

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

DATE: 29th September 2008.

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director of Environment

SUBJECT: Daresbury Science and Innovation Campus

WARD(S): Borough-wide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide members with a presentation on progress of the Daresbury Science and Innovation Campus.

2. RECOMMENDED: That

2.1 That Members comment on the presentation and progress of the Daresbury Science and Innovation Campus.

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 At the previous meeting of this Board it was noted that there had been much speculation about the future of the Campus in the press. It resolved to request a presentation about progress to enable to consideration of progress.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Diversification of the local economy is a key part of the Halton Economic Development Strategy and key actions are contained within the Corporate Plan.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 No other implications.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES.

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton.

Science and technology is a key opportunity for Halton. The Campus together with the Heath Business and Technical Park and many local employers will provide many jobs in the future. The work underway in our specialist colleges is already preparing our young people to exploit these opportunities and as such a thriving Campus is essential for the future of young people in Halton.

6.2 Employment Learning and Skills in Halton

The opportunities of the Campus go hand in hand with issues of skills, employment and enterprise. Of particular concern is the need to improve the qualification levels of local people in order to gain employment at the Campus where jobs will be of both a technical and non technical nature.

6.3 A Healthy Halton.

No implications identified at this time.

6.4 A Safer Halton

No implications identified at this time

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

The physical expansion of activity is essential in maximising the opportunities that exists. Plans are already announced for more development on site and a master plan is under development that will create scope for the creation of many local jobs.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 The presentation will cover issues of risk.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 As the campus continues to expand there will be increased opportunities for employment and there is scope to develop specific pathways for the priority groups as part of the sectoral working that is now being developed.

9. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

9.1 None under the meaning of the Act.