

Lifelong Learning & Belonging Strategic Plan

People and Families Scrutiny Committee

9th March 2023

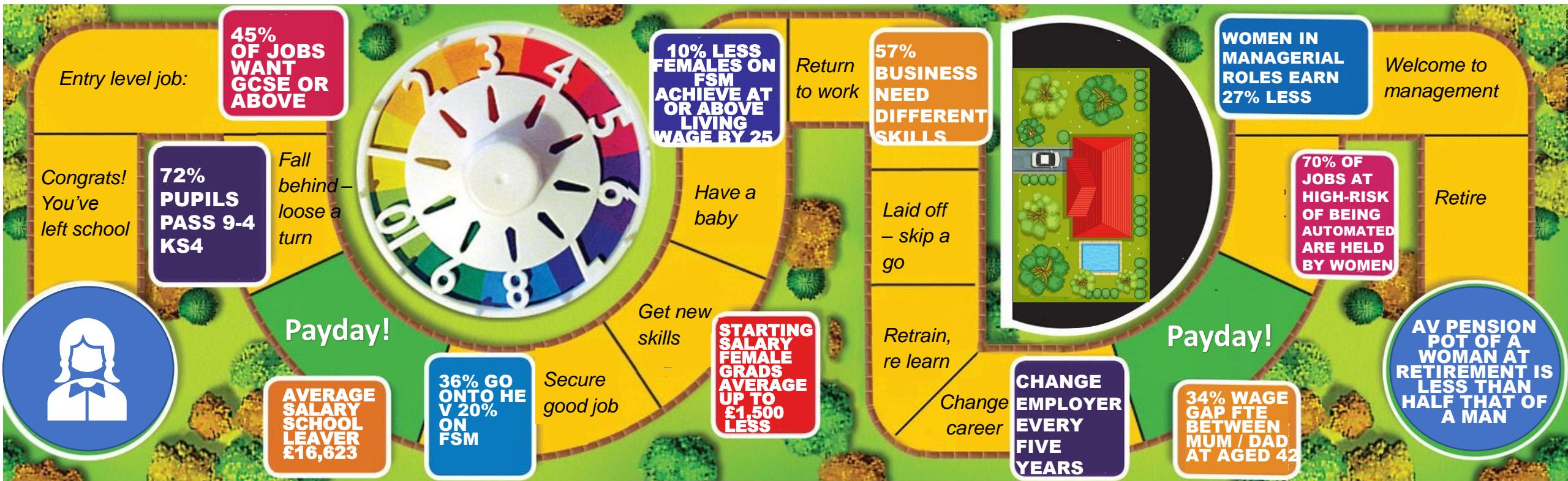
Cllr Tony Ball

Cabinet Member for Education Excellence,

Lifelong Learning and Employability

ECC is committed to Lifelong Learning

to improve prosperity for Essex residences and businesses



*for women who have first child before 33

Lifelong Learning & Belonging – WHY?

Our Strategic Approach for delivering Skills and Employability Services to Employers, Residents and Providers

Why include Belonging? “stay local – go further” (rather than leave to achieve)

Belonging is a key outcome we want to prioritise in Education, Excellence and Lifelong Learning and Employability over the next couple of years. Belonging is one of the core values/pillars of TPP**

- It is an essential part of effective SEND/Inclusion practice
- It is an essential need for helping disadvantaged make more progress
- It should be at the heart of social inclusion practices and culture (celebrating diversity) in school
- It helps connection to wider issues such as climate change and can engender positive actions and reduce anxieties.
- **It supports a more flexible approach to progression – the ability to be supported with a 2nd, 3rd, 4th chance e.g. no-one left behind or branded a failure at 16, and later in adulthood.**

‘Belonging—The Heart of School Life... Schools (and education at large) which are places of belonging are great places to be—for adults and young people. They foster the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of children and young people. Staff who work there know they can make a difference.’

Kathryn Riley, Professor of Urban Education, UCL, Institute of Education

Inclusion should be a key consideration in all approaches

Portfolio context *strands* (since 2022 review)

Lifelong learning (LLL) covers learning from Early Years to Further Years, incorporating Early Years settings (0-5) schools (5-16), the FE and HE sectors and adult learning (16+). Lifelong learning encourages positive outcomes for individuals, communities, the environment and the economy. On the individual level, participation in learning activities has been shown to improve life satisfaction, health and well-being and self-confidence.

Which functions are in the portfolio?

- Anchors (public bodies, charities, others)
- Adult Community Learning
- Education (including specialist education)
- Employability & Skills
- Linked with Sector development

NB In the context of potential Devolution, we have a strategic eye on Skills beyond ECC's role- as a tool for economic development- where greater impact/pace may be derived through greater collaboration.

Linked functions include: Youth Service, Children & Families, Adult Social Care & Active Essex.

Everyone's Essex

- Education Outcomes
- Levelling Up
- Green/Net Zero imperatives
- Family Resilience and Stability

Collaborate and work in partnership with the organisations/groups below to deliver the programme outcomes.

- Local authorities- particularly priority localities
- Education Providers
- Anchor institutions
- Other key Essex employers
- Local Skills Improvement Plan- industry led

Good Jobs/Good Growth

- Increasing skills & employability- incl. upskilling, reskilling
- Focus on skills interventions to target economic development to areas of opportunity
- Levelling Up ambitions
- Green growth
- Integration with Sector Development Strategy- priority sectors

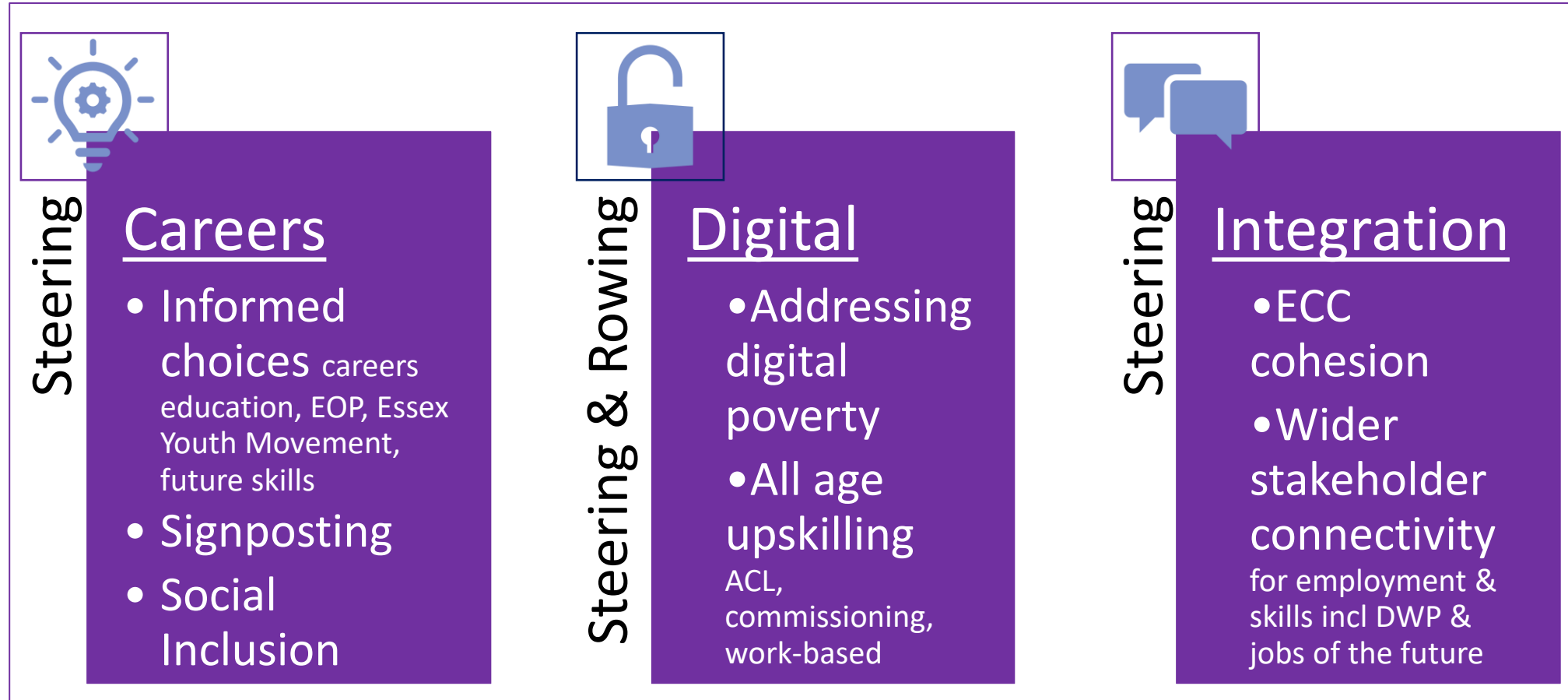
Collaborate and work in partnership to deliver Employability & Skills ambitions.

- Partners in ACL, Education, Sustainable Growth and Sector Development
- District and Borough Councils across Essex
- Schools/Education Partnerships
- Business Groups
- Freeports
- South Essex Technical University (ASELA)

So what does this mean for the EELLE Portfolio?

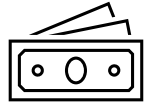
For Education...	<p>Greater focus needed on informed careers education</p> <p>Need to raise attainment at 16 so more students can progress to L3 courses (especially vulnerable groups)</p>	<p>Statutory services</p> <p>Inclusion</p> <p>Driving achievement & progression</p>	<p>Continued drive to Level Up- address inequalities and social inclusion</p>  <p>Essex County Council</p>
For ACL...	<p>Ongoing refinement to the place-based curriculum offer- new/ growing career pathways & first step community based education</p>	<p>Continued focus on Levelling Up areas</p> <p>Supporting skills deficits for both residents and businesses</p>	
For Employability & Skills	<p>A more strategic approach to investment in initiatives- more depth for greater impact, locality and industry growth/career-driven- with greater sustainability</p>	<p>Maintain & grow Essex Opportunities Portal and Apprenticeship brokerage</p>	

HOW & WHERE can ECC have the MOST IMPACT?



ECC WORKFORCE PLANNING INSIGHT- working with Anchors & other employers in Essex to STEER on WHAT is needed, WHERE & WHEN- now & future

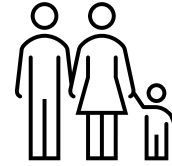
Everyone's Essex requires more ECC cohesion on Skills & Employability



Economy



Environment



Children and families



Health, care and wellbeing

Bring together the work of ECC Teams in **Education, Excellence, Lifelong Learning and Employability** and support Everyone's Essex, ensuring **Lifelong Learning and Belonging**

Identify and manage **partnerships and collaborations** with other partners and stakeholders outside ECC

Identify the **workstreams** that are happening in the next 1-2 financial years

Identify support for **particular vulnerable groups** to support their Lifelong Learning and Belonging

Identify where **funding has been secured** from where and what additional funding might be identified.

Measuring progress and impact of the **workstreams/ project & identify gaps & collaborative opportunities**. To be measured at Portfolio Board.

“Project Jigsaw” is an internal Transformation Project which has been commissioned by the Skills and Employability Team to understand ECC’s current offer and bring cohesion to the Service received by Employers and Residents. We are using existing resources alongside Service Design support to achieve this.

ECC- Escalator of opportunity- our **iterative** stepped approach

Essex Skills Plan/ LSIP

Essex Opportunities

HOP ON/ HOP OFF

IN WORK

- Skills bootcamps for those in work to progress
- Signposting to in work training
- Opportunity to create local version of education landscape for employers
- More employer engagement (e.g. STEM Ambassadors, Enterprise Advisers)

JOB READY

- Skills 'bootcamps' for adults
- Signposting to training programmes such as Retrofit and the HGV programme
- Raising awareness of growth sectors/ Freeport. Work with JCP/ National Careers Service, providers
- Apprenticeships - EALTs

IN EDUCATION

- Working with education providers to ensure skills-based training matches demand
- LSIP and Essex Skills Plan to set out training needs
- District profile / LMI information to inform provision
- Careers and Enterprise Company programme

BARRIERS TO WORK

- Restart programme & related programmes- targeted disadvantaged e.g. Disabled adults
- Signposting to local programmes (e.g. Mental Health, Multiply) – Essex Opportunities
- Raising awareness and access to opportunities & employability skills
- Careers magazine for Job Centre Plus / other stakeholders



Essex County Council

Examples of delivery

Apply for jobs now in Essex

Take a look at some employers who are recruiting now!

Search and Apply now →

Explore Opportunities

Find Apprenticeships, Jobs and Courses in Essex

Search for Opportunities

Essex Opportunities
Essex and Southend

Essex County Council

County Hall
Market Road
Chelmsford
CM1 1QH

Search

Apprenticeships
Jobs
Courses

Multiply

Essex
Opportunities Portal

Multiply

Apprenticeship
Brokerage

The Essex Apprenticeship Hub has launched!

Get help and support to find and apply for an apprenticeship - Contact the team today! | Email Apprenticeship.hub@essex.gov.uk or call 0333 032 2591

Find out more about apprenticeships →

Speak to our careers advisor

Speak with our careers advisor Kaz! Kaz can help you find a job, retrain, get a qualification, set your career goals and much more. Book an appointment and speak with her for FREE!

Contact Kaz →

Essex County Council

Unsure about maths? Looking to improve your confidence? From taster sessions to formal qualifications, we've got the support you need to improve your maths skills.

Over the next three years, we'll be spending almost £8m of government funding to bring maths courses to learners, businesses and community groups.

Learners

Discover courses and support.

Support us

Help us to reach more learners.

Providers

Provide Multiply training (including information for the Community and Voluntary Sector).

Employers

Support your employees with their maths skills.

Essex Industries

Explore the industries operating within Essex and find out which sectors are recruiting now.

Post-16 Information

You can start thinking about your options and what to do after school early on, don't wait until after your GCSEs.

Information for Employers

Information for businesses to support their staff with training, recruitment and business support.

Recommendations and Next Steps...

We therefore recommend that the PAF Scrutiny Committee:

- 1. Supports the approach detailed within the LLLB Strategic Approach.**
2. Supports Cllr Ball's decision to progress Project Jigsaw to support us further understand the existing Skills offer/projects/imperatives across ECC services and greater cohesion in our activities, to increase pace and scale of our impact.
3. Supports us to publicise and encourage stakeholders to promote/collaborate to scale up services to residents, using established services, such as the Essex Opportunities Portal (for signposting to training and jobs).

Our next steps are:

1. Complete the first phase of "Project Jigsaw" (April 2023).
2. Report back to Cllr Ball and colleagues at Portfolio Board on Project Jigsaw and progress to collaborative Milestones for the next 6 months+ in development with stakeholders (monthly).
3. Consider further opportunities to maximise impact (scope, scale and pace) of 'skills and employability' activity through Project Jigsaw outcomes (monthly).
- 4. Report back to PAF Scrutiny Committee in the Autumn this calendar year.**

