



Partnership Forum

STRATEGIC - Formal link for two way dialogue/influence between partner agencies and JUFJ Strategy Group

PRACTICAL - Promoting partnership working/developing new mechanisms to deliver JUFJ strategy

COORDINATION - Exchanging good practice and enhancing coordination of services

Date: Thursday, 11 June 2010

Venue: Business Centre, City Chambers

1 Introduction from Chair and matters arising

Dughall Laing welcomed everyone to the Forum and introductions were made.

Proposals for the allocation of remainder of ESF/ERDF funding have now been issued. One proposal would be a single call for co-ordinated area-specific or national bids for ESF Priority 5 (from CPPs, STUC, SFC, SDS). Bids would be subject to a negotiated process to produce the required demand-side connections and partner delivery, including with the FE and Third sectors.

A full list of the proposals can be seen at <http://www.esep.co.uk/07-news-updates.html>. Any comments on these changes should be passed to Dughall.

Dughall welcomed Lorraine Buckley-Black from Four Square as a new member of the steering group who replaces Hazel Smith from Women Onto Work.

Disclosure Scotland was invited along to the Forum to explain their processes and why it takes so long for a result. They declined and said their website held this information. However, they will be asked again for a meeting.

Hildegard Wylezalek from Apex Scotland said they had been awarded funding from CJA to help women ex-offenders. She asked that anyone who knows of clients who might benefit to contact her.

2 Strategy update – Matthew Crighton, CCP

Matthew said that within the last JSG minutes there was a report on elements of the Operational Plan. He said if anyone had any questions they should speak to him during the break.

GPs and other health workers have concerns with the transfer of claimants from IB to ESA/JSA and the assessment used to do this. The Health and Employability subgroup say this is a national question and JCP acknowledges this. There are now appeals on 40% of cases but it is a complex issue.

Matthew is to attend a meeting in London with DWP to discuss the new government's Work Programme.

Skills issues are currently being considered for the Strategy – should we have targets around skills; skills strategy around Edinburgh and a possible Skills Summit. The colleges are also involved in this discussion.

3 **“Recession academy” update – George Wilson, Napier University**

George explained the idea was to connect teachers/lecturers who have been made redundant with other workers in the same situation in order to develop/build/maintain skills and confidence. He believes there is enough interest to make this happen but it needs organisation. He asked people to contact him if they are able to help.

4 **Employability awareness training – Bruce Penman, WEA**

Bruce said the training was to raise awareness of employability across other sectors working with the same client groups. It is intended to provide a half day’s training which would make workers aware of the services provided by Forum partners and help them understand clients’ needs, who’s there to help, resources available, etc.

Matthew said he would like to know if agencies have a problem finding suitable organisations to help. Bruce said that the process should bring any such problems to light.

Stevenson College has been successful in winning the Multi Area Contract. Delivery has started although development work is ongoing. A seminar may be held in due course for potential stakeholders to introduce the staff team and provide information on delivery of service, providing value etc.

5 **Supported employment framework – Liz Catterson, Scottish Government**

Liz spoke to her presentation which provided the background to creating the framework.

It is primarily for employability partnerships and providers of mainstream services. Initially for people with significant disabilities causing problems of employment but some approaches/tools may be applied to other groups.

[Presentation Available via this link](#)

6 **Halcrow Report – Ken Shaw, CEC**

Ken spoke to his presentation then took questions.

Q – Where will the money be?

A – There is still work to be done on procurement strategy. The lead in the Council will come from City Development. Health and Social Care has a substantial share of the budget applied to access to employment.

Q – Will there be a reduction in funding available?

A – Budget for commissioning probably reduced by about a third.

Q – How will you balance quality with cost?

A – By looking at what’s true value of service as well as hard outcomes.

[Presentation Available via this link](#)

7 **Outcome based funding workshop – Bruce Penman/steering group**

Bruce said it is a challenge to get the funding model right and highlighted a KPMG Consultation document called Payment for Success which recommends payment by result should be across the whole of the public sector.

The meeting broke into 3 groups to discuss whether outcomes based funding:

1. Encourages and supports partnership working?
2. Satisfies the 'outcomes based' or 'payment for success' agenda?
3. Is sustainable in current economic climate?

The following points were made in group discussion and summarised on flip charts:

- Creates unhelpful competition between agencies/risk of not referring on.
- Is evidence welcome also on soft outcomes/distance travelled etc and can we agree a proposal on how to measure this?
- Can't be used for ESF match funding.
- There is a need to distinguish from what mainstream provides – demonstrate difference.
- If there are no jobs in current economic climate, can we use other progressions – training/skills/volunteering?
- Need national strategy to recognise current lack of jobs.
- Important to keep client positively engaged.
- Need to create opportunities for people not in mainstream.
- Reward funding through stages/pipeline funding?
- Element of trust between organisations.
- Could ESF model become CPP model?
- Danger for small organisations.
- Danger of avoiding hardest to help clients in order to meet targets/outcomes.
- How do partners determine the share of the funds?
- Needs to regard cashflow.
- Balance of funding between H&SC and employability?
- Short term funding needs to change.
- Co-location/sharing skills/resources.

It was agreed more dialogue was required but this needs to be done soon. Anyone who wants to participate should contact Dughall by email dughalllaing@actiongroup.org.uk.

8 **JU4J Customer Charter presentations – Dughall Laing**

These were awarded to:

1. EDINBURGH CYRENIANS - Carol-Anne Alcorn/Karen Quinn
2. SPECTRUM - Lorraine Buckley-Black/James Gilfillan
3. WEST EDINBURGH ACTION - Jane Stewart – WEACTION

9 **DONM**

13 August 2010 – Business Centre, City Chambers

ATTENDEES	
Name	Organisation
Dughall Laing	The Action Group
Brittany Jack	Ingeus
Matthew Crighton	Capital City Partnership
Isobel Campbell	NSF Scotland (Next Step)
Susan Rae	Support@Work
Jane Stewart	WEACT
Rona Conafray	WEACT
Fiona Drape	Intowork
Isobel Boyd	Supported Employment Team CEC
David Bain	Intowork
Asima Hussain	Networks
Kirsty Wood	Real Jobs
James Gilfillan	Spectrum
Alan Christie	CEC (Edinburgh Partnership)
Alistair McInnes	Jobcentre Plus
Jenny Ewing	Capital City Partnership
Carol-Anne Alcorn	Cyrenians
Karen Quinn	Cyrenians
Emma Salisbury	Training Opportunities in Lothian (POLHA)
Hildegard Wylezalek	Apex Scotland
Ruth Barr	NHS Lothian Vocational Rehab Service
Tom Reid	Working for Families
Stuart Macfarlane	Working for Families
Ken Crump	Capital City Partnership
Asim Ahmed	A4E
Trish Lindsay	Women Onto Work
Don Stubbings	EUS Community Learning Centre
Vivienne Robinson	Working for Families
Myrtle Veitch	Capital City Partnership
Lorraine Buckley-Black	Spectrum
Seamus Spencer	Passport