

# **THE STUDENT JOURNEY SELECT COMMITTEE**

## **Hearing 4**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2011**

### **Witness Guide for Members**

*Below are suggested themes and questions. They have been provided in advance to the witnesses to allow them to prepare for the types of issues that Members may be interested to explore. All Members are welcome to ask these questions or pose additional ones to the witnesses via the Committee Chairman.*

### **Themes and Questions**

#### **Paul Barron, Director, Kent Foundation**

- Please introduce yourself and outline the roles and responsibilities that your post involves.
- What is the Kent Foundation and what are its objectives?
- Please provide data in relation to young people and self-employment in Kent.
- What are the barriers and enablers for young people who want to set up their own business in Kent? What are the conclusions of the “EmPOWER” report?
- To what extent, in your view, do learning and skills providers in Kent prepare young people for work?
- To what extent, in your view, do vocational training, apprenticeships and work experience schemes meet local labour market needs and the expectations of growth industries in Kent?
- In your opinion, are additional or different training schemes, courses and qualifications needed to prepare young people for work and to meet employers’ labour needs?
- Please discuss the findings of the “EnCourage” survey, and of the “Making the Journey from Student to Entrepreneur” report.
- Please discuss the effectiveness of current partnerships between local employers, educators and other skills providers in preparing young people for the world of work.

- Please inform the Select Committee of any policy changes at national level that have relevance in this review and that can impact on the educational and employment opportunities and choices of young people in Kent.
- Are there any other issues, with relevance to the review, which you would like to raise with the Committee?