

Press Release

Young People Look Forward To Making The Connection

Young people across the Falkirk Council area are learning more than ever about the positive opportunities in their local district that exist for them and the wide-ranging changes that are taking place in the business world.

A meeting of Falkirk Council's Economic Development Committee heard today (Tuesday) that through the 'Making The Connection' programme of activities, young people are in a better position to help contribute to and shape the economic prospects in the area.

A number of successful collaborations have already taken place involving a number of partners including Forth Valley College, Skills Development Scotland and local businesses across a number of areas including marketing and communications; science, technology and innovation and; community and environmental projects.

Some of the successful outcomes for the programme include

- the involvement of local schoolchildren in design of public art;
- regular 'World of Work' events for young people;
- schoolchildren involvement in helping to shape the vision of 'The Helix';
- a regular Science, Education and Technology fair bringing schools and local Grangemouth businesses together every year.

Cllr Craig Martin, Convener of Economic Development said: 'Providing young people with the opportunity to get involved with local businesses and promote a greater understanding of how businesses work is very important to our long term aims as part of the My Future's in Falkirk economic regeneration plan for the area.'

'Throughout the various stages of the Making The Connection programme, pupils have shown enthusiasm and determination to forge those links and understand the challenges that businesses face as well as seeking opportunities to contribute.

'There is a large number of new opportunities coming up this and next year under the programme and we hope these will lead to a greater understanding of the importance that young people have in the future of our area and the impact that they can make.

Future work planned for 2009/10 includes: A My Future's in Falkirk schools challenge event; greater involvement in the Falkirk Business Panel; a new section on the website to highlight career opportunities locally and; the support of a My Future's in Falkirk Teacher In Residence.

- Falkirk Council (24/02/2009)