

Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 3 June 2021

No One Left Behind Phase 2

Executive/routine Wards Council Commitments	Routine All 7, 31
---	---

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee is asked to:
 - 1.1.1 Note that it is expected that City of Edinburgh Council will receive funding for No One Left Behind (NOLB2) transformation of local employability delivery from 1 April 2022; and
 - 1.1.2 Note the joint coproduction exercise and review of the Council's employability grants programme with the new arrangements for NOLB2 to develop plans for specialist employability support and training in Edinburgh from 1 April 2022.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

Contact: Elin Williamson, Business Growth and Inclusion Senior Manager

E-mail: elin.williamson@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 469 2801

Report

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 As part of No One Left Behind Phase 2 (NOLB2) and employability transformation in Scotland, City of Edinburgh Council is expected to receive additional funding from Scottish Government for local employability delivery from 1 April 2022.
- 2.2 This report sets out the plans for research and coproduction which are currently underway to determine arrangements for future provision in Edinburgh, based on NOLB2 and Network of Employability Support and Training (NEST).

3. Background

- 3.1 The overall NOLB policy is intended to provide a more aligned approach to national and local employability support in Scotland, reflecting the need to deliver a more coherent employability provision locally.

4. Main report

- 4.1 The Scottish Government is continuing to work closely with local authorities to prepare for the next phase of employability delivery transformation.
- 4.2 NOLB2 involves the ending of two National Training Programmes (Employability Fund and Community Jobs Scotland) on 31 March 2022 with funding being transferred to local authorities for local employability delivery.
- 4.3 The level of funding which will be available to Edinburgh from 1 April 2022 is still to be confirmed but is expected to be around £600,000 p.a. A steering group made up of representatives from Skills Development Scotland, Department for Work and Pensions, Edinburgh College, Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council and City of Edinburgh Council are overseeing the transition.
- 4.4 To support Edinburgh citizens to access and progress along the Employability Strategic Skills Pipeline with the goal of securing and sustaining training and employment, the Council currently supports the NEST programme with funding of £865,604 (allocated by grant funding to 17 organisations). This programme is due to end on 31 March 2022.
- 4.5 A joint coproduction exercise is currently being undertaken for both NEST and NOLB2 implementation. This will engage with users, beneficiaries and other stakeholders to ensure that services funded in the future are fit for purpose, aligned to the requirements of both programmes, utilising current good practice, preventing

duplication and identifying savings that can be made from the combining of both funding streams.

- 4.6 This coproduction will identify required support, how to meet the programme objectives and requirements for the available funding from the Scottish Government, as well as ensuring that it is aligned to the Council priorities of inclusion, wellbeing and poverty prevention.
- 4.7 The Steering Group met for the first time on 12 May 2021 and coproduction commenced on 26 May 2021.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 As it is planned that any replacement provision will be in place from 1 April 2022, a report will be presented to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee in September 2021 outlining the results of the coproduction, with recommendations on the next steps.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. Future reports will outline the financial arrangements for programme provision from 1 April 2022.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 The current third-party employability grants were originally commissioned using a co-production methodology. The review and any replacement grant programmes are again being co-produced. This is being undertaken through a fully consultative process that includes and takes account of input from key stakeholders, service providers and service users.
- 7.2 An Integrated Impact Assessment and Data Protection Impact Assessment will be completed as part of the grants programme review.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 Scottish Government [No One Left Behind Delivery Plan](#)
- 8.2 Report to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee on [20 January 2020](#) on the delivery of No One Left behind Phase 1.
- 8.3 Reports to the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee on 14 January 2021 in relation to [coproduction and recommission of Edinburgh Blended Employability Service](#) and [additional employability funding from the Scottish Government](#)

9. Appendices

9.1 None.