

West Area Committee – 2 March 2016

Title of paper:	Area Jobs Plan – Response to Area Clusters Jobs and Training Review	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Chris Henning	Wards affected: Aspley, Leen Valley and Bilborough
Report author(s) and contact details:	Chris Grocock, Community Partnership Manager Employment & Skills. chris.grocock@nottinghamcity.gov.uk 0115 876 2912	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Nigel Jackson, Employment & Skills Manager, Andy Madeley, Nottingham Jobs Hub Manager, Stacey Shillingford, Community Employment & Skills Officer – North Locality	
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)	Councillor Graham Chapman 12 November 2015 Councillor Nick McDonald 19 January 2015	
Relevant Council Plan Key Theme:		
Strategic Regeneration and Development		<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools		<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning and Housing		<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Services		<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy, Sustainability and Customer		<input type="checkbox"/>
Jobs, Growth and Transport		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Adults, Health and Community Sector		<input type="checkbox"/>
Children, Early Intervention and Early Years		<input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure and Culture		<input type="checkbox"/>
Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):		
<p>The Area Chair's Panel held in November resulted in the submission of 10 additional questions to be answered at February's Area Committee. Subsequent meetings of the Area Committee Chairs and Area Cluster meetings resulted in the submission of a further 10 Cluster Meeting questions to Economic Development's Employment & Skills Team and associated delivery partners regarding the delivery of community based Employment & Skills provision and the activities of Neighbourhood (Area) Lead Organisations. This report provides a response to those questions, specifically in relation to the West Area, and a proposed way forward for the facilitation and oversight of Area-based Employment & Skills activities through the creation of an 'Employment & Skills West Area Partnership', led by local Councillors and supported by dedicated officers from Employment & Skills. This would set priorities for local Area Jobs Plans, oversee their implementation by NLOs, and support the implementation of new and existing Employment & Skills programmes delivered by NLOs, the City Council, and wider partners and organisations operating in the West Area.</p>		
Recommendation(s):		
1	To establish an Employment and Skills West Area Partnership with terms of reference, membership, officers, reporting, and frequency of meetings to be decided at the next West Area Cluster meeting.	

1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 To provide a response and proposed way forward to address the issues that have been raised in the questions put forward by the Area Committee and Area Clusters.
- 1.2 To add value and improve Employment & Skills provision being delivered within neighbourhoods.
- 1.3 To increase local democratic accountability of Employment & Skills provision being delivered within neighbourhoods.
- 1.4 To improve coordination, fill gaps, and avoid duplication in neighbourhood based Employment & Skills programmes.
- 1.5 To ensure new and existing Employment & Skills programmes respond to local need and reach the local residents furthest from being able to access learning and work.

2 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 Area Cluster meetings have been established as a mechanism to review key strategic priorities which sit under the City Council Plan 2015 -19. Strategic priorities, including jobs and training have been identified by the Executive Councillors for reviewing as part of an overall process to better inform the existing commissioning arrangements. The Cluster Review for Jobs and Training allows for Councillors to meet informally with Neighbourhood Development Officers from Wards within each area to experience a 'pilot' of the new arrangements, recognising that this was a new approach.
- 2.2 This approach does not form part of the formal Overview and Scrutiny procedures, as defined by the current Constitution, although the level of scrutiny provided through this does enable all Councillors to comment on service areas by examining broad areas such as:
 - What is working?
 - Who is involved / leading this work stream?
 - What are the gaps?
 - Any good practice?
- 2.3 The first cluster review, Jobs and Training, was informed by a short questions paper prepared by Portfolio Holder, Councillor Rosemary Healy providing a range of questions to support this review (see responses in the Annex B below)
- 2.4 Area Cluster review meetings for Jobs and Training took place during December 2015 and January 2016.
- 2.5 Economic Development(ED)'s neighbourhood-based Employment & Skills provision currently includes:
 - The Step into Work programme
 - Area Jobs Plans
 - The Employment & Skills element of the Area Based GrantThese are delivered by Groundwork in the West Area.

- 2.6 ED also deploys three Community Employment & Skills (CES) officers across the three localities of the City in this area: Stacey Shillingford – North, Danny Goodwin – Central, and Karen Douglas – South. They have a responsibility for ensure that Area Jobs Plans are devised, coordinated and delivered by partners in order to:
- Fill gaps and avoid duplication in Employment & Skills provision
 - Link in with complimentary services based within the community
 - Ensure job seekers are supported to access the City Council’s centrally run programmes, delivered by Nottingham Jobs www.nottinghamjobs.com
- 2.7 ED’s Nottingham Jobs also provides city-wide Employment & Skills services which are:
- The Nottingham Jobs Pledge
 - The Nottingham Jobs Fund
 - The Nottingham Jobs Hub
 - Family Learning programme
- 2.8 There are also other citywide Employment & Skills related services, delivered by (amongst others):
- Right Track Social Enterprise
 - Futures Advice, Skills, and Training
 - Business in the Community
 - The Princes Trust
 - Nottingham City Homes
- 2.9 With such a number of programmes and services, it is crucially important that the Community Employment & Skills Officers and NLOs play a pivotal role in coordinating provision for the benefit of local residents and in response to local needs as set out by Councillor Healy’s review.

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 None

4 FINANCE COMMENTS (INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

4.1 None

5 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT COMMENTS (INCLUDING RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES, AND LEGAL, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS)

5.1 None

6 STRATEGIC ASSETS & PROPERTY COMMENTS (FOR DECISION RELATING TO ALL PROPERTY ASSETS AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE) (AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS ONLY)

6.1 None

7 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1 The EIA is attached at Appendix C. Due regard will be taken for any issues identified in the EIA..

8 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

8.1 None

9 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

9.1 None