**Title:** Scrutiny Review on Improving the Employability Prospects of Barking and Dagenham’s Young People: Discussion with Representatives of Businesses who support Work Experience and Work-related Learning

**Report of the Commissioning Director, Education**

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**Summary:**

Earlier in the municipal year, the Children’s Services Select Committee (CSSC) agreed to undertake a ‘mini’ scrutiny review on ‘Improving the Employability Prospects of Barking and Dagenham’s Young People’ in the 2017/18 municipal year. The scope for this scrutiny review, which the CSSC agreed at its meeting on 2 October 2017, included a discussion between members of the CSSC and representatives of businesses who provide work experience and work-related learning to the borough’s young people, which has been scheduled for today’s meeting.

Representatives of a number of businesses who contribute to the borough’s work-related learning agenda have been invited to the meeting. Members are recommended to have discussions with the representatives to obtain a picture of what is offered to young people and the possible areas for improvement.

**Recommendation(s)**

The CSSC is recommended to engage in discussion with the business representatives in attendance to understand the range and quality of the offer to young people, with a view to making potential recommendations to support and enhance the offer to young people further.

**Reason(s)**

The scope of the scrutiny review on Improving the Employability Prospects of Barking and Dagenham’s Young People, agreed by the CSSC on 2 October 2017, included a discussion between members of the CSSC and representatives of businesses who provide work experience and work-related learning to the borough’s young people to support the Committee understand the range and quality of the offer to young people, with a view to potentially making recommendations to support and enhance the offer to young people further.
The issue of Improving the Employability Prospects of Barking and Dagenham’s Young People relates to the Council’s following priorities and objectives:

- Encouraging civic pride
  - Narrow the gap in attainment and realise high aspirations for every child.
- Enabling social responsibility
  - Ensure children and young people are well-educated and realise their potential.
- Growing the borough
  - Develop a local, skilled workforce and improve employment opportunities.

**Implications**

There are no implications arising directly from this report.

**Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:**

Scoping report for ‘Improving the Employability Prospects of Barking and Dagenham’s Young People’ Scrutiny Review:


**List of appendices:** None.