

# Report

## Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

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### Part 1

Date: 1 November 2018

Item No: 1

**Subject** European Social Fund (ESF) Bids – Inspire 2 Work (I2W) Extension

**Purpose** To update and seek approval from the Cabinet Member to accept an extension of the regional ESF Inspire 2 Work operation up until December 2022.

**Author** Inspire Central Lead Team Manager

**Ward** City Wide (non-Communities First areas)

**Summary** In June 2017 a Cabinet Member Report was approved supporting Newport City Council's delivery of the Inspire 2 Work operation as the Lead Beneficiary on behalf of the five Joint Beneficiaries (delivery partners) as noted below:

- Newport City Council
- Cardiff City Council
- Vale of Glamorgan Council
- Monmouthshire County Council
- Llamau

Newport City Council has successfully applied to the Welsh European Funding Office for an extension to the Inspire 2 Work regional operation up until December 2022, adding an additional 2 years and 11 months to the delivery period and £1.5m of ESF Grant. Newport City Council will remain as the Lead Beneficiary managing the delivery and performance of the operation on behalf of the Joint Beneficiaries across the South East Wales region.

As the Lead Beneficiary for the Inspire 2 Work Operation, Newport City Council will be responsible for managing the performance of the Operation and overseeing the delivery of each Joint Beneficiary. This includes:

- Managing performance of Joint Beneficiary progress towards operational targets as agreed with the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO).
- Completion of regular monitoring and compliance checks ensuring Joint Beneficiaries adhere to WEFO guidance.
- Reporting and submission of participant outcomes and financial expenditure to WEFO Project Delivery Officers and via WEFO online.
- Collation and storage of required documentation to evidence participant outcomes and financial expenditure.
- Correspondence with WEFO to resolve queries and distribution of information to Joint Beneficiaries.

- Communication with all Joint Beneficiaries on a regular basis ensuring WEFO updates and guidance are received.
- Preparations for WEFO claim verifications and European Funding Audit Team inspections.
- Development of legal agreements between Newport City Council as the Lead Beneficiary and the individual Joint Beneficiaries.
- Creation of a regional procurement framework where appropriate and monitoring of Joint Beneficiary procurement activity.
- Ensure the operation is adequately promoted and all marketing adheres to WEFO guidelines.

## Regional Outcomes

The proposed regional outcomes for the Inspire 2 Work extension are as follows:

Participants at risk of becoming NEET (11-24) gaining qualifications upon leaving.	445
Participants at risk of becoming NEET (11-24) in education or training upon leaving.	240
Participants at Risk of becoming NEET (11-24) at reduced risk of becoming NEET upon leaving	574

The total value of the regional operation, including the extension up until December 2022, is approximately £5.8m, comprising of £2.8m ESF Grant and £3.0m of match funding across the region. The extension from February 2020 – December 2022 has provided an additional £1.5m of ESF grant and £1.6m of match funding across the region.

The operation has increased the number of participants it aims to engage by 986 to 2,041 participants, leading to the above 1259 outcomes for young people across the region.

## Newport Outcomes

The proposed Newport outcomes for the Inspire 2 Work extension are as follows:

Participants at risk of becoming NEET (11-24) gaining qualifications upon leaving.	117
Participants at risk of becoming NEET (11-24) in education or training upon leaving.	65
Participants at Risk of becoming NEET (11-24) at reduced risk of becoming NEET upon leaving	163

The total value of the Newport operation, including the extension up until December 2022 is approximately £1.9m, comprising of £0.9m ESF Grant and £1.0m of match funding. The extension from February 2020 – December 2022 has provided an additional £0.48m of ESF grant and £0.53m of match funding in Newport.

The Newport operation has increased the number of participants it aims to engage by 325 to 650 participants, leading to the above 345 outcomes for young people. The existing Inspire team within Newport Youth Service will continue to deliver the operation.

**Proposal** To accept an extension of the regional ESF Inspire 2 Work operation up until December 2022.

**Action by** Head of Regeneration Investment and Housing

**Timetable** In May 2018 the Inspire 2 Work operation submitted a re-evaluation of the approved Business Plan with updated financial and indicator profiles to the Welsh European Funding Office.

The amended Business Plan and profiles were agreed by the Inspire Strategic Board for submission to WEFO in March 2018.

On the 17th August 2018 WEFO provided confirmation that the I2W extension had been approved, on the 21<sup>st</sup> August 2018 the formal Grant Offer Letter was received by Newport City Council.

The report was prepared after consultation with:

- Strategic Director - Place
- Head of Regeneration, Investment and Housing
- CCR(Cardiff Capital Region) Board
- Local Authority Partners
- FE Colleges
- WEFO (Welsh European Funding Office)
- Welsh Government (DfES)
- Careers Wales
- Head of Law and Regulations – Monitoring Officer
- Head of Finance – Chief Finance Officer
- Head of People and Business Change

**Signed**

## **Background**

The Council's Improvement Plan, Regeneration, Investment and Housing Service Plan and Economic Growth Strategy all highlight young people not in education, employment and training (NEET) and raising qualifications and skills as priorities for development. These are the key priorities within the European Social Fund (ESF) operations that NCC are either delivering currently or developing for future delivery.

The priorities highlighted by Newport City Council are also key priorities for other Local Authorities across the region as identified by the Learning Skills and Innovation Partnership (LSKIP) South East Wales document (Attached within appendix 3)

European Social Funding across Wales is split into two distinct funding regions, West Wales and the Valleys and East Wales. Categorisation of each area is derived from GDP per capita compared to the EU average, and denotes the level of funding available.

The West Wales and the Valleys areas have access to greater levels of European Funding due to the area having higher levels of deprivation. The breakdown of Local Authority areas covered in South East Wales within the West Wales and the Valleys and East Wales regions is as below;

West Wales and the Valleys: Caerphilly, Torfaen, Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr Tydfil, Bridgend, and RCT.  
East Wales: Newport, Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan, Monmouthshire and Llamau.

A South East Wales ESF group was established by NCC, with the purpose to identify need across the region, and develop potential proposals for funding to address this need. Through the East Wales working group, it was agreed that two proposed operations addressing NEETs and those at risk of becoming NEET would be developed to address the priorities identified by LSKIP and WEFO.

Joint Beneficiaries are responsible for providing the required match funding and the evidence proving its eligibility for use on an ESF operation. All Joint Beneficiaries will be responsible for monitoring their expenditure and ensuring the match funding is recorded appropriately and in line with WEFO guidance (this is identified in the Relationship Agreement between Joint Beneficiaries and Newport City Council as the Lead Beneficiary). Newport City Council as the Lead Beneficiary are responsible for monitoring and validation of the information supplied by the Joint Beneficiaries before it is submitted to WEFO, the Central Lead Team have been recruited for this purpose.

Joint Beneficiaries have identified eligible sources of match funding, however as discussed with WEFO the operation is unable to secure funding for the full 5 years 11 months of the operation (due to external funding being used as match that is agreed annually). The operation has been advised by WEFO to identify match funding that will be available for each successive financial year and make assumptions for the following years. Match funding sources and time scales will therefore be subject to change throughout the lifetime of the operation. If during the operation a Joint Beneficiary has to withdraw their match funding and are unable to secure an alternative source they will be required to scale back their operation accordingly, re-profiling their financial expenditure and outcomes. All Joint Beneficiaries (including NCC) are required to provide evidence approving the use of their match funding for the ESF Inspire 2 Work operation.

## **ESF Programmes**

### **Inspire 2 Work**

The operation led by NCC aims to reduce the number of 16-24 year olds who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) across the South East Wales region. Inspire 2 Work seeks to identify and address the needs of 16-24 year old NEET's, in bringing about sustainable integration into the labour market and thereby contribute to a reduction in youth unemployment.

Through a 'person centre' approach, the operation engages, supports and enables NEET 16-24 years to gain a range of skills, qualifications and meaningful work placements to feel confident and motivated to

enter into sustainable employment or further learning. The delivery model takes into account that young people have a number of barriers preventing them from entering employment or further learning and gives the support and flexibility required to enable the participant to succeed. The operation targets interventions for those who are NEET across the 16-24 age range including:-

- 16-18 year olds: Identified through the Welsh Government 5 tier model, particularly those who Tier 1 (unknowns) or 2 (unable or have complex barriers).
- 19-24 JSA Claimants (non-work programme/work programme returners)
- 16-24 year olds who are NEET as identified by providers but not picked up by Careers Wales or Job Centre Plus
- 16-24 Vulnerable groups (e.g. BME, ESOL, young carers, young parents, homeless, pregnant, care leavers, young offenders, Roma) who are furthest from the labour market

The operation has been designed to ensure that young people living in both non Communities First areas and Communities First areas have access to support and interventions which will help overcome barriers preventing them from gaining sustainable employment, reducing the number of NEETs across the South East Wales region.

The new proposed regional outcomes for Inspire 2 Work are as follows:

NEET Participants (16 -24 years of age) engaged	2041
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) gaining qualifications upon leaving	445
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) in education/training upon leaving	240
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) entering employment upon leaving	574
Total	1259

The regional Inspire 2 Work operation total value is £5,868,971 over the 5 years 11 months and is made up of £2,827,133 ESF grant and £3,041,839 of match funding. Joint Beneficiaries have proposed to support 2041 participants, leading to 1259 outcomes across the South East Wales region as broken down in the table above. The operation is proposing a unit cost of £2875 per participant.

Participant targets and outcomes have been determined by Joint Beneficiaries through local consultation, statistical research and performance to date. The level of impact required to reduce the number of NEETS in the region has also been gathered through wider consultation, source documentation and engagement with Jobcentre Plus, Engagement and Progression Coordinators, Careers Wales and LSKIP.

## Summary of Changes

The table below shows the financial changes to the regional operation due to the extension.

Financial Expenditure	Approved Values	Change	Re-profiled values
Operation Length (months)	36 months	+35 months	71 months
Total Operation Cost (£)	£2,822,433	+£3,046,538	£5,868,971
Total Eligible Operation Cost (£)	£1,359,590	+£1,467,543	£2,827,133
Total Eligible Match Funding (£)	£1,462,843	+£1,578,995	£3,041,838
Intervention Rate	48.17%	+/-	48.17%

The table below shows the participant outcome changes to the regional operation due to the extension.

Participant Indicators	Approved Values	Change	Re-profiled values
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) engaged (Total)	1055	+986	2041
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) engaged (Male)	675 (63%)	+394	1069 (52%)
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) engaged (Female)	380 (27%)	+592	972 (48%)
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) gaining qualifications upon leaving	291 (28%)	+154	445 (22%)
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) in education/training upon leaving	156 (15%)	+84	240 (12%)
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) entering employment upon leaving	288 (27%)	+286	574 (28%)

The table below shows the proposed outcomes for Newport.

NEET Participants (16 -24 years of age) engaged	650
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) gaining qualifications upon leaving	117
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) in education/training upon leaving	65
NEET Participants (16 - 24 years of age) entering employment upon leaving	163
Total	345

Based on the funding rationale the Newport Inspire 2 Work delivery team will engage with 650 participants achieving 345 outcomes over the 5 years and 11 months as detailed in the table above. The operation in Newport will have a total value of £1,914,018.32 made up of £921,998 ESF grant and £1,049,534 of match funding.

Due to funding commitments and restraints within the Local Authority we are unable to commit match funding beyond each successive financial year of the operation. The current match funding is sourced from Families First and confirmed with Welsh Government as eligible for use up until the 31st March 2019.

The Welsh Government Flexible Funding Programme aims to align various grants provided to the Local Authorities, enabling service re-design to deliver sustainable improvements for vulnerable people across Wales, reducing unnecessary bureaucracy. The various grants included in the scope of the flexible funding programme are as below:

- Supporting People
- Flying Start
- Families First
- Legacy Fund
- Promoting Positive Engagement for Young People
- Childcare and Play (formerly Out of School Childcare)
- Homelessness Prevention
- Rent Smart Wales Enforcement (formerly Independent Living)
- St David's Day Fund
- Communities for Work Plus (formerly the Employability Grant)

As the Families First grant is included within the scope of the Flexible Funding Programme an assumption has been made for financial year 19/20 and thereafter that the necessary value of eligible match funding will be secured through an application to Newport City Council's Flexible Funding Programme Board.

If the necessary value of match funding is not secured from the Flexible Funding Programme the possible risks to the Inspire 2 Work operation are detailed below, it is important to note that none of the options shown below would have any detrimental effect to the council's core budget. The different scenarios are:-

- No change to match funding provided by the Flexible Funding Programme – Welsh Government provide the same value of grant post March 2019 allowing the operation to claim the same amount of match funding and deliver the operation as planned.
- Reduction in match funding provided by the Flexible Funding Programme – Welsh Government reduces the value of grant provided, resulting in the requirement for the operation to scale back delivery proportionally if other match funding is unavailable to cover the shortfall.
- Reduction in match funding provided by the Flexible Funding Programme – Newport City Council re-direct elements of the Flexible Funding Programme, moving resources away from Families First to other grants, resulting in the requirement for the operation to scale back delivery proportionally if other match funding is unavailable to cover the shortfall.
- Removal of match funding from Flexible Funding Programme – Welsh Government ceases award of the Families First Grant within the Flexible Funding Programme and no alternative grant is available resulting in a significant shortfall in Match Funding and delivery of the operation coming to a close earlier than planned.

The below table summarises the match funding for Newport City Council in the 18/19 financial year.

Match Funding source	Availability of Match	Value	Rationale
Families First Grant	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019	£64,317	2 FTE x Community Youth Workers
Youth Service Core Funding	Annual	£33,264	0.25 FTE x City Youth Worker, 0.2 FTE x Youth Service Manager, 0.25 FTE x Business Support Administrator, 0.15 FTE Finance & Admin Officer
Youth Service Strategy Grant	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019	£34,846	0.25 FTE x Youth Curriculum Tutor 1.0 FTE X Community Youth Worker
Regeneration, Investment & Housing Core Funding	Annual	£6,119	0.1 FTE x Community Regeneration Manager
FR 40 Model		£61,847	WEFO Simplified Costs Option Model
Total		£200,393	

## Bid Approval

On the 17<sup>th</sup> August 2018 Newport City Council received communication from WEFO indicating that the Inspire 2 Work extension and receipt on an additional ESF Grant of £1,467,543 had been approved. Formal approval is now pending.

## Financial Summary

Newport City Council, as the Lead Beneficiary, is responsible for submitting financial expenditure and participant outcomes achieved by the Joint Beneficiaries. We have mitigated the risk of any undesirable actions by Joint Beneficiaries through a robust Relationship Agreement; it places the responsibility of eligibility of match funding, outcomes and financial expenditure with each individual Joint Beneficiary. The costs associated with Newport City Council being Lead Beneficiary and employing the Central Lead Team will be fully recovered from ESF Grant and contributions made by the Joint Beneficiaries.

## Regional Operation value and Match Funding

### Regional Operation value

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
£764,941	£1,088,941	£1,117,839	£1,151,676	£1,165,604	£579,970	£5,868,971

### Regional Match Funding

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
£397,704	£566,428	£579,036	£596,215	£605,038	£297,418	£3,041,839

## Newport Operation value and Match Funding

### Newport Operation value

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
£283,134	£365,301	£373,894	£380,246	£385,884	£125,559	£1,914,018

### Newport Match Funding

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
£154,318	£200,393	£205,107	£208,591	£211,684	£69,441	£1,049,534

## Risks

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
Unavailability of Match Funding	H	L	<p>Identification with Joint Beneficiaries of current and potential match funding sources.</p> <p>Production of a legally binding relationship agreement indemnifying Newport City Council against all risk.</p>	Work/ Skills & Performance Manager
Reduction in Match Funding value due to further austerity actions	H	M	<p>Clean, eligible sources of Match Funding have been indicated in the I2A Business Plan to WEFO. The sources have been approved for use by WG and the authority.</p> <p>Scenarios have been provided in 2.1.10,</p>	Community Regeneration Manager



<b>Risk</b>	<b>Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)</b>	<b>Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)</b>	<b>What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect</b>	<b>Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?</b>
			dependent on changes to match funding availability to mitigate the risk.	
Insufficient resources available to approve Business Plan applications	H	L	Working with service managers and partners to gain relevant support at the correct levels.	Work/ Skills & Performance Manager
Duplication with other ESF operations/WG Programmes	H	L	Communication with other proposed ESF operations and existing alternatively funded programmes to ensure delivery is not duplicated within the Region.  Approval of Business Plans through the CCR Regional Proofing Panel	Work/ Skills & Performance Manager
Underachievement against operation targets	H	L	Targets have been set at realistic levels based on quantifiable need that already exists within Newport.  Robust monitoring processes will highlight any early underachievement that can be addressed and resolved	Work/ Skills & Performance Manager
Non-compliance with WEFO requirements – risk of claw back	H	L	Robust management arrangements, regular reports to CM and a Relationship Agreement detailing the Joint Beneficiaries responsibilities	Work/ Skills & Performance Manager
Refusal or inability by Joint Beneficiaries to provide the required data or documentation as evidence	H	L	Relationship Agreement produced that clearly states requirements of Joint Beneficiaries	Work/ Skills & Performance Manager
Lack of communication regarding amendments to guidance provided by WEFO	H	L	Regular updates for the cabinet member, briefing on changes and updates made with in the project design, finances, and governance.  Quarterly review meetings with WEFO Project Development Officer	Community Regeneration Manager

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)</b>	<b>Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)</b>	<b>What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect</b>	<b>Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?</b>
Late submission of claim information by Joint Beneficiaries	H	L	Schedule of claim dates provided for full lifetime of operation and reminder each quarter of claim deadlines	Work/ Skills & Performance Manager

## **Links to Council Policies and Priorities**

The Inspire 2 Work operation provides interventions that address the well-being objectives adopted by Newport City Council from the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and will seek to maximise the contribution to the achievement of the seven Well-being Goals for Wales by;

- Improving the skills, educational outcomes and employment opportunities (Objective 1)
- Promoting economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment (Objective 2)
- Enabling people to be healthy, independent and resilient (Objective 3)
- Building cohesive and sustainable communities (Objective 4)

The Inspire 2 Work operation will link to the above four Well-being Objectives through the below activity;

- Identify young people most at risk of disengagement
- Provide better brokerage and coordination of support
- Strengthen tracking and transitions of young people through the system
- Ensure provision meets the needs of young people
- Provide greater accountability for better outcomes for young people

## **Options Available and Considered**

Accept the additional ESF grant for the Inspire 2 Work operation and extend delivery up until December 2022.

This option will provide Newport City Council with additional resources from the European Social Fund to identify and support further young people who are NEET to gain qualifications, enter employment or further education/training.

To not accept the additional ESF Grant and continue to deliver as previously approved until January 2020.

Newport City Council will not access the available ESF Grant to increase resources and deliver interventions to NEET young people.

## **Preferred Option and Why**

The preferred option is to accept the additional ESF grant for the Inspire 2 Work operation and extend delivery up until December 2022 as this will allow us to shape delivery of our services to meet Newport City Councils corporate objectives and align with the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.

Inspire 2 Work will also create further resources funded externally through ESF to support the NEET Strategy and reduce the number of young people aged 16 – 24 who are not in employment, education or training. As the Lead Beneficiary, Newport City Council will receive approximately £0.3 million in ESF Grant funding for the Central Lead Team over the 5 year 11 month delivery period of the operation.

## **Comments of Chief Financial Officer**

European Social Fund grant has been accessed to extend the current operation up until December 2022 which means match funding arrangements will need to continue. Joint Beneficiaries are responsible for providing the required match funding and will be responsible for monitoring their expenditure and ensuring the match funding is recorded appropriately and in line with WEFO guidance. Newport City Council as the Lead Beneficiary is responsible for monitoring and validation of the information supplied by the Joint Beneficiaries and there is a specific team in place to carry out this function.

If during the operation a Joint Beneficiary, including Newport City Council, has to withdraw their match funding and are unable to secure an alternative source they will be required to scale back their operation accordingly, re-profiling their financial expenditure and outcomes, this removes the risk of any adverse impact to the Council's revenue budget.

## **Comments of Monitoring Officer**

The proposed action is in accordance with the Council's well-being powers under Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 and is also consistent with the corporate plan and well-being objectives in relation to the improvement of skills and employment opportunities. The Cabinet Member has already approved the earlier ESF bid and agreed to the Council acting as Lead Beneficiary for the regional delivery partnership. This proposal is just to extend the delivery period to December 2022 and increase the funding to reflect the additional £1.5m ESF grant that has now been approved. The existing partnership agreement, which clarifies roles and responsibilities for the delivery of individual projects and the provision of match funding, will need to be extended to cover this further period and the additional funding. There will also need to be a continuation of the obligations to secure match funding over the extended period or to scale back the projects.

## **Comments of Head of People and Business Change**

This report is to update and seek approval for an extension of the regional ESF Inspire 2 Work operation up until December 2022. As required the report fully considers all five aspects of the sustainable development principle of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (Long-Term, Prevention, Integration, Collaboration and Involvement).

From an HR perspective there are no staffing implications in respect of this report.

## **Comments of Cabinet Member**

Cabinet Member has been briefed on this report.

## **Scrutiny Committees**

N/A

## **Equalities Impact Assessment and the Equalities Act 2010**

The Equality Act 2010 contains a Public Sector Equality Duty which came into force on 06 April 2011. The Act identifies a number of 'protected characteristics', namely age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation; marriage and civil partnership. The newly created single duty aims to integrate consideration of equality and good relations into the regular business of public authorities. Compliance with the duty is a legal obligation and is intended to result in better informed decision-making and policy development and services that are more effective for users.

In exercising its functions, the Council must have due regard to the need to: eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act; advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not; and foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

The Act is not overly prescriptive about the approach a public authority should take to ensure due regard, although it does set out that due regard to advancing equality involves: removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics; taking steps to meet the needs

of people from protected groups where these differ from the need of other people; and encouraging people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

### **Children and Families (Wales) Measure**

Although no targeted consultation takes place specifically aimed at children and young people, consultation on planning applications and appeals is open to all of our citizens regardless of their age. Depending on the scale of the proposed development, applications are publicised via letters to neighbouring occupiers, site notices, press notices and/or social media. People replying to consultations are not required to provide their age or any other personal data, and therefore this data is not held or recorded in any way, and responses are not separated out by age.

### **Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

The “Sustainable Development Principle” – 5 Ways of Working within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 have been considered through the Inspire 2 Achieve operation. The below demonstrates how the operation has considered and addressed those 5 principles:

- **Long term:** The operation will aim to ensure that NEET young people are identified and supported so that they can gain qualifications and enter into employment or education/training. This will reduce the likelihood of future or continuing poverty amongst young people but will also ensure that short term needs are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Additionally the operation will aim to ensure long term improvements in the young person’s health, well-being and skill level as well as instilling a work ethic that will improve aspiration levels throughout their lifetime. Consideration will be given to the seven well-being goals within the Wellbeing Act when delivering activity.
- **Prevention:** The operation will identify those young people aged 16-24 who are not in employment, education or training. It will seek to improve health and well-being, rise aspiration levels, improve skill levels and qualifications, increase engagement with society and their local community and reduce the likelihood young people engaging in crime or anti-social behaviour.
- **Integration:** The operation will ensure that delivery will align and impact on the following wellbeing objectives 1) Support regeneration and economic growth 2) Drive up skill levels for economic and social well-being 3) Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life 4) Long and healthy lives for all 5) People feel part of their community and have a sense of belonging. The operation will also ensure that delivery will align and impact on the following wellbeing goals, 1) A prosperous Wales 2) A resilient Wales 3) A healthier Wales 4) A more equal Wales 5) A Wales of cohesive communities 6) A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language 7) A globally responsible Wales and other objectives and those of other public bodies. To sustain this and continue alignment, the delivery team are active members of strategy groups and forums such as the pre-16 group and the NEET Practitioner Forum.
- **Collaboration:** The operation has completed extensive consultation as noted below to ensure it has considered how acting in collaboration with any other person or any other part of our organisation could help meet our wellbeing objectives. Please see the above summary which notes collaboration and consultation with our external Joint Beneficiaries partners and internal council departments.
- **Involvement:** The operation has considered the importance of involving young people with an interest in achieving the wellbeing goals with continual consultation and evaluation planned, ensuring that those young people reflect the diversity of the City we serve. We value the feedback of young people participating in our programmes and have a robust mechanism for ensuring operations are, where possible, young person led. Wider consultation and evaluation protocols are embedded within our organisation to drive change and improve services across the city. Please see consultation section below for further information on involvement of key stakeholders and organisations working with young people.

## **Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

Section 17(1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes a duty on the Local Authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area.

## **Consultation**

The operation has been developed by partners across 10 local authorities, using the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework and the gaps it has identified as the basis for need, as set out below from Youth Engagement and Progression Framework 2015:

- Identifying young people most at risk of disengagement.
- Better brokerage and coordination of support.
- Stronger tracking and transitions of young people through the system.
- Ensuring provision meets the needs of young people.
- Strengthening employability skills and opportunities for employment.
- Greater accountability for better outcomes for young people.

The operation has been designed to work in conjunction with other programmes and Welsh Government back bone projects and will not duplicate but compliment and add value, filling gaps in provision where there is a specific need. This includes the alignment of other operations such as:

Communities 4 Work – The operation will predominantly work outside Communities First and Communities 4 Work areas, focussing our activity on areas and participants that would not have the benefit of these programmes.

Traineeships – The operation will work with Work Based Learning providers to ensure young people have an exit route from the provision that supports their search for employment. This provides an alternative to further training and education and will bridge the gap between the engagement phase of traineeship and the employment offered through Jobs Growth Wales ensuring young people have been prepared appropriately.

Jobs Growth Wales – The operation can dovetail into alternative ESF provisions such as Jobs Growth Wales by providing the preparation and qualifications required to successfully start and complete a Jobs Growth Wales placement if direct employment is not suitable.

Inspire 2 Work has engaged in detailed discussion with partners, including our equivalent Inspire 2 Work WWV partners, as below:

- Newport City Council has engaged specifically with Migration Officers to discuss concerns around engaging the Roma population in training and employment opportunities.
- Cardiff and Vale College have been engaged in discussions around being a co-financing beneficiary or procurement partner. Their need, along with the strong links already in place between the college and Vale of Glamorgan Council determined their preference to be engaged through procurement opportunities and existing partnership arrangements.
- Coleg Gwent cover both East Wales and West Wales and the Valleys, and therefore have been engaged both through the SE Wales HE/FE network, and through local discussion with regards to progression routes. It was important to ensure a consistent approach to this partnership arrangement across both Inspire 2 Work operations, and also the complimentary Inspire 2 Achieve operation.
- Lead officers have attended events held by the South East Wales Regional Learning Partnership (LSkip), and the Lead Beneficiary sits on both P1 and P3 ESF Support Groups. Inspire 2 Work has engaged in the P3 Support Group along with other operational partners across the South East Region to enable further collaboration. The Support Groups enable the operation to engage with other local, regional, and national Operations (in development and delivery stages) that deliver in South East Wales to ensure complementarity, and to avoid duplication.

- The operation has considered Priority Axis 2 operations and the support for participants who are exiting the operation into employment but may require further training and qualifications to sustain employment.
- Local Authority partners have engaged with Communities First within their areas to discuss the Communities 4 Work operation that is specifically targeted to 16-24 year olds and how it can work in partnership with Inspire 2 Work.
- The proposal has been designed to work in conjunction with other programmes and Welsh Government back bone projects and will not duplicate but compliment and add value, filling gaps in provision where there is a specific need.

The following partners have been consulted, with their level of engagement set out below:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Involvement</b>
Newport City Council	Lead beneficiary
City of Cardiff Council	Joint Beneficiary
Monmouthshire County Council	Joint Beneficiary
Vale of Glamorgan Council	Joint Beneficiary
Llamau	Joint Beneficiary
Melin Homes	Proposed delivery partner
Monmouthshire Housing Association	Proposed delivery partner
Coleg Gwent	Interested in procured or referral opportunities
Cardiff and Vale College	Interested in procured or referral opportunities
Blaenau Gwent CBC <sup>1</sup>	Member of SWYP <sup>2</sup> group Lead Beneficiary: WWV Inspire2Work
DFES <sup>1</sup>	Member of SWYP group
DWP <sup>1</sup>	Member of SWYP group
Public Health Wales <sup>1</sup>	Member of SWYP group
South East Wales Regional Engagement Team	Member of SWYP group
South East Wales Directors of Environment & Regeneration Group	Endorsement of proposals
Learning, Skills & Innovation Partnership	Endorsement of proposals
Careers Wales <sup>1</sup>	Consulted on proposals
Communities First	Consulted on proposals
Families First	Consulted on proposals

In addition, the following engagement and consultation activity has contributed to the development of the operation:

#### Local Authority partners

- Regular scheduled meetings and communication with key individuals.
- Attendance and participation in regional meetings for Skills, Worklessness and Young People (SWYP)
- Participation at regional monthly meetings of the East Wales ESF working group.
- Discussion at regional project management/ development meetings
- Newport City Councils Young People Education, Employment and Training forum
- Vale of Glamorgan NEET's Strategy Group
- Vale of Glamorgan CYP Programme Board
- Monmouthshire Business Employment Skills and Training (BEST) Partnership
- Monmouthshire 14-19 Curriculum Network Meetings
- Monmouthshire Post 16 Steering Group

<sup>1</sup> Consultation was undertaken at a regional level, through the previously established SWYP group for the Inspire 2 Work model across the 10 Local Authorities (WWV and EW)

<sup>2</sup> Skills, Worklessness, Young People (SWYP) was a Task and Finish Group set up under SEWDER to look at opportunities for accessing EU Structural Funds across SE Wales

- Regular meetings and communications with Youth Engagement and Progression Framework Coordinators.
- Regular communications with the Inspire 2 Work WWV lead partner through meetings, email, and telephone.
- Newport City Council Work Based Learning Academy Coordinator to ensure provision of work opportunities.
- Newport City Council Local Service Board – Work Based Learning Academy

#### Non LA partners

- All four Local Authority Local Service Boards
- Attendance and participation in regional meetings for Skills, Worklessness and Young People
- Coleg Gwent
- Cardiff and Vale College

### **Background Papers**

Please see below as appendices the following documents:

- Inspire 2 Work approved Business Plan – February 17
- Inspire 2 Work Equality Impact Assessment
- Inspire 2 Work approved Business Plan re-evaluation – August 18



BusPlan  
Inspire2Work\_EW\_0\_



EIA I2W.doc



80927 Business Plan  
Re-evaluation v5.doc

Date: 1 November 2018