower level IT courses. The upward direction reflects the assessment period at end of year.

EEP LI 11

200 people supported into work in Q2 via WHP and JETS programmes. Cumulative total for 21/22 is 337 job starts on WHP and JETS programmes.

EEP LI 12

2 people supported into work in Q2 via G4S Restart Programme. Referrals in the first quarter have been significantly lower than the indicative DWP profile therefore caseloads are lower and job starts are lower. Referrals are now increasing as we enter Q3.

EEP LI 13

Businesses supported are quantified in terms of Growth Hub brokerages in a given period. Growth Hub is delivered by Halton Growth Hub Partnership made up of the Council and Halton Chamber of Commerce & Enterprise.

The Chamber is the lead partner and contract holder with respect to Growth Hub delivery. The figures here include:

- 29 commercial property enquiries
- Not including Growth Hub interactions. Currently working to assess consistency of recording interactions – due to be resolved Q3

EEP LI 14

11 paid placements started in Q2. (4 ILM's and 7 Kick Start's). Extension to DWP ESF Ways to Work ILM programme confirmed in Q2 to be able to increase ILM's from Q3

EEP LI 15

97% agreed or strongly agreed that they felt prepared for choosing the next steps

EEP LI 16

The figure for Q1 was higher as this is reflective of learners who progress within year to another course. It is to be expected that this figure would decline in the last term as learners complete their courses in year. (Progression within the service takes place within year rather than at end year.) This figure is likely to increase again as the Autumn term 21-22 enrolments move to new courses in Spring 21-22.

EEP LI 17

11 young people commenced the Supported Internship Programme in Q2.

EEP LI 18**Targeted Ward data:**

Kingsway 56% increase (3rd of 21)

Grange 44% increase (7th of 21)

Halton Lea 46% increase (6th of 21)

Appleton 43% increase (9th of 21)

Community Services**Key Objectives / milestones**

Ref	Milestones	Q2 Progress
CE 02a	Create a digital offer that utilises up to date technology and hardware options to ensure residents are able to access information, communication, & learning opportunities that support personal growth and individual ambition. March 2022	
CE 02b	Working in partnership, deliver an ambitious cultural programme that builds on the legacy of the Borough of Culture festival season, securing external funding to maximise impact, value & potential. March 2022	

Supporting Commentary**CE 02a**

In discussion with HBC ICT on several strands of the project to revitalise access to technology on library buildings.

CE 02b

Currently delivering a series of festivals as part of Borough of Culture programme.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	20/21 Actual	21/22 Target	Q2 Actual	Q2 Progress	Direction of travel
CE LI 07	Number of active users (physical & digital resources) of the library service during the last 12 months.	1,799,950	1,250,00	703,960		
CE LI 08	Number of physical and virtual visits to libraries (annual total)	1,485,023	987,000	656,849		
CE LI 09	Percentage of the population taking part in sport and physical activity (150 minutes per week - Active Lives Survey)	50.1	53	N/A		N/A
CE LI 10	Percentage of people physically inactive (less than 30 minutes of activity - Active Lives survey)	38.9	30	N/A		N/A

Supporting Commentary

CE LI 09

Lifting of all restrictions will increase opportunities across Halton. Private, Community and Voluntary sector providers contributing to the offer. For example, currently circa 5,000 Centre visits per week. Pre covid level of 9,500 weekly visits. Next survey results December 2021

CE LI 10

People in Lower socio economic groups are less likely to take part in activity independently, they require support and motivation of others, so are more likely to be members of a groups/facility, thus been adversely affected by the pandemic. Post Covid provide as many opportunities as possible in Leisure Centres and support community settings reopening. Sports development, will keep all activity timetables and Active Halton webpage up to date and links to support. Inc. Merseyside Sport website.

Continue supporting Halton adults stay active at home, updating, motivating and sharing content for online access and Social media platforms. Funding information circulated to all clubs. Support Volunteers and coaches get back up and running post Covid19.

Next survey results due December 2021.

6.0 Financial Statements

ECONOMY, ENTERPRISE & PROPERTY

To be confirmed at the earliest opportunity

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

To be confirmed at the earliest opportunity

7.0 Application of Symbols

Symbols are used in the following manner:

Progress Symbols

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
Green 	Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that the annual target <u>is on course to be achieved</u>.</i>
Amber 	Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> whether the milestone/objective will be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> whether the annual target is on course to be achieved</i>
Red 	Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain</u> that the objective will not be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that the target <u>will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</i>

Direction of Travel Indicator

Green 	Indicates that performance is better as compared to the same period last year.
Amber 	Indicates that performance is the same as compared to the same period last year.
Red 	Indicates that performance is worse as compared to the same period last year.
N / A 	Indicates that the measure cannot be compared to the same period last year.