## Future Careers Offer for Young People: Supplier Engagement – Question Log – 27 November 2024

Question	Response
Will the Early Connect Project be extended, eg Cornwall?	At present there are no plans to roll out the Early Connect pilot to other parts of the country. However, we are considering how lessons learned from this pilot can inform future policy and delivery.
	We are in discussion with the CEC to explore how the lessons learnt from this pilot can be shared outside the pilot areas and how the Apprenticeship resources for schools and FE colleges can be shared more widely.
Alignment of terminology would be useful here. "Careers Guidance" within the statutory guidance covers ALL elements of a CEIAG programme. Often people	We recognise the challenge of consistency of terminology in careers and consider that the Gatsby Benchmarks provide a common language for careers guidance.  The government will continue to define in the careers statutory guidance that 'careers
consider careers guidance to refer to GBM8 - personalised guidance. Clarity would be really helpful going forward	guidance' refers to the full range of activity delivered under the eight Gatsby Benchmarks. This includes 'personal guidance' meetings between students and qualified careers advisers, delivered under Gatsby Benchmark 8.
With the current curriculum and assessment review taking place currently, is there joint thinking around the linking of careers to the curriculum?	Careers Division is working with colleagues supporting the review group leading the independent Curriculum and Assessment Review, to help ensure understanding of the links between our work and the review.
	The terms of reference for the Curriculum and Assessment Review state that the review will seek to deliver a curriculum that ensures children and young people leave compulsory education ready for life and ready for work, building the knowledge, skills and attributes young people need to thrive. The review will look at ensuring all young people aged 16-19 have access to rigorous and high-value qualifications and training that will give them the skills they need ensure they are ready for the changing workplace.
	We invited careers stakeholders to contribute to the review group's call for evidence which ran over the autumn term. The feedback received will help the review group to consider its next steps and recommendations.

What qualification level will be offered for CAs?	Our expectation is that careers advisers working with young people are qualified to Level 6.  Our statutory guidance sets out that the main qualifications for careers professionals are the Qualification in Career Guidance (QCG) (which replaced the earlier Diploma in Careers Guidance) and the Level 6 Diploma in Career Guidance and Development.
Re. Careers Advisers - who will actually employ these trained Careers Advisers?  What about independent careers advisors who work for the local EBPs, who can provide the support to Schools and Colleges?	It is schools and colleges responsibility to secure access to qualified careers advisers.  Some education providers choose to employ careers advisers directly, whilst others are employed by a third party provider or are self-employed (and are bought-in to provide personal guidance for pupils).  We are currently exploring options for training Careers Advisers in order to ensure that this helps schools and colleges secure appropriately qualified careers advisers.
The Education Select Committee Report shows that the cost of delivering all eight Gatsby Benchmark costs about £78k against the current spending of about £5k per school. With this in mind and the challenges shared by Career Leaders, how can we improve the gaps in the system under the current provision? (especially considering the commitment of two-weeks' worth of work experience by the government)  Given that Baroness Smith stated that high-quality careers advice was at the heart of the mission - I can't help but notice that there is nothing in the future offer (slide 21) around supporting schools to fund this.	We recognise the demands placed on Careers Leaders and the challenge of securing delivery against the Gatsby Benchmarks.  We are committed to helping alleviate some of these pressures through our offer of careers support for schools and colleges and we are keen to hear from suppliers what national, local and digital solutions could help achieve this and have the biggest impact within a tight fiscal climate.  We are especially keen to hear views on what support government could put in place to support the delivery of the commitment on two weeks' worth of work experience.  All future spending commitments will be dependent on the outcome of future spending review settlements.

I attended a school last week delivering an ASK programme assembly to Year 10s. At the end, the head of year reminded students that they need find their own work experience opportunities and waved a form at them to remind them that they need to ensure that their placement employer have insurance in place covering work experience. Should we really be expecting Year 10 students to be doing this?	Currently, our statutory guidance makes clear that schools should support every student to have first-hand experiences of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities, and expand their networks.  The Government's commitment is to ensure that every young person receives two weeks' worth of work experience by the end of their secondary education, and we expect this to have a focus on multiple, targeted and variable workplace experiences, regardless of background, circumstance and networks.  We welcome views on how future government funded support could help schools, colleges and young people to secure appropriate work experience, including how such support could reduce reliance on family networks and reduce the burden on schools and employers.
Will virtual work experience be included within the 10 days?	We expect the one week's worth of work experience in Key Stage 4 (years 10-11) to be inperson, wherever possible, to allow students to experience a real working environment and learn first-hand the work-based skills and behaviours.  However, we expect further flexibility for work experience delivered in KS3 (years 7 to 9) where in-person activities may be supplemented with hybrid or virtual experiences where this can add value.  We are particularly interested to hear from suppliers about mechanisms for delivering high quality virtual and hybrid work experience which promotes access for all (including for those facing additional barriers, and to supplement in-person experiences for young people in years 7-9).
What about those who are EHE?  Have you considered the needs of the growing number of young people who are home educated?	Currently, young people who are home educated can access direct advice and information from the National Careers Service via webchat/phoneline.  However, we are interested in views for how we can further improve careers support for this group of young people and potential mechanisms for doing so.

Supported Internships aren't mentioned in 4 - is this intentional?	Objective 4 (as described in the webinar) refers to the objective to raise awareness, and increase take-up, of vocational and technical options and promote parity of esteem with academic routes.  Supported Internships are an important work-based programme to help support young people with SEND into sustained, paid employment and form one of the range of different vocational and technical pathways available for young people.
	We will therefore expect awareness raising of this pathway to be included under objective 4 (alongside other vocational and technical options).
This is the key point, the expectation on employers to provide work experience for this and also T levels is huge. In our Borough 99% of businesses are small or micro, so supporting work experience impacts on business productivity. Has this been considered and how can we enable businesses to be able to be involved without it having a negative financial impact?	We recognise that employers of all sizes are critical to the successful provision of work experiences for young people and we need to consider and minimise the burdens on employers.  We are expecting the model of two weeks' worth of work experience through a young person's secondary education to provide greater flexibility than the traditional block placement.
	However, we are interested in ideas for how we could help reduce the burden on employers and support small employers to engage.
Do you have any data on the completion/achievement of apprenticeships undertaken by YP. Any developments from the previous gov target to get this up to 67%?	The proportion of apprentices who achieved their apprenticeship standard rose to 54.3% in 2022/23, up 2.9 percentage points on 2021/22.  For young people specifically, we have seen year on year improvements, with the achievement rate higher still, at 55.9% for 16 to 18 year old apprentices; and 58.5% for 19 to
	23 year old apprentices.  You can find more detail in the following publication: Apprenticeship achievements: an update for the sector 2024. See the full URL here: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65fae9d1aa9b76001dfbdbd7/Apprenticeship a chievement_rate_sector_update_2024.pdf

	The Academic year 2023/24 release of Apprenticeships has now been published on the Explore Education Statistics service. The link can be found here - Apprenticeships, Academic year 2023/24 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK. See the full URL here: https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/apprenticeships/2023-24  This release shows full-year data on apprenticeships in England for the 2023/24 academic year covering the period August 2023 to July 2024 (based on data returned by providers in October 2024).  Apprenticeship achievements increased by 9.8% to 178,220 compared to 162,320 last year.
What is your definition of Local ? Trying to get a sense of how many hubs you are expecting to see set up.	Currently, the local provision is delivered through a network of 44 Careers Hubs.  The number of schools and colleges in each hub area varies depending on the region.  However, we are keen to hear views on whether the current scale of 'locality' for Careers Hubs should be maintained or adjusted in the future.
Has the DfE mapped or taken into account the continued NEET prevention, careers advice and NEET tracking teams that some local authorities have sustained within education settings and continued to deliver since the demise of Connexions? This government has shown a greater awareness of delivery of the same types of activity by different government departments and tiers of government (particularly for example in adult careers / employment support between DfE, DWP, and local authorities via UKSPF), but has this YP careers advice resource been considered in your research and analysis?	The current Careers Hub model is delivered through a partnership between the CEC and local authorities.  Our expectation is that Careers Hubs should play an important role in ensuring alignment of locally and nationally driven support which serves to support young people to make education, training and employment choices.  We are keen to ensure that the future offer enhances the impact of a broad range of activity by local government and other partners, as well as helping to ensure a level of consistency of support across the country.  We are engaging with local government to inform our policy development and to help understand the challenges and opportunities.

will you expect use of AI to be fundamental to all of the digital work or will you call it out explicitly in terms of expectations of where to use it?

In our October 2023 market engagement, we sought views from the market on how we could best integrate AI into our future digital offer.

We continue to be interested in views from suppliers for how AI, among other innovative technical solutions, can enhance the digital aspect of the future offer and where this can add value.