
Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services) **Date of Meeting:** 12 November 2013

Cabinet

5 December 2013

Subject: Employment Development and Development of Local Town Centres and Economies Working Group

Employment Development Final Report

Report of: Director of Corporate Services

Wards Affected: All

Is this a Key Decision? Yes

Is it included in the Forward Plan? Yes

Exempt/Confidential No

Purpose/Summary

To formally present the final report of the Employment Development and Development of Local Town Centres and Economies Working Group in relation to the Employment Development element of the review.

Recommendation(s)

- (1) That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services) notes the recommendations of the Working Group as set out (a)-(q) below and commends the same to Cabinet;
- (a) It be noted that the Employment Development and Development of Local Town Centres and Economies Working Group actively supports and confirms the value of the proposed Member Reference Group for Jobs and Prosperity and requests that update reports on the work of the Member Reference Group are submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services).
- (b) It be noted that the Employment Development and Development of Local Town Centres and Economies Working Group welcomes a holistic, authority-wide high-level strategy/policy that enables all Council assets to be organised in an effective way to contribute to regeneration and reduce the potential for 'silo working' thereby identifying regeneration as a cross-cutting theme across all Council activity, and requests Director of Built Environment to bring forward a Place-Based Regeneration policy for members to consider.
- (c) Further to (b) above, the Director of Built Environment and the Director of Corporate Services be requested to develop a Social Value Policy, underpinning the exercise of all the Council's powers including procurement, regulation and employment which will authorise specific obligations to be placed on providers relating to local jobs, skills and supply, and work toward publishing a set of ethical business statements that demonstrate the Council's commitment.

- (d) That the Director of Built Environment be requested to include a high-level employment, skills and local supply objective within the Local Plan to provide justification for specific conditions and policies relating to the maximisation of local benefit from proposals for development and change of use.
- (e) That the Director of Built Environment makes detailed investigation (with external expert assistance as necessary) on how to embed detailed obligations and operational targets and compliance regimes, proportional to the task, within planning consents and development agreements.
- (f) That the Director of Built Environment be requested to work through the Sefton Employment and Skills Partners Group to align all partners' employer engagement to ensure that all businesses across the Borough are given comparable opportunities to achieve our shared Employment, Education and Training objectives.
- (g) That the Council, a representative of Hugh Baird College, Southport College and other Further Education providers within the Borough be invited to update the Committee annually on the progress of their proactive work in reducing NEETs in the Borough, including the use of all available evidence to identify NEET hotspots, preparation of intervention targets to reduce numbers in these areas, together with agreed robust systems for monitoring and evaluating the impact of joint interventions; and progress with other prevention/diversion measures including studio schools.
- (h) That the Sefton Employment & Skills Partners Group be invited to develop a holistic approach to the education, training and employment needs of young people in transition from school to work, and bring forward a strategy and plan for tackling youth disengagement and long-term youth unemployment.
- (i) That the Director of Older People, in consultation with the Director of Built Environment, be requested to advise how Adult Community Learning can help to extend Digital Inclusion to hard-to-reach groups and to maximising opportunities for individuals to be trained up, ready for employment.
- (j) That the Head of Corporate Finance and ICT be requested to develop an integrated Strategy for Digital Inclusion.
- (k) It be noted that the Employment Development and Development of Local Town Centres and Economies Working Group recognises the excellent work already being undertaken by the "Family Comes First" Team in Sefton and that an annual report be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services) to update on the Team's progress in supporting Sefton's families.
- (l) That the Sefton Employment & Skills Partners Group be requested to maximise employment opportunities in relation to future and emerging growth sectors such as the SuperPort, Visitor Economy, Knowledge Economy and Low Carbon Economy.

- (m) That the Liverpool City Region, Local Enterprise Partnership be requested to customise its employment and skill forecasts to match Sefton’s specific needs and to inform the work of the Sefton Employment & Skills partners.
- (n) It be noted that the Employment Development and Development of Local Town Centres and Economies Working Group commends the excellent work undertaken by Sefton@Work and InvestSefton in attracting new business to Sefton, supporting existing businesses already operating in Sefton and the day-to-day guidance, support and advice available to the residents of Sefton.
- (o) That the Director of Built Environment be requested to submit a six-monthly Performance Monitoring report to the Overview and Scrutiny (Regeneration and Environmental Services) Committee, reporting progress made against each of the recommendations as set out in this report.
- (p) That the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Tourism be requested to develop an action/implementation plan for each of the agreed recommendations, including timescales and milestones for completion.
- (q) That the Head of Corporate Commissioning and Neighbourhood Co-ordination be requested to submit six monthly monitoring reports to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services) in relation to the impact on Sefton’s Community of the Welfare Reform.
- (2) That the Cabinet approves the recommendations of the Working Group as set out above (a)-(q).

How does the decision contribute to the Council’s Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	√		
2	Jobs and Prosperity	√		
3	Environmental Sustainability		√	
4	Health and Well-Being	√		
5	Children and Young People	√		
6	Creating Safe Communities		√	
7	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy	√		

Reasons for the Recommendation:

The Working Group has made a number of recommendations that require approval by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services) and the Cabinet.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

There are no financial implications arising for the Council as a direct result of this report.

Implications: N/A

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Legal	
Human Resources	
Equality	
1. No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact on Service Delivery: N/A

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Finance and ICT has been consulted and notes that the contents of the report indicate that there are no direct financial implications for the Council (FD 2616)

The Head of Legal Services has been consulted and has no comments on this report as there are no legal implications arising from the contents of this report. (LD1921:).

The Director of Young People and Families has been consulted on the recommendations contained within this report.

The training providers named within the final report have been advised of the proposals via receipt of the final report.

Are there any other options available for consideration? The Cabinet could refuse approval of the recommendations.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet.

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Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

BACKGROUND:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services) established the Employment Development and Development of Local Town Centres and Economies Working Group. The group has undertaken a review on issues surrounding employment development within the Borough and its final report can be accessed following the link below:-

<http://modgov.sefton.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s49910/Final%20Report%20-%20Employment%20Development%20Review%20-%20October%202013.pdf>

The Overview and Scrutiny Committees are requested to support the recommendations and commend them to the Cabinet for approval.

The Cabinet is requested to approve the recommendations.