

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Lifelong Learning Committee
27 January 2016

Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee
20 January 2016

**COMMUNITY PLANNING ECONOMY AND LIFELONG LEARNING GROUP
BRIEFING PAPER**

Joint Report by Senior Depute Chief Executive (Equality, Community Planning and Public Service Reform) and Depute Chief Executive (Depute Chief Executive, Sustainability, Strategic and Entrepreneurial Development).

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This briefing provides an update on the activities of the Community Planning Economy and Lifelong Learning Outcome Delivery Group.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The group is tasked with delivering the following Community Planning Local Outcomes outlined in the Single Outcome Agreement:
- People are Ready for Life and Work
 - Thriving, Expanding Economy
 - Employment Opportunities for All
- 1.2 The group have now held eight formal meetings, and a number of workshops to develop the new Outcome Delivery Group Action Plan (ODP) which will assist us to deliver the SOA outcomes highlighted above. The ODP was refreshed in April 2015 to place a greater emphasis on locality and inequality issues pertinent to the Outcome Delivery Group (ODG). The revised ODP was approved by the CPP Board on 5 June. The group gave a 6 monthly progress report to CPP Board on 4 Dec, reporting progress against the majority of actions.

2. UPDATE

- 2.1 The group last met on 11 December 2015 where the following items were discussed:

2.2 Economy and Lifelong Learning Outcome Delivery Group Action Plan

The group reviewed progress on the ODP and in particular further work needed to define the action, target and deadline. Actions highlighted as red, as part of the RAG (Red, Amber, Green rating system) were also highlighted and positive discussions took place to ensure remedial action was taken to

rectify these. A detailed review of progress on the action plan will now take place at every meeting.

2.3 **TestTown**

Leigh Brown from the City Development Team updated the group on Test Town. TestTown 2015 is a project funded and run by the Carnegie UK Trust. Perth was one of 10 towns and cities chosen to run a TestTown competition in 2015. The competition was open to applicants between the ages of 17 -35 to offer them the opportunity to pilot a business idea or to grow an existing business. 38 applications were received and 7 finalists selected. The final ran from 3rd October – 2nd November and the judges selected Adventure Circus as the winners. They will be competing in the Grand Final in Glasgow Salt Market 22nd – 29th February.

Support was provided by the City Centre team and the Business Development team and there was measurable ongoing economic impact from TestTown:

- 2 of the finalists currently seeking premises within Perth
- 2 finalists are currently seeking larger premises
- 1 is being supported by a local mentor
- 2 of the finalists are now part of the council event supply chain

Due to the success of TestTown this year we will be looking at continuing to support pop up shop opportunities in the City Centre and are exploring opportunities to work with non-retail spaces such as the City Base to provide opportunities for office and meeting space to new and existing businesses.

2.4 **Joint Resourcing Pilot**

D Stokoe, Service Manager (Communities) providing a verbal update on the Joint Resourcing pilot in Blairgowrie and Rattray looking at potential for service re-alignment to individuals and families who were currently seeking employment, education or training.

Since the last meeting of the ODG, the Joint Resourcing Working Group has identified a set of priorities from the business case:

- Less duplication, recognising where an element of choice is needed
- Streamlined services with clear roles and responsibilities
- Clear and consistent referrals and case management
- Co-location of services
- Shared approach to engaging with employers
- Access to IT and support to use it

The Working Group held an event in Rattray in November for practitioners delivering services in the area. 23 individuals attended, from 15 different services and organisations.

The aim of the event was to acquaint workers with the findings from the research, invite them to have their say about opportunities for improving service delivery, and seek their acceptance for changes in delivery. Staff had the opportunity to comment on the priorities identified above, and to help

complete the action plan. This action plan has now been circulated back out for comment to those who attended the event, and the working group met again before Christmas to take forward the actions.

2.5 Employability Pipeline European Social Fund Bid Update

David Stokoe, Service Manager (Communities) gave a verbal update on behalf of Serge Merone, Investment Manager (Environment Service) on the ESF Employability Pipeline bids. 2 Strategic Interventions applications have been made to the Scottish Government: one focusing on developing a pipeline of service delivery ranging from engaging those furthest from the job market, to supporting people already in work to upskill. The other application focused on social poverty and inclusion.

If successful a detailed 'operations' applications will need to be made by 31 January 2016, with a decision in February 2016. Activities would be able to start from that point.

A Programme Management Office to support delivery and ensure that compliance requirements are met is also being established. A Board including CPP partners has been set-up and is being briefed on progress. The Board has reviewed strategic interventions and will decide priorities and monitor performance. A meeting is planned for Jan/Feb 16.

Potential delivery agents have been kept informed of progress.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

3.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) Note the update from the Community Planning Economy and Lifelong Learning Outcome Delivery Group.

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Approved

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