

Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 9 March 2023

Trade Unions in Communities

Executive/routine

Wards

Council Commitments

Routine

Ward 17 – Portobello/Craigmillar

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Committee is asked to note the support provided to the Trade Unions to date and that officers will continue to work closely with them to identify any further support the Council can offer to support the hub.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

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Report

Trade Unions in Communities

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report provides an update on the support offered to the Trade Unions in respect of support available to help create a community hub in Craigmillar.
- 2.2 Officers have met with the Trade Unions and training and support has been agreed.

3. Background

- 3.1 A motion was agreed at Council on [30 June 2022](#) instructing officers to engage with the Trades Unions and community groups to see what support the Council can offer to help create a hub in Craigmillar
- 3.2 Further to this a report seeking agreement for the lease of the property at Craigmillar to the Trades Unions was agreed at Finance and Resources Committee on [8 September 2022](#).
- 3.3 Officers presented a report to Committee on the discussions that had taken place to date with Trade Unions in [September 2022](#), with an action to provide Committee with an update.

4. Main report

- 4.1 Further to Finance and Resources Committee agreement of the lease of the property, officers contacted the Trade Union Representative to arrange to meet to discuss the support the Council could offer.
- 4.2 Regular meetings have since taken place with Trade Union Representatives and Council Officers to develop partnership working and the following actions have been progressed:
 - 4.2.1 Training opportunities have been agreed with the Council's Partnership and Prevention Officer, which will include information about homelessness advice/support and referral routes;
 - 4.2.2 Engagement with the Council's volunteer coordinator volunteer resources has led to volunteer handbook and induction materials being shared with the Trade Unions to assist with the recruitment and induction of volunteers;

- 4.2.3 The Council's Income Maximisation Development Officer has offered to provide information and advice about benefits and services that can support people with money advice matters;
- 4.2.4 A meeting has been arranged with the Council officers and Trade Union representatives to develop a drop-in service within the Trade Union in Communities premises;
- 4.2.5 The Family and Household Support service provides a drop-in session for local people within the local council building and will look to extend this and provide this service within the Trade unions in Communities premises on a weekly basis; and
- 4.2.6 A meeting has been arranged to discuss the delivery of the Poverty Prevention Training to the Trade Union volunteers.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 Officers will continue to engage with Trade Union and community groups to offer support with the development of the hub.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Officers will engage with Trade Union representatives and community groups.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 Motion by Councillor Kate Campbell on [30 June 2022](#).

9. Appendices

- 9.1 None.