

## PRD project – case study

Building effective practice in partnership working to support young adults (18- 24) to progress to employment, including apprenticeships



### **Project title – NEET Development Group**

#### **Worth reading if you are interested in:**

- Engagement and progression of 18+ NEETs in Hull and East Riding.

#### **Contact information**

**Main contact:** Andy Crossland

**Name of Peer Review and Development (PRD) group:** NEET Development Group

**Participating organisation(s):** Llite; Goodwin Development Trust; Probe (Hull) Ltd; Construction Works

#### **What the PRD group set out to do and why**

To augment the existing generalist PRD Group (QUIP – Quality in Partnership) by developing a dedicated network of NEET 18+ providers to cover the Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire area. To undertake a focused review of the member organisations current priorities, strategies and provision for 18+ NEETs. To develop an integrated plan that improves the engagement of 18+ NEET in education and training, with particular emphasis being placed on progression into employment, apprenticeships and volunteering. To network these providers and improve engagement of and support to 18+ NEETs and support the continuing professional development of paid staff and volunteers who work with this cohort.

#### **What has been achieved so far**

- creation of a steering group (representatives from HLC and East Riding Council Adult Education);
- introduction of project to Quality Improvement Network (QIN);
- focus group activity involving NEET Development Group members;
- survey undertaken with NEET Development Group members;
- analysis of survey – ongoing;
- development of strategy and action plan – ongoing.

### **What still needs to be done**

- follow up of the focus group and survey work to add additional qualitative data findings (and better inform strategy);
- development of strategy document;
- align survey and strategy work to the development of £5.2m Big Lottery Fund “Talent Match” prospectus for the Humber (as agreed with Colin Forrest).  
These activities will extend the existing project deadline to 31 October 2012, but they will enable us to create valuable synergies between LSIS and BLF investments for 18-24 NEETs.

### **Resources to be shared with the sector**

Findings from survey (once fully complete and analysed – on-going)

Strategy and action plan (once fully complete)

The above activities will also contribute toward the development of a Humber NEET 18-24 prospectus (Big Lottery Fund).

### **Key learning points**

- One of the main points being identified is the importance of direct, personalised relationships with employers. It was noted by several delivery partners that this model (as opposed to the use of an employment engagement team) was preferable and more effective.
- It has been noted that smaller employers are more amenable to progression of learners than larger companies.
- An emerging theme is the positive progression of learners to apprenticeship programmes (particularly with the incentive schemes available).
- The importance of tracking learners post programme in order to provide follow up support (up to 6 months – 1 year post programme).
- None of the providers currently utilise Volunteer Bureaux to identify or broker volunteering opportunities for 18-24 NEETs, but instead progress learners to volunteering opportunities in their own organisations, or tried and trusted partners within their existing networks.