

CAPITAL CITY PARTNERSHIP

MINUTE OF MEETING

Meeting of: **JOINED UP FOR JOBS
EVALUATION SUB-GROUP**

Held at: Capital City Partnership offices, 1 Canon Street, Canonmills, Edinburgh

Date: **WEDNESDAY 30th November 2005**

Present:

Matthew Crighton	Capital City Partnership
Stephen McMurray	Capital City Partnership
Chris Nicol	Capital City Partnership
Alister McInnes	JC+
Brian Martin	City of Edinburgh Council
Susi Corner	City of Edinburgh Council
Peter Purvis	Intowork
Keith Glancey	LLMU

Apologies:

Yvonne Edmond	Careers Scotland
Sally McGreevy	SEEL

In Attendance:

Sarah Wise	Employment Research Institute
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1 Minutes of meeting held on 31st August 2005 and Matters Arising

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Minutes agreed and no matters arising

2 ERI – EO/TNA

Sarah spoke to the paper that the ERI had produced. Attributed the low response rate of the questionnaire component of the study on research fatigue of potential participants. A total of 29 questionnaires were returned and 13 interviews were carried out. What appears to be the case is that organisations are taking a 'sameness' approach to equalities rather than taking a more pro-active approach in tackling discrimination.

There appeared to be a real issue in terms of monitoring. In that organisations are undertaking monitoring, but are not using or analysing the information. Sarah also pointed out the problem in getting ethnic data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and pointed out that the Welsh Assembly paid for a booster to the LFS in Wales.

Only 10 of the organisations have had equalities training in the past 3 years, yet nearly all of the organisations were confident that their staff had a good knowledge of these issues. The ERI had no response from the Black Community Groups when undertaking their research. Skillnet gets virtually all its referrals from the area-based intermediaries and not the Black Community Groups.

The specialist ethnic services reported that they were oversubscribed with clients. 4 organisations had no ethnic minority clients. There does not seem to be consistent good practice in monitoring and acting on ethnic minorities. For an Equal Opportunities Policy to be effective, it needs to monitor performance and make changes as appropriate. Sarah to further tighten up recommendations.

ERI
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3 Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Stephen spoke to the meeting and discussed the main items of the framework. A meeting had taken place the week before with representatives from the area-based intermediaries. The representatives had flagged up several issues, including; the resources required tracking sustainability and the limitations of the census categories in relation to ethnicity.

The draft framework and draft quarterly and annual reports were circulated prior to the ESG meeting. The draft quarterly and annual reports are the reports which the intermediaries would be expected to report to CCP on. There was some discussion on how these reports would be presented to the JU4J Strategy Group. The likelihood is that they will be compiled into 1 report per quarter and 1 annual report.

There was discussion on how do we measure performance of intermediaries. Obviously this would be perceived as threatening. Another difficulty is that there maybe a range of reasons why one intermediary appears to perform better/worse in terms of outcomes for their clients. This would need to be considered at a later date. Another issue is how in the framework we judge how disadvantaged an individual is who fits into a target group – there is no easy answer to this.

There was also a discussion on how this monitoring and evaluation framework fits in with the monitoring and evaluation undertaken by other intermediaries not funded through CCP and also the statistics from JC+ and SEEL programmes. People to send comments to Stephen.

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4 LMI Report to Strategy Group

Stephen presented a paper on the trends in IB/SDA claimants in Edinburgh over the past 5 years. The figures show an increase in those claiming whose principle disability is a mental health problem and those whose principle disability is a learning disability. Whilst the number of claimants whose principle disability was a physical disability had fallen. Peter pointed out the relevance of these figures in regards to the capacity of services to deal with disabilities and the ongoing work of the PIMs project. Stephen to clarify the definitions of the different categories of disabilities.

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Keith presented a Labour Market Data and Indicators paper. This showed that there had been an increase in the Economically Active working age population in Edinburgh between May 2004 and May 2005. A resultant fall in the Economically Inactive working age population in Edinburgh between June 2004 and May 2005. The Claimant Count has seen a slight fall in Edinburgh between October 2004 and October 2005. In terms of vacancies, the banking, finance and insurance sector has seen a fall in vacancies in Edinburgh and Lothian from 3,549 to 2,890 between October 2004 and October 2005. The largest increase has been in public administration, education and health, which increased from 991 to 1,081

5 Monitoring and Evaluation

Stephen presented the quarterly statistics from the area intermediaries and Leith Action Team and the 6 month Academies statistics. Again the statistics illustrate the need for a consistent monitoring and evaluation framework, so there is a better understanding of the Labour Market. The Healthcare and Retail Academies did not submit statistics in time for the meeting.

Chris discussed the Edinburgh ROA and the specific targets which are included in terms of; reducing the gap in unemployment levels between the city's priority wards and the city overall, increasing the economically active working age population, increasing the employment rate, reducing the children in worklessness households, reducing the NEET 16-19 proportion. Chris considered it important that partners put

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'meat on the bones' in addition to the statistical collection undertaken by Chris.

7 Research Updates

Matthew spoke to the research updates. The Prison Leavers study undertaken by Eddy Adam Consultants was now complete. The mapping study carried out Skillnet on ethnic minority services in Edinburgh has just been completed. The ECCE is undertaking research on the views of their members on the recommendations of the Baseline Study, there was concern shown in regards to the long list of questions and also what knowledge employers would have in relation to the issues brought up in the study. TERU at Glasgow University was continuing their evaluation of Working Together.

Keith gave an update on the research activities at LLMU, including travel to work reports for the 4 local authority areas, a study on the knowledge economy and commissioning the ERI to do some work on Socioeconomic activities.

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8 Remit

It is considered that the Evaluation sub-group needs a written remit to clearly understand its role within JU4J. Matthew and Stephen to write.

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9 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 15th February, 2pm at CCP