**Written evidence submitted by Trafford Youth Cabinet (BYC033)**

This information was gathered at a meeting of Trafford Youth Cabinet. There may be some conflicting information as it was gathered from small groups who worked independently.

1. **What does good quality work experience look like? What do young people and businesses expect to get from it?**

* Interested in something they enjoy not just making the tea
* Somewhere actually doing work
* Shouldn’t be about who your parents know
* Employ - work experience company helps people find out what they want to include anything you want to do (skills et cetera)
* Interview people for a job/ work experience, a variety of work they do is ideal.
* Interview employers to find out what you can do and want to do during work experience
* To know what to do and how to do it and learn about what a professional business is like
* Businesses want find future employees
* Make connections
* Find out if you want to work in that area

**2. How important is good quality work experience to a successful industrial strategy?**

**3. What evidence is there that work experience boosts social mobility?**

1. **How do differences between young people (i.e. geography, social back ground) affect the work experience opportunities that you have?**

* Different levels of education and opportunities can affect it.
* Location – areas have different opportunities
* Contacts
* Wealth

**5. How could resources to help find out about access to work experience be improved?**

* Give young people examples of where could work to match their interests
* Make a database on the local council website of work experience opportunities that can be accessed by young people
* Locally based database
* Applications on line or in person

**6. Should compulsory work experience for under 16s be reinstated? What is the right age for work experience? 14-16 or 16-18.**

* Prevents young people from getting temporary work
* Yes
* If you have no work experience how can we choose a pot 16 apprenticeship with no knowledge of what that industry is like
* 14-16 is a better age

**7. How could schools and colleges be better supported to help their students?**

* Local database of work experience opportunities.
* More locally based careers fairs etc., i.e. Trafford careers fair
* Some schools only allow low sets to do work experience as they are less likely to do A levels etc.

**8. Are services to help schools and colleges develop relationships with businesses working well? How can they be improved?**

* Connexions
* Careers advisers
* Meetings with individual students
* Lack of development between schools and businesses
* Young people are not aware of any services that foster relationships between schools and business

**9. How could barriers to businesses (including small businesses) offering work experience be overcome?**

* Insurance lower insurance costs
* Give businesses that of the work experience some money from the government to help
* Time to process admin should be decreased
* Time wasting in work experience is a nuisance

**10. What does good practice in offering advertising in recruitment for work experience look like and how can businesses be encouraged to follow it?**

* Yes they should advertise
* Information could go on a database
* Don’t need recruitment just guidance

**11. Does work experience benefit businesses? What are the motivations for business to offer work experience?**

* Future employees
* Helps the business with publicity amongst young people
* Developing the workforce
* How much effort they put in changes how much they get out of it.

**12. What role should government have in ensuring young people have access to quality work experience?**

* Take it more seriously
* More funding
* Ensure young people have had work experience before 16

**13. Should government invest in resources to help young people find work experience independently?**

* Yes
* Young people want to be proactive but struggle to secure placements
* We find it easier to get a job than a work experience
* Having a list of companies in your local area that offer work experience (with contact details) and support young people to contact them independently.

**14. What lessons can be learnt from approaches done before?**

**15. How could private and third sector organisations be better supported and encouraged to help young people access quality work experience?**

* Is work experience with a charity just volunteering?
* We need to normalise the idea of companies offering work experience
* We think it will be difficult to encourage private organisations of offer work experience.

**16. What lessons can be learnt from the approaches of the devolved administrations and other countries to offer work experience?**

* Germany has a strong culture of apprenticeships and businesses going into school to advertise opportunities to work them
* Most businesses in Germany have students on work experience the majority of the time

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