

CENTRAL SERVICES CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Agenda Item 24

Brighton & Hove City Council

The following question has been received from Councillors and will be taken as read along with the written answer to be circulated at the meeting. The Councillor asking the question may then ask one relevant supplementary question, which shall be put and answered without discussion.

a) Councillor Turton

At the Enterprise, Employment and Major Projects Cabinet Member Meeting held on 10 June 2009, Councillor Turton asked if any of the new eco apprenticeships were behind the council's agenda and asked whether the opportunities of the Memorandum of Understanding (between the City Council and the National Apprenticeship Service) would enable the active encouragement of eco apprenticeships.

Response from Councillor Fallon-Khan, Cabinet Member for Central Services

There are over 180 different types of Apprenticeship available and these cover a range of potential 'Eco Apprenticeships' in Amenity Horticulture, Environmental Conservation, Construction, Planning and the Built Environment and Engineering/Manufacturing. City College Brighton & Hove, the Friends Centre and two Universities are planning to arrange a meeting in response to the Commission's report exploring the potential skills requirements of the Green Sector in the city to ensure that the city's providers can meet the requirements of existing and new Green sector employers in the city and wider sub-region. This will explore some of the innovative practice already in place at colleges such as Kingston College and Carshalton College which, in February 2009, opened a Power Centre that provides training in a range of emerging industries including Solar Heating (see <http://www.kingston-college.ac.uk/news/4/70/a-powerful-alliance.html?arc=2/2009>).

The city is particularly keen to explore Level 1-3 provision with Friends looking at 'preparation for' courses. This will all feed into the BRII (Business Retention and Inward Investment Strategy) plan to ensure that we have an agreed way forward on developing and providing these emerging training opportunities that can be included in any negotiations the Economic Development Team and wider BHCC departments may have with new/existing employers in these sectors.