

25 March 2010		ITEM 5
Children's Service Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
POST 16 AND ATTAINMENT		
Portfolio Holder: Cllr Sue MacPherson, Cabinet Member for Children's Services		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Non-key	
Accountable Head of Service: Jay Mercer, Head of Children, Youth and Family Services		
Accountable Director: Jo Olsson, Corporate Director, Children, Education and Families		
This report is Public		
Purpose of Report: The purpose of this report is to provide supporting information, for Overview and Scrutiny to discuss current and future issues, relating to the provision and attainment of Post 16 Education within Thurrock including those related to 'Raising the Participation Age' (RPA). The views of Members at Overview and Scrutiny will inform the 2010 refresh of the 14-19 Education Plan.		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report has come to Overview and Scrutiny to inform discussion on current and future issues relating to Post 16 Education in Thurrock. The report covers the Raising the Participation Age (RPA) agenda, Apprenticeships, Post 16 Destinations and Post 16 Attainment. These are priorities for the LA, as on March 31st 2010 the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) will cease to exist and the Local Authority will take on the role of commissioner of Post 16 Education and Training. Included in this are the issues around improving standards, reducing the number of young people not in education, employment and training, the overspend on the capital funding pot of the Learning and Skills Council for post sixteen provision and the provision of sufficient places for students to meet RPA.

The 14-19 Education Plan, first agreed by Cabinet in July 2008 and updated through the Portfolio Holder in July 2009, highlighted the need to improve attainment, broaden the curriculum and introduce facilities for the delivery of the new Diplomas

and other courses. It contains a sub-plan with actions for implementing 16-19 transition arrangements.

This report and the minutes arising from discussions at Overview and Scrutiny will inform the refresh of the 14-19 Education Plan due to begin in April 2010.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny are asked to consider and comment on the main issues that are current and developing in the provision of Post 16 Education in Thurrock. The comments arising from the meeting will support the development of a strategy to raise participation and improve outcomes for local young people.**

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

The Raising of the Participation Age (RPA)

- 2.1 The Education and Skills Act of 2008 sets out the duty for all young people under 18, resident in England and without Level 3 qualifications to participate in some form of learning until they are 18. This duty will be introduced in phases. This will apply to all young people who are 17 in 2013 and to those 18 in 2015. This initiative is known as 'Raising the Participation Age (RPA)'.
- 2.2. The duty is to participate in
- Full time education
 - Work Based Learning e.g. Apprenticeship
 - Part time accredited learning of around a day per week if in employment or volunteering full time for at least 20 hours per week
- 2.3. Further information and the issues around RPA are set out in Appendix A

Apprenticeships

- 2.4 In Thurrock, Apprenticeships will be a key part of the offer to drive improvements in participation in education and training as RPA is phased in. Our local Connexions staff, schools and colleges have worked hard to reduce NEET in the current economic climate where NEET has risen in other areas. The proportion of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) in Thurrock currently stands at 6.6% which is below the 'Stretched' Thurrock Local Area Agreement (LAA) NEET Target and 0.6% below the figure for the same period last year.

- 2.5 The Local Authority are working with employers, the newly established National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) and training providers to develop a much improved Apprenticeship offer and recognise the importance of generating opportunities in the public sector. Many of our young people would prefer to build skills and knowledge through the Work Based Training route. Locally we recognise the demand for Apprenticeships and aim to see one in five young people participating in Apprenticeships by 2020, in line with national targets. This will present a significant challenge. High quality Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) will support learners to understand the progression opportunities from this learning pathway.
- 2.6 More information on the Apprenticeship agenda is set out in Appendix B

Conclusions

- 2.7 It is in the economic interest of Thurrock and our young people for us to achieve significant growth in Apprenticeship opportunities. Increasing participation through Apprenticeships will reduce NEET and improve long term outcomes.

This will be achieved through:

- Increasing the awareness of the Apprenticeship pathway across Thurrock
- Work with the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) to grow capacity in the provider base and support providers to build on improvements in achievements;
- In partnership with NAS stimulate increased employer demand for apprentices
- Focus on locally identified priority sectors such as public sector, logistics, and construction
- Take account of current local and regional economic development activity and future skills needs.
- Encourage providers to start a programme in-year i.e. January or April as well as in September.
- The Local Authority as an employer, IAG provider and facilitator of places through commissioning with funding has a significant role in increasing the potential number of apprenticeship opportunities.

Post 16 Destinations - Colleges

- 2.8 Post-16 college education is provided by Palmer's College and South Essex College, established in January 2010 from the merger of South East Essex College and Thurrock and Basildon College.

- 2.9 It is intended that South Essex College in Thurrock will eventually engage around 3,000 learners in daytime learning. Additional learning outside daytime hours will engage the local community and improve the flexibility of learning programmes to increase the up-skilling of the local workforce. The interim Thurrock Learning Campus opened in January 2009 offering new opportunities to learners in Thurrock.
- 2.10 South Essex College delivers programmes at the Woodview Campus and Thurrock Learning Campus for 14-16 (including pre NEET) through to Adult Learners and from Entry Level to Higher Education and Level 5 in most areas of learning. The College is a member of the NOVA Work Based Learning Consortium Thames Gateway and offers a range of Apprenticeships.
- 2.11 Palmer’s College is an outstanding sixth form college holding Quality Improvement Agency (QIA) Beacon Status. The majority of Palmer’s students are drawn from the ten Thurrock partner schools. Most students are full-time 16-18 year olds of whom 92% follow a level 3 programme, approx two thirds A levels or AS level, one third BTEC Nationals. Some 12% of students are from ethnic minority backgrounds, a proportion well above that of the local population. Some 33% of students are in receipt of Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA).
- 2.12 The table below shows the current Post-16 learner numbers in colleges and the potential increase in numbers (data from Essex LSC)

	Numbers 09 /10	Overall Growth in Predicted numbers for future, if funding is available
Thurrock Learning Campus(TLC) South Essex College	400	3648 by 2011/12
Thurrock & Basildon College	2062	Learners move to South Essex College allocation
Palmer’s College	1954	2650 by 2015

Beacon Hill and Treetops Special Schools

- 2.13 Beacon Hill School offers places for students aged 16-19 with profound and multiple learning difficulties. Treetops School caters for students with moderate learning difficulties up to 19. Both schools are highly rated by Ofsted and provide for learners who might otherwise take up out of county placements. They provide a three-year sixth form programme and work in close cooperation with other post 16 providers in the borough.

Thurrock Adult Community College

- 2.14 This is a small local authority maintained Adult College for students aged 16+. The college is an accredited FE and Adult and Community Learning provider. The college currently has few learners in the 16-19 age group but the LSC has been working to increase the provision for vulnerable learners.

Post 16 Destinations - Schools

- 2.15 Gable Hall School is a High Performing School with a Specialism in Applied Learning resulting in a sixth form presumption. The Gable Hall sixth form was established in September 2009 in collaboration with St Clere's and Hassenbrook schools and it was agreed that the new sixth form would be called Stanford and Corringham Sixth Form Centre. In the view of the LSC this collaborative model, will in time, be likely to generate a financially viable 6th form enabling learners to be drawn from all three schools and elsewhere in Thurrock. The sixth form recruited 42 learners in September 2009 and has been allocated 100 learner, places by the LSC, from September 2010. The cost of establishing a 6th Form is considerable. For a traditional standalone sixth form to be financially viable and not be drawing resources from 11-16 learners in the school, it needs to recruit 200+ learners. This should be demonstrated by the end of the third year of operation.
- 2.16 Chafford Hundred School became a High Performing School with a Specialism in Applied Learning in September 2009. The DCSF advice indicates that there should be a strong presumption in favour of the approval of proposals for a new sixth form under presumption arrangements if:
- the school is a Specialist School that is assessed as meeting the criteria for "high-performing" as part of its specialist redesignation process
 - fewer than 20% of schools in the area have sixth forms, or
 - the overall 16-19 participation or attainment rates in the area are low (expected to be defined as below national average participation in full-time education and attainment at level 3, which would indicate a need for new school sixth form provision).
- 2.17 In normal circumstances the LSC would have funded capital developments resulting from sixth form presumptions. There is currently no 16-19 funding available from the LSC to support capital projects as expenditure from the capital pot far exceeded the money available such that many FE colleges and sixth forms across the country have had to put capital development plans on hold. It is unclear what if any funding will be available in future years.
- 2.18 There are two Academies in Thurrock. Both the Gateway Academy and Ormiston Park Academy can establish a post 16 curriculum offer. The Gateway Academy post 16 curriculum offer was opened in September

2009 and recruited 24 learners and has an LSC allocation of 80 learner places from September 2010. The school is working with Palmer's College to plan and implement its post 16 offer. Ormiston Park Academy will establish a post 16 curriculum offer in September 2010 and has proposed allocation of 50 learners from the LSC. Academies will receive their sixth form funding from the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA) from April 2010.

- 2.19 In our 14-19 Education Plan it is made clear that in Thurrock we are determined to drive up attainment as well as increasing learning opportunities and broadening the curriculum offer post 16.

Post 16 Attainment

- 2.20 The information below is derived from factual comparisons with national benchmarks as they are currently. The evidence is taken from DCSF statistics or Data Services Information, with the exception of the following:

- The Sixth Form Review Report of Stanford and Corringham Sixth Form, November 2009
- Palmer's College L2 report 2008-09 cohort both undertaken by Learning Plus UK on behalf of the Thurrock 14-19 Strategic Partnership.

Level 2 (equivalent to 5 A*-C grades at GCSE)

- 2.21 In 2008, 65% of Thurrock learners gained L2 by age 19 compared with 76.7% nationally. This puts Thurrock into Band 5 (lowest band) of DCSF mapping of L2 at age 19. There is a trend towards improvement from 2005 to 2008 (58% to 65%). The gap between the Thurrock trend at L2 at 19 and the national trend L2 by 19 has not significantly narrowed over the previous 4 years but it is predicted that the much improved Key Stage 4 results in Summer 2009 will bring Thurrock in line with national figures in 2012 when those learners reach 19.
- 2.22 There is a 33% attainment gap between pupils receiving Free School Meals (FSM), and non FSM pupils completing L2 by age 19. This puts Thurrock at 143 out of 148 Local Authorities. These figures reflect poor achievement in this group of learners throughout secondary school.
- 2.23 At KS4 there is a trend of improvement between 2006 and 2009 from 38.5% gaining 5A*-C grades including English and mathematics in 2006, to 46.6% in 2009. The trend gap between Thurrock and national figures has narrowed by about 2% points. Some schools show a remarkable trend of improvement for 5A*-C grades including English and mathematics, for example, Chafford Hundred amongst others and the gap is narrowing between those schools with the lowest and

highest percentage. Of the 1845 pupils at the end of KS4 in Thurrock (2009) 872 gained 5 A*-C grades including English and mathematics and 973 did not. Of the 1845 pupils at the end of KS4 in Thurrock (2009) 1471 gained the equivalent of 5A*-C grades (L2 equivalent) and 374 did not.

Issues for consideration

- 2.24 The LSC ceases to exist as from the 31st March 2010 and LAs will take on the responsibility for commissioning post 16 education from April 1st 2010. In Thurrock we will be working with partners Essex and Southend across the sub-regional group to ensure that learners who do not have English and mathematics to at least C grade at GCSE (Level 2) are supported to acquire them. Evidence clearly demonstrates the importance of these qualifications for success at Level 3 by 19. We will challenge providers to offer appropriate programmes of study to achieve this outcome.
- 2.25 The LA will do more to ensure that schools identify pupils on Free School Meals (FSM) at an early age and provide support and tracking to ensure that improved Level 2 outcomes are achieved by age 19. Level 2 is the benchmark for employment opportunities and the LA must ensure that deprivation is not a barrier to future economic wellbeing. We will commission schools and colleges to provide an appropriate curriculum to achieve this and improve literacy and numeracy levels.
- 2.26 We will ensure that the remarkable improvements at Key Stage 4 are sufficient in and of themselves to generate sustained improvement in gaining Level 2 by 19, and also equip learners for Level 3 programmes with higher level literacy and numeracy skills
- 2.27 Working through the 14-19 Education Plan we will drive up improvements in Information, Advice and Guidance, curriculum design, and teaching and learning to provide the right mix of opportunities for learners across Thurrock.

Level 3 (equivalent to 2 A level passes)

- 2.28 In 2008 38% of Thurrock learners gained a Level 3 by age 19 against 49.8% nationally. This puts Thurrock into Band 5 (the lowest band) of the DCSF mapping of Level 3 achievement 16-19. There is a trend towards improvement from 2005 to 2008 - 32% to 38% of Thurrock young people achieving Level 3 by 19 but we recognise that the gap between the Thurrock average and national average has not narrowed significantly.

- 2.29 There is a 28% attainment gap between learners who received Free School Meals (FSM) and non FSM learners gaining a level 3 by age 19. This ranks Thurrock 95 out of 148 local authorities.
- 2.30 All Advanced Level pass grades are awarded points. The average Advanced Level points score per student in 2009 for Thurrock was 635.9 against a national average of 713 points (provisional data). This puts Thurrock in the lowest band against other local authorities in the East of England Government Office region. The average points score per examination entry in 2009 for Thurrock was 201.9 against a national average of 213 (provisional data). This ranks Thurrock 9 out of 11 local authorities in the East of England region. There were significant differences between the two main 16-19 providers in Thurrock in terms of the average points score per student, per examination and contextual value added (CVA).
- 2.31 Value added outcomes are in line with or a little above the national average for learners on all Level 3 courses at Palmer's College. An analysis of Level 2 outcomes at Palmer's College for 2008-09 shows that LSC indicator, 'Success Rates', as well as value added outcomes are high in comparison with similar learners elsewhere in the country.

Points for consideration

2.32

- There are learners that need a supportive and tailored Post 16 offer that school sixth forms can provide to enable them to complete a Level 3 by age 19.
- Learners who do not have English and mathematics to at least C grade at GCSE need to be supported in order to acquire them in a systematic way alongside the Level 3 programmes they are following.
- Schools and colleges must implement measures to narrow the gap between learners who received Free School Meals and non FSM learners.
- "Non-traditional" Post 16 students need an appropriate curriculum offer that includes very close support. These students may find it more difficult initially to thrive in a large College setting. Specially-designed programmes and resources need to be put in place to ensure their success.
- The processes of Information, Advice and Guidance, curriculum design, and teaching and learning need to be shaped to meet the need of all learners in Thurrock in line with the Raising the Participation Age phasing.

- As commissioner of 16-19 education the LA must put in place an appropriate offer and set realistic targets to ensure that there is no gap between the Thurrock average and the national average for Level 3 at 19.

3. ISSUES AND/OR OPTIONS:

The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) legacy vision for Post 16 learning in Thurrock

- 3.1 The LSC will cease to function on 31st March 2010. The provision of the extra places originally planned by the LSC, including those from the result of the competition, will be adversely affected by the failure of the LSC capital programme to implement the projects expected to begin in 2009/10. These capital projects would have included South Essex College, Palmer's College and sixth form facilities for Stanford and Corringham Sixth Form Centre. More recently Chafford Hundred has been given a sixth form presumption and this, if approved, would have normally been expected to trigger capital funding from the LSC.
- 3.2 The potential shortfall of the learner places in Thurrock could mean that meeting the Raising of the Participation Age could be a challenge unless the infrastructural issues can be addressed by the target date of 2015.

In Conclusion.

- 3.3 Post 16 Education in Thurrock, in line with that of other local authorities, faces significant challenges in the next 5 years as we move towards the 'Raising the Participation Age'. We feel confident that our Strategy will improve outcomes for Thurrock young people. The 14-19 Strategic Partnership has in place clear plans which will drive the improvements in opportunities and attainment.

4. CONSULTATION (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 4.1 The 14-19 Strategic Partnership, Schools, Colleges,
4.2 Portfolio Holder, Councillor Sue MacPherson.
4.3 Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE POLICIES, PRIORITIES, PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

5.1 This discussion will inform the refresh of the Thurrock 14-19 Education Plan, previously agreed by Cabinet.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Yannick Stupples-Whyley**
 Telephone and email: **01375 652532**
ystupples-whyley@thurrock.gov.uk

Funding for learners 16-18 is allocated by the Young People's Learning Agency from 1st April 2010. Funding for the Stanford and Corringham Sixth Form Centre and Palmers College will be paid to the Council, which must pass on the funding to the relevant provider within seven days of receiving the funding.

6.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Kevin Colville**
 Telephone and email: **01375 652042**
kcolville@thurrock.gov.uk

The Raising of the Participation Age is covered by The Education and Skills Act 2008, the implementation of which is to be phased in (17 from 2013 rising to 18 from 2015). There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

6.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Samson DeAlyn**
 Telephone and email: **01375 652472**
sdealyn@thurrock.gov.uk

The Equality Impact assessment that was carried out on the 14-19 Education Plan highlights specific groups where actions need to be put in place to negate any negative impacts. The proportion of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) in Thurrock currently stands at 6.6% which is below the stretched Thurrock Local Area Agreement (LAA) NEET Target and 0.6% below the figure for the same period last year. In Thurrock, apprenticeships will be a key part of the offer to drive improvements in participation in education and training as RPA is phased in. It is in the economic interest of Thurrock and our young people for us to achieve

significant growth in Apprenticeship opportunities. Increasing participation through Apprenticeships will reduce NEET and improve long term outcomes.

It should be noted that the Post 16 curriculum will aim to ensure accessibility by children with disabilities. Equality legislation places a duty on public bodies to prevent discrimination in all aspects of service provision, including procurement. It provides a clear and positive legal duty to eliminate discrimination and ensure equality of opportunity. In commissioning and procuring places and facilities, procurement rules regarding equality and diversity will be followed.

6.4 Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Section 17, Risk Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Sustainability, IT, Environmental

See 14 -19 Education Plan

7. CONCLUSION

7.1 It is recommended that Children's Overview and Scrutiny discuss the developments and issues around the development and progress of Post 16 education in Thurrock to raise aspiration and bring about improved outcomes for learners.

BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT:

- 14 -19 Education Plan

APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT:

- **Appendix A:** Further information and the issues around RPA
- **Appendix B:** The differential uptake of Apprenticeships in different sectors

Report Author Contact Details:

Name: Linda Bostock

Telephone: 01375 413796

E-mail: lbostock@thurrock.gov.uk

Appendix A

Further information and the issues around RPA are set out below

- A1 In Thurrock we recognize the benefits to each young person, their family, employers, our community and the UK economy of achieving better skills. No longer can a young person leave school without qualifications and still be attractive to employers. We know that an individual with a Level 2 qualification, equivalent to 5A*-C grades at GCSE, will earn 25% more in their lifetime. There are also intergenerational benefits for the children of those who participate in education for longer. This means we must prevent young people disengaging from education and ensure they can access jobs with high quality training.
- A2 Reducing the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) is an economic and social imperative. There is overwhelming evidence of the negative consequences of leaving education or training at the age of 16. Such young people are disproportionately from poor families and there is a strong correlation between becoming NEET, engaging in risky behaviours and having poor health. Individuals who have been in the NEET group are more likely to commit crime and become a teenage parent. We also need to support young people into employment with accredited training as the outcomes for young people in jobs without training are not much better than for those in the NEET group.
- A3 In the past few years the schools in Thurrock have provided a broader range of exciting curriculum opportunities that have resulted in dramatic improvements in the number of young people who achieve 5A*-C at GCSE. Our schools and colleges have made a significant contribution to extending education and training opportunities to more young people for longer.
- A4 We recognize that we need to respond to the demands of a rapidly changing world and the local context of Thames Gateway developments so that our young people will be ready for the challenges of the 21st century.
- A5 We can only do this by working in partnership at every level – schools, colleges, employers, the community and the Local Authority.
- A6 In Thurrock we need to develop a more highly skilled workforce to compete nationally and internationally. By 2020 there will be three million fewer low skilled jobs in Britain. The current global economic climate makes competitiveness even more important. Better skills are a crucial part of meeting that challenge. We need to ensure that every young person is achieving throughout their education to 18 and beyond.

- A7 We must ensure that through Raising the Participation Age even greater numbers of young people achieve higher qualifications and skills, and progress on to further learning or employment at 18. The September Guarantee for school leavers enables all 16 and 17 year olds who want to stay in learning to have an offer of a place in sixth form, college, on an Apprenticeship or training by the end of the September they leave school.
- A8 We recognize that there is a lot to be done over the next three years before the first phase of RPA for 17 year olds in 2013. Under the September Guarantee, we have reduced NEET. Our NEET strategy now sits within the 14-19 Education Plan and is linked closely to the plans informing the development of the curriculum and engaging local employers.
- A9 Our current Engagement Programme and our developing Foundation Learning offer target young people at risk of disengaging. They are identified and supported to continue in their education. Parents also play a critical part in this and through our mentoring programme we support young people and their parents in deciding post-16 progression.
- A10 Young people tell us that one reason they drop out is that they are not engaged by learning that they do not see as relevant. As they progress through school and beyond, young people's learning opportunities need to be stimulating and stretching. Thurrock's 14-19 Strategic Partnership are working to develop further a collaborative offer around the four learning pathways of Diplomas, Foundation Learning, General Qualifications and Apprenticeships. This will provide a diverse offer for all young people, underpinned by transferable skills demonstrating their ability to use English, maths and ICT in the real world. Already some of this offer is delivered flexibly in a variety of settings, to meet the needs of vulnerable groups and to enable young people to learn in a work related environment. We are well supported in this by local employers.
- A11 Employers will continue to play a fundamental part in our work. They have a key role in supporting young people to access jobs with high quality training, ideally through Apprenticeships, and in contributing to the development of preparation programmes for Apprenticeships. In recent months we have been successful in obtaining more Apprenticeship opportunities in schools, Creative Partnerships, Impulse Leisure and through the Young Inspectors Programme, but we are aware of the work we have to do to provide Apprenticeship opportunities for 1 in 5 learners.
- A12 A recent audit of the work carried out by Youth and Connexions in Thurrock, by an external agency, identified the strengths we have around the provision of Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG). We need to continue to make sure that all staff working with young people

are aware of the options available, so that advice is of high quality and impartial.

- A13 The transfer to the local authority, from the LSC, of 16-19 participation funding and planning creates the opportunity to ensure that Thurrock has the capacity to support Raising the Participation Age. We are already working through our 14-19 Strategic Partnership to deliver an integrated, responsive and tailored offer to bring about improved outcomes for learners.
- A14 The Young People's Learning Agency have produced some projected figures for the 16-18 Thurrock resident cohort through to 2020. In Thurrock the 16-18 cohort of learners resident in Thurrock will increase in number to 2016 and decline slightly from 2018. As RPA is phased in, there will be a need for about a further 800 learner places. These projections do not take in to account any increase in the housing stock which might otherwise have the effect of raising the demand for places further. Some of these extra learners will be following Apprenticeship programmes, in employment, or volunteering. These learners will need only 1 day of provision per week.

Appendix B

B1 There is a differential in the uptake of Apprenticeships in different sectors.

Table 1: shows the take-up of Apprenticeships in the top five sectors by Thurrock residents.

Local Authority	Sector Framework	2007/08	
		2007/08	2008/09
Thurrock	Engineering	21	29
	Hairdressing	39	27
	Business Administration	17	24
	Construction	14	18
	Customer Services	16	17

Source: The Information Authority, Apprenticeship Cube, Starts, 16-18 year olds

B2 The Apprenticeships Vacancies Online System data for October 2009 shows that in Thurrock the largest number of applications per advert (all ages) by Thurrock residents were in the following areas:

- Business, Administration and Law (Business and Administration Framework -101 applications per advert)
- Health, Public Services & Care (Children’s Care, Learning and Development Framework with 61 applications per advert)
- Information and Communication Technology (IT and Telecoms Professionals Framework - 40 applications per advert).

B3 Table 2 below maps the local priority sectors against regional and national priority sectors. As the table shows, there is some commonality between the Thurrock, regional and national priorities.

Table 2

National	East of England	Thurrock
Public Sector (inc. Health & Education)	Health & Social Care	Public Sector
Logistics	Logistics	Logistics
Construction	Construction & the Built Environment	Construction
Financial services	--	--
Creative and Cultural	--	Creative & Media
Environmental Technology	--	--
Information Technology	--	ICT
Retail	--	Retail & Hospitality
--	Engineering & Manufacturing	Engineering