

Aspley, Bilborough and Leen Valley Area Committee Employment and Skills Area Partnership Meeting (ESAP) Update 20 September 2021

Summary of the most recent meetings held between September and December 2020

During the coronavirus outbreak, meetings have been taking place over Microsoft Teams, with a reduced invite list. There has been regular attendance at these meetings from the Council, Groundwork, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Futures, Evolve and Nottingham City Homes. The main purpose of the meetings has been to coordinate an employment and skills Covid-19 response for the area, and to keep colleagues updated on available provision for local residents as restrictions have changed in line with national guidance. A Covid-19 response action plan has been written and the group are working towards the following objectives for 2020-21:

- developing a response to digital poverty;
- supporting local economic recovery following Covid-19;
- developing and implementing Community Hubs in established community locations, to provide a triage service for disadvantaged residents;
- develop route-ways to support people with health conditions and disabilities towards work.

Actions over the past three months

- Joint working between partners to strengthen the offer to local partners – including partners working from the Just Ask Community Hub.
- Presentation by the Military Preparation College, to encourage referrals.
- Link and support to the local food bank.
- The Action Plan is being revamped for 2021, to include support for people aged 50+, and to the local food bank.

Key information for the area

Interim Unemployment Estimate rates for December 2020:

Aspley	–	12.6%
Bilborough	–	8.9%
Leen Valley	–	10.4%

Next meeting

Due to take place at 2:30pm on Tuesday 26 January 2021

Employment and Skills – Interim Employment Update

Unemployment in city wards, by descending unemployment rate

Area	August 2020		Change Aug to Nov 2020		Estimated unemployment Nov 2020	
	Number	rate	Number	%	Number	rate
Aspley	1,463	12.9	-35	-2.4	1,428	12.6
Bulwell	1,227	12.2	10	0.8	1,237	12.3
Berridge	1,350	11.5	10	0.7	1,360	11.6
Dales	1,246	11.1	15	1.2	1,261	11.3
Bestwood	1,186	11.1	10	0.8	1,196	11.2
Leen Valley	475	10.4	0	0.0	475	10.4
Hyson Green & Arboretum	1,853	9.2	50	2.7	1,903	9.4
Clifton East	951	9.4	-10	-1.1	941	9.3
Bilborough	946	9.0	-10	-1.1	936	8.9
Sherwood	870	8.2	45	5.2	915	8.6
Basford	973	8.9	-45	-4.6	928	8.5
Mapperley	957	8.4	0	0.0	957	8.4
St Ann's	1,451	8.4	-30	-2.1	1,421	8.2
Meadows	744	7.9	-30	-4.0	714	7.6
Bulwell Forest	637	7.9	-25	-3.9	612	7.6
Radford	833	5.5	-15	-1.8	818	5.4
Wollaton West	395	4.5	-15	-3.8	380	4.4
Clifton West	332	4.3	-5	-1.5	327	4.3
Castle	346	3.4	-10	-2.9	336	3.3
Lenton & Wollaton East	582	2.8	5	0.9	587	2.8

Source: DWP Alternative Claimant Count from Stat Xplore, August 2020, ONS Claimant Count, November 2020

The majority of partners working in the area are doing so remotely, and offering support to individuals via phone calls, email and video calls. Face-to-face appointments are available to particularly vulnerable clients through some partners. Nottingham Jobs will be opening a pop-up Jobs Shop in the city centre, although this has been delayed due to the lockdown. The DWP is exploring venues for citywide youth hubs, with venues to be confirmed. The YMCA in Aspley has been approached as a potential venue.

The Council's Employment and Skills team is working on a digital inclusion project to receive donations of IT equipment to distribute to local residents via local groups. Groundwork is liaising with local groups to gauge the need, and working with the Council to plan this project. Nottingham Jobs has a contact service to support local people with employment and skills queries, available Monday to Friday via phone and email. This service triages people based on individual need and geography to local groups such as Groundwork, Futures and the National Careers Service. All individuals registering on the Nottingham Jobs website to apply for jobs are contacted for further support and triaged as appropriate.