



To: Cabinet

Date: 11th October 2022

Subject: Coventry Skills Strategy 2022-2030

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet of the recommendations from Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee following their consideration of the Coventry Skills Strategy 2022-2030

2 Recommendations

2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:

- 1) Approve the adoption of the Coventry Skills Strategy 2022-2030
- 2) That annual performance data on the strategy is presented to the appropriate scrutiny board.

3 Background and Information

3.1 Members of the Committee considered the Cabinet Report and the Committee asked a number of questions and the following points were discussed:

- How the performance and the success of the strategies would be measured, including the indicators the One Coventry Plan
- The frequency of performance reporting of the strategies to Scrutiny
- Reassurances were given about the viability of Coventry College. It was acknowledged there were challenges in getting lectures in certain trade subjects and options to address this gap were being explored.
- How the strategies would be communicated to, and benefit Coventry communities was discussed
- The role and purpose of Equality Impact Assessments was outlined in relation to the development of new strategies
- Opportunities to upskill over 50s given the current retirement age and that people may need to stay in work longer given the rising cost of living
- Opportunities to upskills parents and link with Early Help Partnership to enhance skills. Opportunities to make training flexible and modular around family commitments were being looked at to make it as inclusive as possible.
- Narrowing the attainment gap at GCSE level would be discussed by Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Board 2
- Limitations of the consultation on the skills strategy were discussed. Although the response rate was disappointing, new information was gained from undertaking it and the survey would run annually and try and increase its reach based on lessons learnt.
- Apprenticeships were a key focus for the skills strategy both within the City Council and in other organisations. Certain groups were targeted for support including those with barriers to

employment. The parts of the Apprenticeship Levy had been transferred to other organisations to help ensure it was spent within the City.

- A work experience offer was being redeveloped following a lull due to the pandemic.
- Support for women from BAME backgrounds to access training and therefore employment

4 Health Inequalities Impact

- 4.1 A full Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed for the new strategy including Health Inequalities.

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