

BROMLEY ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

Meeting: Economic Partnership
Date: 9 November 2010
Subject: Progress report on the work of the Skills and Employment sub group
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1. Recommendations.

The Partnership is asked to:-

- 1.1 Note the recent work of the Skills and Employment sub group
- 1.2 Note the appointment of Simon Norton, Principal Orpington College, as the new Chairman

2. Background

2.1 There have been two meetings of the Skills and Employment sub group since the Economic Partnership met on 6 July. These were held on 16 July at Bromley Adult Education College and on 1 October at Orpington College. At the October meeting the Group agreed that it has a continuing role and has taken steps to sharpen its focus/capacity and also to improve its representation.

2.2 Items for discussion have included revisiting the terms of reference

The main role of this Group is to:

- develop the skills and training for residents within the Borough
- improve 'employability'- across all age groups
- encourage all employers to be involved in training and re-training of staff
- improve links with colleges and, in the future, schools.
- improve links with the voluntary sector and develop opportunities in this sector

2.3 The production of an action plan to contribute to Bromley's Economic Framework 2010-13 (attached as appendix one). The group agreed that this should remain a strategic high level document and be subject to regular review.

2.4 Current Skills and Employment Issues. Jobcentre plus agreed to provide key statistics on medium term trends on unemployment, unfilled job vacancies and vacancies sought by unemployed people.

2.5 Progress report on Lifelong Learning projects

2.6 Apprenticeships within the local authority

3. Timetable

3.1 The sub group is next due to meet on 14 January 2011 at Bromley College.