

**Council Report – June 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"> • Consult with children and young people to assess their aspirations to higher education and any perceived barriers • Determine the key factors which motivate young people to apply for a university place and develop a programme of support to address any concerns • Work with Connexions staff to further enable young people to understand the importance of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ selecting relevant GCSE subjects as a forerunner for post 16 qualifications ○ selecting post 16 courses carefully • Increase the number of Taster sessions at local universities for Years 10 and 12 students • 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 • 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 	<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"> • Work with the Research and Intelligence team in liaison with secondary headteachers to provide an accurate picture of young people's current intentions • Agree with headteachers and heads of sixth form that current cohorts of young people should be regularly tracked and monitored to establish intentions • Implement regular updates at secondary head teachers and curriculum leaders meetings which focus on current situation for recruitment • Encourage all schools to have university awareness raising sessions at key stage 2 and 3 • Support schools to achieve a position where all young people aspiring to university have at least one visit to a local or national university • 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 • Explore the use of the bursary scheme to fund travel and accommodation costs for HE visits for year 12 and 13 students • 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 • Provide a programme of support and challenge to those schools which do not participate fully in the enrichment opportunities 	<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>

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

Action	Milestone	Lead	Completion Date	Outcomes
<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"> Monitor attendance of parents and carers at the events with a view to increasing numbers Audit parents/ carers views about usefulness of events and what can be improved Meet with local universities and student representatives to evaluate from their perspective 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. 	<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>

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

Action	Milestone	Lead	Completion Date	Outcomes
<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"> Meet with Adult Learning Alliance Manager and Tyne Metropolitan Representative to establish key elements of draft strategy Consult with wider partners to develop approach Strategy developed 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. 	<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"> • Agree with local universities to explore possible areas for further development of partnership work • Agree with North Tyneside Learning Trust that progression into higher education remains a long term priority 	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