



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods)

Date: 17th May 2010

Subject: Worklessness Review – Draft Statement

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

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 included Councillors Barry Anderson, Ann Blackburn, Graham Hyde and Josie Jarosz.
- 1.3 In acknowledging the wide range of programmes and interventions currently delivered in the City, it was considered appropriate and timely for Scrutiny to focus its review on worklessness around the development of the 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 This review has now concluded and the Board is in a position to report on its findings and recommendations resulting from the evidence gathered. The Board's draft Statement will follow and be made available prior to the meeting for the Board's consideration.

- 1.5 Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 16.3 states that "where a Scrutiny Board is considering making specific recommendations it shall invite advice from the appropriate Director(s) prior to finalising its recommendations. The Director shall consult with the appropriate Executive Member before providing any such advice. The detail of that advice shall be reported to the Scrutiny Board and considered before the Statement is finalised".
- 1.6 Any advice received will be reported at the Board's meeting for consideration, before the Board finalises its statement.
- 1.7 Once the Board publishes its final statement, the appropriate Director(s) will be asked to formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations within three months.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to consider and agree the Board's Statement following its review on Worklessness.

Background Papers

None