



To: Cabinet

Date: 4th October 2017

Subject: Delivering the Jobs and Growth Strategy – End of Year Progress (16/17) and end of current 3-year Strategy (2014-17)

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet of the recommendations and comments from the Business, Enterprise and Economy Scrutiny Board on their consideration of the above report.

2 Recommendations

2.1 Cabinet are recommended to:

- 1) Include student retention in the city as a key element as part of the next Jobs and Growth Strategy.
- 2) Consider how it intends to support funding to support the next strategy, particularly in light of Brexit and access to European Union funding sources.

3 Information/Background

3.1 At their meeting on the 20th September 2017, the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board considered the “Delivering the Jobs and Growth Strategy – End of Year Progress (16/17) and end of current 3-year Strategy (2014-17)” report.

3.2 Members questioned officers on the following aspects:

- Potential opportunities from China.
- Links with University of Warwick as well as Coventry University.
- Clarification on the number of people helped to improve their skills.
- The issue of student retention and how we can encourage students from our universities to stay in the city after graduation, including ensuring there is suitable and affordable accommodation.
- Concerns about funding for the next Jobs and Growth Strategy in the context of Brexit, resources available via the WMCA, and a more “influencing” strategy.

3.3 Members also requested the following points of clarification in the report:

- That information be provided on the numbers of working age people in the city to provide some context to the figures in the table on page 6 of the report.
- That the number of new businesses into the city reported on page 7 of the report are those directly supported by Council officers and doesn't reflect the total number of new businesses in the city.