

APPRENTICESHIPS SELECT COMMITTEE

Hearing 3

Tuesday 22 January 2013

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

Penny Denne, Skills and Employability Programmes Officer, Skills and Employability Service, Kent County Council.

- Please introduce yourself and provide an overview of your roles and responsibilities.
- Who are the vulnerable learners in Kent? How many young people in the County are classified as “vulnerable learners”?
- In your view, what are the current challenges facing the world of apprenticeships?
- What, if any, are the difficulties for vulnerable learners in accessing apprenticeship schemes?
- What more can be done to support vulnerable learners in accessing apprenticeships in Kent?
- In your view, how effective is the careers information, advice and guidance (IAG) currently provided to vulnerable learners within schools?
- In your opinion, how well do current apprenticeship qualifications prepare vulnerable learners for the world of work?
- In what ways – if any – can Kent County Council improve the quality and provision of apprenticeships in Kent? What can KCC do to increase the number of employers offering apprenticeships in Kent? What can KCC do to increase the number of young people - and vulnerable learners in particular - taking on apprenticeships in Kent?