

Decision Schedule

Cabinet Member for Education & Skills

TO ALL MEMBERS OF NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL

Decision Schedule published on 25 May 2018

The Cabinet Member took the following decisions on 25 May 2018. They will become effective at Noon on 5 June 2018 with the exception of any particular decision, which is the subject of a valid "call-in".

The deadline for submission of a 'Call-in' request form is 4.00 pm on 4 June 2018.

Information relating to the 'Call-in' process can be found via [Democratic Services](#).

Reports relating to staffing issues/Confidential reports are not circulated to all members of the Council as part of the consultation/call-in processes.

E&S 07/18

European Social Fund Bids: Priority Axis 1 – Tackling Poverty through Sustainable Employment

Options Considered/Reasons for Decision

In October 2015 a Cabinet Member Report was approved supporting Newport City Council's application to the European Social Fund for the Inspire 2 Achieve, Inspire 2 Work and Journey 2 Work Operations on behalf of the associated Joint Beneficiaries (partner organisations) within the South East Wales region. Newport City Council is the Lead Beneficiary (lead organisation) for the Inspire 2 Achieve and Inspire 2 Work Operations and is also proposing to be the Lead Beneficiary for the Journey 2 Work Operation, managing the delivery and performance of the Joint Beneficiaries across the region.

Newport City Council gained approval from WEFO for the Inspire 2 Achieve Operation in April 2016 and the Inspire 2 Work Operation in March 2017.

The Journey 2 Work Operation led by Newport City Council, will include the following Joint Beneficiaries:

- The City of Cardiff Council
- Newport City Council
- Monmouthshire Housing Association

The Operation will be delivered across the Local Authority areas of Cardiff, Monmouthshire, and Newport, and brings together a collaborative multi-agency partnership made up of Local Authorities and Registered Social Landlords to provide a comprehensive package of support to those aged 25 and over who are furthest from the labour market. The target groups will be those as set out in the ESF Operation Programme for East Wales:

- Economically Inactive (aged 25 and over) not in education or training who have complex barriers to employment
- Long-term unemployed (aged 25 and over), who have complex barriers to employment

Newport Delivery

Newport City Council's Work and Skills team will deliver the Journey 2 Work operation within the Newport.

The Journey 2 Work delivery team within Newport City Council's Work and Skills team will consist of the following posts:

- Economic Inactivity Worker 4.3 FTE
- Co-ordinator 0.4 FTE
- Work, Skills & Performance Manager 0.2 FTE
- Finance & Monitoring Manager 0.2 FTE

Newport City Council will support residents aged 25 years old and over living in non-Communities First areas focussing on the below wards; however it is important to note that residents living outside of the current Communities First postcodes/LSOA will also be eligible for support through the Journey 2 Work Operation.

- Allt-yr-yn
- Beechwood
- Caerleon
- Graig
- Langstone
- Marshfield
- Rogerstone
- St Julians

Participant Outcomes

The Journey 2 Work Operation in Newport delivered by Newport City Council will aim to achieve the following outcomes for residents:

Economically Inactive and Long Term Unemployed individuals (aged 25 and over) not in education or training who have complex barriers to employment engaged	220
Economically inactive (aged 25 and over), not in education or training, who have complex barriers to employment entering employment including self-employment upon leaving	15
Economically inactive (aged 25 and over), not in education or training, who have complex barriers to employment engaged in job search upon leaving	60
Economically inactive (aged 25 and over), not in education or training, who have complex barriers to employment gaining a qualification or work relevant certification upon leaving	36
Economically inactive (aged 25 and over), not in education or training, who have complex barriers to employment increasing employability through completing work experience placement or volunteering opportunity	64
Economically inactive (aged 25 and over), not in education or training, who have complex barriers to employment in employment including self-employment 6 months after leaving	6
Long-term unemployed (aged 25 and over) who have complex barriers to employment entering employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	15
Long-term unemployed (aged 25 and over) who have complex barriers to employment gaining a qualification or work relevant certification upon leaving	30
Long-term unemployed (aged 25 and over) who have complex barriers to employment increasing employability through completing work experience placement or volunteering opportunity	45
Long-term unemployed (aged 25 and over) who have complex barriers to employment in employment including self-employment 6 months after leaving	9

NCC Finances

Based on the funding rationale the Newport City Council Journey 2 Work delivery team will engage with 220 participants achieving 280 outcomes over the 3 years as detailed in the table above. The Operation in Newport will have a total value of £542,769, made up of £238,593 ESF Grant and £304,176 of match funding as detailed in the below tables:

J2W Operation	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Total Operation Cost	225,071	232,020	85,679	542,769
Match funding	125,035	128,892	50,250	304,176
ESF Grant	100,036	103,128	35,430	238,593

The Journey 2 Work Operation will contribute £71,455 ESF Grant per year for the salary costs of the below posts, with the remaining £30,165 per year used for operational delivery costs:

- Journey 2 Work Economic Inactivity Workers x 2 FTE
- Journey to Work Co-ordinator 0.4 FTE

The above Economic Inactivity Worker posts will be filled by re-deploying from existing Community Regeneration staff or recruited externally by Newport City Council, to provide 1 to 1 employment support to the participants engaged and continue delivery of the sustainable employment agenda through the J2W Operation.

Initially the J2W Co-ordinator post will be filled by re-deploying from existing Community Regeneration staff (2 x Work and Skills Coordinators), however due to the additional responsibilities it is proposed that the post will be re-submitted for regrading as an Operational Manager role (Grade 8).

Year 1 – Summary of Match Funding

Match funding sources	Availability of match	Value	Rationale
Work Programme contract income	Annual	£89,311	2.43 FTE Economic Inactivity Workers 0.2 FTE Work and Skills Performance Manager 0.2 Finance & Monitoring Manager
FR40 Model	Annual	£35,724	WEFO Simplified Costs Option Model
Total		£125,035	

The match funding for Year 1 will be provided from core Council expenditure, funded from contract income generated by the DWP Work Programme. This match funding is only guaranteed for Year 1 of the programme and will not be available for future years. Whilst it is anticipated that alternative sources of match funding will be secured for the remainder of the programme (eg City Deal, Communities for Work Plus, Working Wales), at the time of writing this report, this new funding has yet to be agreed.

In order to mitigate this risk for the Council, the Journey to Work Programme for Years 2 and 3 will mirror the match funding available, if less (or no) match funding is available for future years, the NCC Delivery part of the programme will be reduced or ended early.

Any new appointments made in Year 1 (funded from the grant) will be on a fixed term basis to the 31st March 2019, with an extension to Years 2 and 3 dependent on alternative match funding source being secured.

An additional risk arising from the NCC J2W local delivery reducing or ending at the end of Year 1 is that the Council will still be liable, as per the terms of the Relationship Agreement, for the full contribution to the Central Lead Team for the remainder of the operation. Over the lifespan of Journey 2 Work operation, the Council is due to contribute approximately £23k to the Central Lead Team, with approximately £14k of this contribution due in Years 2 and 3. In the unlikely event of the programme ending early, this liability will be funded by offsetting savings made elsewhere in the Work and Skills budget, plus any FR40 monies left at the end of Year 1.

Decision

The Cabinet Member for Newport City Council to act as Lead Beneficiary and as a Joint Beneficiary for the European Social Fund Journey 2 Work Operation.

Consultation

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People & Business Change and Chief Education Officer.

All members were consulted and provided with an opportunity to comment. Any comments received and response thereafter are set out in the report.

Implemented By: Chief Education Officer
Implementation Timetable: Immediate

COUNCILLOR G GILES, CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & SKILLS

Date: 25 May 2018
