

## **Education and Lifelong Learning Committee**

### **Careers Wales Draft Corporate Plan 2002-05**

#### **i. Purpose**

To provide the Committee with the opportunity to comment on Careers Wales Draft Corporate Plan for the period 2002-05.

#### **ii. Timing**

The Careers Wales Association (CWA) is in the process of consultation with a wide range of key partners at both local and national level. These are detailed at Annex 1. This consultation period will close on 31 January 2002.

#### **iii. Background**

The Education and Training Action Plan (ETAP) recommended that Careers Wales be established as an all-age careers information, advice and guidance service. Building on the existing careers service companies, Careers Wales was designed to give coherence to the services provided by careers services and Training and Enterprise Councils by bringing together the statutory service for young people, the Adult Guidance Initiative, including the helpline service Learndirect, Education Business links activities such as work-experience, enterprise-awareness and employer-mentoring, and the Youth Gateway.

Careers Wales was launched on 1 April 2001. The major strategic planning objectives for this first year of operation are to: ensure effective business-as-usual for the range of the transferred services; help young people make a successful transition from education to employment; foster a positive approach to learning amongst those young people at risk of disengagement; and encourage people at all stages of their life to enhance their skills and knowledge. In addition, the seven independent Careers Wales companies are tasked with developing common quality standards across Wales.

The Learning Country Paving Document has added to the expectations set-out for Careers Wales in ETAP: to make demonstrably better use of resources; publish far more rigorous data on outcomes; develop interactive ICT-based methods; communicate and market more effectively; extend common standards under the brand; conduct staff development more

inclusively and rationalise organisationally to deliver effectively at both local and national level.

Funds available to Careers Wales will increase by around £4 million for 2002-03 (some 14%) and a further £2 million in 2003-04. In their 2002-03 business plans Careers Wales companies will be expected to increase significantly services available to both adults and young people. Companies are also working together to explore the potential for an all-Wales inter-active Website – Careers Wales Online - that will provide greater access to a range of interactive services tailored to a wide range of client groups. Careers Wales will also work closely with Young People's Partnerships to ensure that services provided meet the particular needs of young people in each partnership area.

The Careers Wales Draft Corporate Plan comprises the CWA's vision of the unifying strategic aims and values of the local companies developed to meet the aims and expectations set-out in ETAP and The Learning Country. The 7 Careers Wales companies will continue to operate as independent local companies with no hierarchical structure. Each company contracts separately with the Assembly each year on the basis of a detailed business plan.

#### **iv Compliance**

Sections 2 and 8-10 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 provide the statutory basis for Careers Wales services. These have been transferred to the National Assembly for Wales and delegated to the Minister for Education and Life-Long Learning. There are no issues of regularity or propriety.

#### **v. Financial Implications**

There are no additional financial implications for the Assembly as a result of this paper.

#### **vi. Contact Point**

Mike Moss

Training, Skills and Careers Policy Division (TSCP1)

**Annex 1**

## **CORPORATE PLAN – CONSULTEES**

### **National Organisations**

ACCAC AWEMA

Basic Skills Agency Business in the Community

Canllaw Online CBI Wales

Chwarae Teg Commission for Racial Equality

Digital College Disability Wales

ELWa Equal Opportunities Commission

Employment Service ESTYN

FEDA Federation of Small Businesses

FFORWM HEFCW

Institute of Careers Guidance Llais Ifanc

NACGT NIACE (Cymru)

NCH Cymru NTO Wales

Princes Trust RNIB

RNID TUC (Cymru)

UFI Wales Wales Youth Agency

WDA WLGA

WAYC WCVA

Young Enterprise Wales

**National Assembly for Wales**

Training Skills Careers Policy

ELL Committee Members

Chairs of all Assembly Committees

Office of the Secretary of State for Wales

### **Local Distribution**

All Secondary Schools

Colleges of Further Education

Voluntary organisations

Training Providers

Education Business Partnerships

Local Authorities