

*County Council Meeting – 19 July 2011*

**STATEMENTS/UPDATES BY CABINET MEMBERS**

**Surrey County Council Apprenticeship Scheme**

The SCC Apprenticeship has now established itself as one of the fastest growing in the SE region public sector. We currently have 42 apprentices in Surrey County Council and a total of 57 apprenticeship starts since May 2009 (5 of these are Looked After Children). We will be setting targets to increase this level for the county, as well as for districts and boroughs, under the Surrey First initiative. In summary, from the 57 apprentices:-

- 42 are currently in formal learning
- 5 have been successful in securing full time employment, 3 of which are with Surrey County Council
- 5 have secured bank contracts within Surrey County Council's Surrey Outward Learning and Development (SOLD) Team
- 5 have withdrawn and did not complete the full framework

For those who achieve their intermediate level (2) apprenticeship we offer progression pathways to an advanced level (3). We also provide some opportunities directly into advanced apprenticeships vacancies, for those that have already gained prior substantial work experience in the relevant sector. The apprenticeships include Business and Administration, Customer Service, Youth Work, IT, Health and Social Care, Active Leisure and Learning. Our apprentices are employed on a flat rate fixed term training contract (usually for 12 months) with two pay grades, Year 1 - £10,201 and year 2 - £11,701.

We recruit into an Apprenticeship Talent Pool and fill our vacancies as they arise to prevent regular time-consuming and costly recruitment processes. Due to recent successes we have recently held a second round of short listing and interviewing. We are currently recruiting into 11 business administrative vacancies to be filled by early August.

From October 2011, we are planning to appoint 10 Health and Social Care Apprentices on a 1 year fixed term contract. This coincides with a campaign driven by the Head of 14-19 Commissioning Services called "200 apprenticeships in 100 days".....

**Apprenticeship campaign "Surrey 200"**

Surrey County Council is promoting the importance of apprenticeships in the light of recent Government announcements and the increased commitment to boost the number of apprentices in the private and public sectors. We have set a bold target for our campaign, namely 200 apprenticeships in 100 days for the whole of

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the county. This campaign is due to start on 27 September 2011 and will run to 17 February 2012 one week after the National Apprenticeship week (Project lead - the Partnership Manager, Commissioning).

**Surrey First**

Leaders and Chief Executives in Surrey Local Authorities have recognised the importance of apprenticeships. Under the Surrey First initiative we are developing a strategy to grow apprenticeships within authorities and will be setting appropriate targets. There is a recommendation for an initial overall target of 200 apprenticeships for all local authorities by October 2012 and it is expected that the County Council will achieve at least half this target alone (Project lead - Deputy Head of HR and Organisational Development).

**Tim Hall**

**Cabinet Member for Change and Efficiency**

**19 July 2011**