5. IMPLEMENTATION OF WOOD REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Quality Assurance) providing details of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce Final Report (Wood Report).

The report explained that the Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce was set up in January 2013. Within West Lothian Council there were two key groups which informed developments within this area which were the Senior Phase Steering Board and Opportunities for All Steering Board. Both groups have well developed Improvement Plans in place which were developed with a wide variety of key stakeholders/partners. Both plans build on current vocational provision and were aligned to the principles of the Wood Report.

The Senior Phase Development Officer advised the Panel that a number of the key recommendations within the Wood Report were already being delivered within The Opportunities for All Improvement Plan and the Senior Phase Improvement Plan, details of which were outlined in the report. The current provision meets a significant number of the recommendations placing West Lothian in a strong position to fully implement the recommendations. The Panel was advised that a detailed mapping exercise was being carried out which would identify the key service areas and partners who would be involved in delivering the full range of recommendations to benefit the young people of West Lothian. An update would be provided to a future meeting of the Education PDSP on the joint planning towards achieving all the recommendations within the Wood Report.

The Panel noted the significant amount of good practice already in place to support the young people of West Lothian into the workplace and noted that the local authority was well positioned to implement all the relevant recommendations from the Wood Report.

Decision

1. Noted the contents of the report;

2. Noted that an update would be provided to a future meeting on the joint planning towards achieving all the recommendations within the Wood Report.