

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Lifelong Learning Committee
26 August 2015

Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee
9 September 2015

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

**Joint Report by Executive Director (Environment) and
Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)**

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

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 six formal meetings, and a number of workshops to develop the new Outcome Delivery Plan (ODP) which will assist us to deliver the SOA outcomes highlighted above. The action plan 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.

2. UPDATE

2.1 The group last met on 29 May 2015 where the following items were discussed:

Economy and Lifelong Learning Outcome Delivery Group Action Plan

2.2 The group reviewed the refreshed ODP 15/16 and were asked to help populate the plan in more detail. The Chair asked that the focus be on setting and achieving deliverable targets for the next 12 months. A number of sub groups would be established to ensure actions are prioritised and progressed.

Joint Resourcing Pilot

- 2.3 A report was submitted by D Stokoe, Service Manager (Communities) providing an update on the Joint Resourcing pilot in Blairgowrie and Rattray looking at potential for service re-alignment to support workless households. A small working group had been set up with representatives from PKAVS, Department for Work and Pensions, Perth College and Perth and Kinross Council, to facilitate scoping of projects and to progress actions. Members also heard a presentation highlighting the following issues- customer insights, barriers to employment, current service offer and areas for further investigation. The group welcomed the update and asked that further work be carried out.
- 2.4 Work on the pilot has progressed over the summer with further interviews being conducted with service users and key staff. Recommendations for service re-alignment will be tabled at CPP Board on 4 September and the Economy and Lifelong Learning ODG on 11 September.

Smart City Strategy and Action Plan

- 2.5 A report was submitted by the Head of Planning and Development providing an update on the process for the development of a Smart Perth and Kinross Strategy and Action Plan. It updated the Group on the SCA Smart City work stream and the application to the ERDF Operational Programme 2014-2020 for £10 million to support all cities in a strategic intervention entitled 'Scotland's 8th City – the Smart City'. It highlighted particular aspects of the Strategy of interest to the Delivery Group such as potential for economic growth and sustainability. The group also heard a presentation by G Pinfield, Project Officer on the Smart Perth and Kinross Strategy and Action Plan. The Group agreed to:
- (i) Endorse the approach to the Smart Perth and Kinross Strategy and Action Plan outlined in the report and noted the progress being made on the ERDF Smart City strategic intervention.
 - (ii) To Encourage members of the Economy and Lifelong Learning Group to participate in workshops to help develop the Smart Perth and Kinross Strategy and Action Plan.
 - (iii) To receive a further report and the draft Strategy at meeting later in the year.

Wood Commission Update on Action Plan

- 2.6 The Group heard a verbal update by A Seggie, Enterprise Manager, Planning and Development on the Wood Commission Draft Action Plan. A Seggie tabled a report Education Working for All – National Recommendations and Mapping of Activity/Actions proposed in Perth and Kinross. Key points of the report were summarised and highlighted for the Group -

- Seven year action plan required(Scottish Government)
- A local working group would be developed in Perth & Kinross led by the private sector
- A strategic group has been developed with Perth College to develop the curriculum offer and improve pathways between school and college
- Advanced Modern Apprenticeships to be developed with pilots planned for both Engineering and Care in 2015/16
- A greater range of vocational options to be delivered through the school curriculum
- Further work required to engage more employers to work together with local schools

2.7 The Group noted that the plan would be submitted to a future meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee (17th June) and the Community Planning Partnership for approval (5th June).

2.8 Since the meeting the focus has been working with the Perthshire Chamber of Commerce to develop a bid to the Scottish Government for funding to support a local private sector led Developing the Young Workforce Group.

Employability Pipeline ESF Bid Update

2.9 The Group heard a verbal update by A Seggie, Enterprise Manager, Planning and Development (Perth and Kinross Council on the European Social Fund Draft Action Plan. A Seggie reported that £3.35 million had been provisionally allocated by the Scottish Government to support an employability pipeline approach with a further £0.74 for Social Inclusion and Poverty; however, the Council did not currently have a formal pipeline, and securing match funding was going to be challenging. In January 2015, a consultant was employed by the Council to undertake an employability mapping exercise, which found: (i) there was lots of provision in Perth, but limited provision in rural areas; (ii) sufficient provision in stages 1-3, but little in stages 4-5; and (iii) not much provision in mental health. It may be possible to make changes, through ESF, to address gaps in provision. There were also some existing projects which might bring in matched funding.

2.10 Since the meeting an ESF Project Board has been established and bids were submitted on 2nd July, feedback has now been received and further clarification is required, however it is hoped these strategic applications will be approved sometime in September. This will then allow us to develop detailed operational applications.

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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