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## Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

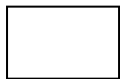
### Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods)

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009

### Subject: Worklessness Review - Update

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#### Electoral Wards Affected: All



Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

#### Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

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## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At its July meeting, the Environment and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board noted the Quarter 4 2008/09 performance information relating to the Council's improvement priority for reducing worklessness and acknowledged the difficulties in meeting existing targets within the current economic climate.
- 1.2 The Board agreed to establish a working group to consider the key issues affecting worklessness across the city and to determine how Scrutiny could effectively contribute in addressing this particular problem. The membership of this working group includes Councillors Barry Anderson, Ann Blackburn, Graham Hyde and Josie Jarosz.
- 1.3 The working group met initially in August to consider the scope of this particular review. In acknowledging the wide range of programmes and interventions currently delivered in the City, the working group agreed to focus its attention on the development of a new delivery model – Employment Leeds. This model aims to better connect the supply and demand side interventions to provide a seamless and tailored service to employers and investors in the City and train and skill up local residents to take up these opportunities.
- 1.4 The timetable for this review has been scheduled over 3 sessions, two of which have already taken place during October and November. However, the Board requested an update on progress for today's meeting. A summary note (appendix 1) on the key issues raised by the working group to-date will follow and be considered by the Board during the meeting.

1.5 In October, the Scrutiny Board made a request to receive local unemployment figures but had agreed for this information to be directed to the working group for consideration during its meeting in November (this will be reflected in the summary note).

1.6 However, more recent unemployment figures are now available and the following reports are attached for the full Board's consideration:

Appendix 2 - Monthly report to Worklessness Strategic Outcomes Group: October 2009;

Appendix 3 - Quarterly report to Worklessness Strategic Outcomes Group: October 2009. City-wide working age client group data update;

## **2.0 Recommendations**

2.1 The Board is requested to consider and comment on the summary note and local unemployment figures.

### Background Papers

None