

**Council Report – March 2013 – University Applications  
Action Plan**

**Objective 1: Ensure all young people access appropriate information advice and guidance about higher education opportunities**

Action	Milestone	Lead	Completion Date	Outcomes
<p>Evaluate the current offer of IAG available to young people and establish its effectiveness</p> <p>Support heads of sixth form in dissemination data from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) on Key Information Sets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult with children and young people to assess their aspirations to higher education and any perceived barriers</li> <li>• Determine the key factors which motivate young people to apply for a university place and develop a programme of support to address any concerns</li> <li>• Work with Connexions staff to further enable young people to understand the importance of               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ selecting relevant GCSE subjects as a forerunner for post 16 qualifications</li> <li>○ selecting post 16 courses carefully</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Increase the number of Taster sessions at local universities for Years 10 and 12 students</li> <li>• Address the issue of oversubscription at Taster sessions with universities to ensure all young people who are eligible for a place can access one if they wish</li> <li>• Ensure all young people will have access to accurate information to make informed choices about universities in relation to: student satisfaction; outcomes; learning and teaching activities; assessment methods; tuition fees and student finance; accommodation and professional education</li> </ul>	<p>Head of Schools, Learning and Skills</p> <p>Senior Manager Connexions</p> <p>Higher Education Skills and Pathways Officer</p> <p>Post 16 Leadership Officer</p>	<p>Sept 2014</p>	<p>Young people will be well-informed about the opportunities available to them by pursuing a university or other level 4 course.</p> <p>Increased participation in enrichment activities will give young people 'real-life experiences' of university</p> <p>A greater number of young people will access enrichment activities and therefore widen the target group</p>

**Objective 2: ensure all schools provide a consistently good offer of enrichment activities to young people to encourage them to apply for higher education.**

Action	Milestone	Lead	Completion Date	Outcomes
<p>Establish the pattern of recruitment to higher education via locality and school and disseminate good practice where it exists</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with the Research and Intelligence team in liaison with secondary headteachers to provide an accurate picture of young people's current intentions</li> <li>• Agree with headteachers and heads of sixth form that current cohorts of young people should be regularly tracked and monitored to establish intentions</li> <li>• Implement regular updates at secondary head teachers and curriculum leaders meetings which focus on current situation for recruitment</li> <li>• Encourage all schools to have university awareness raising sessions at key stage 2 and 3</li> <li>• Support schools to achieve a position where all young people aspiring to university have at least one visit to a local or national university</li> <li>• Re-advertise to schools the support which is available to them to encourage young people to go on to university, via the School Improvement Service and monitor uptake</li> <li>• Explore the use of the bursary scheme to fund travel and accommodation costs for HE visits for year 12 and 13 students</li> <li>• Explore the possibility of establishing a North Tyneside Scheme supported financially by local businesses and other key partners to enable charitable donations to be offered to support widening participation</li> <li>• Provide a programme of support and challenge to those schools which do not participate fully in the enrichment opportunities</li> </ul>	<p>Head of Schools, Learning and Skills</p>	<p>December 2013</p>	<p>All young people eligible for higher education pathways will have experienced a range of programmes which will motivate them to consider a university place.</p> <p>The offer of enrichment activities will be consistent across the borough and the locality differences in progression to higher education will be reduced.</p>

<b>Objective 3: ensure parents and carers are fully aware of the opportunities available to young people who wish to apply for university places including any potential financial support</b>				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
<p>Review the current arrangements for informing parents and carers about the opportunities for young people to go into higher education</p> <p>Provide parents and carers and their children with the relevant financial details to enable them to understand what support is available if appropriate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor attendance of parents and carers at the events with a view to increasing numbers</li> <li>• Audit parents/ carers views about usefulness of events and what can be improved</li> <li>• Meet with local universities and student representatives to evaluate from their perspective</li> <li>• Develop a communication strategy which gives clear advice about the financial support that some young people will be eligible for including bursaries. For example, a data base of higher education bursaries, scholarships etc.</li> </ul>	<p>Joint leads of Higher Education Skills and Pathways Officer and Post -16 Leadership Officer</p>	<p>September 2013</p>	<p>Revised arrangements will lead to a more targeted approach to support parents and carers. Events will ensure full locality coverage.</p>
<b>Objective 4: ensure that all young adults who wish to pursue a university course but who are over 18 are well informed of what is available</b>				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
<p>Work with partners including Adult Learning Alliance, Tyne Metropolitan College, Job Centre Plus and any other relevant agency to develop a strategy to encourage young people beyond 18 into university as part of an all age careers offer.</p> <p>Provide adults with the relevant information about financial and other forms of support available.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet with Adult Learning Alliance Manager and Tyne Metropolitan Representative to establish key elements of draft strategy</li> <li>• Consult with wider partners to develop approach</li> <li>• Strategy developed</li> <li>• Develop a communication strategy which gives clear advice about the financial support some adults will be eligible for including bursaries. For example, a data base of higher education bursaries, scholarships etc.</li> </ul>	<p>Head of Schools Learning and Skills</p> <p>Adult Learning Alliance Manager</p>	<p>September 2013</p> <p>September 2013</p>	<p>Arrest the decline in the number of 20+ young people wishing to go to university</p> <p>Adults who wish to progress on to a university place can access financial support if they are eligible.</p>

**Objective 5: engage local universities to consider strengthening the partnership approach to progression into university**

Action	Milestone	Lead	Completion Date	Outcomes
Review the current partnership arrangement to establish how effectively joint objectives are delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agree with local universities to explore possible areas for further development of partnership work</li> <li>• Agree with North Tyneside Learning Trust that progression into higher education remains a long term priority</li> </ul>	Higher Education Skills and Pathways Officer / Post 16 Leadership Officer	March 2014	Increase in numbers applying for a university place, where a higher education pathway is appropriate including a wider participation from all localities