



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 15 October 2009

Venue: Business Centre, City Chambers

1 **Strategy Update** – Jenny Ewing, Capital City Partnership

Jenny spoke to her presentation.

2 **Welfare to Work Update** – Alister McInnes, Jobcentre Plus

Alister spoke to his presentation. He then opened to questions which included:

- What does the Care option cover?
- What financial input is there for the Community Task Force element?
- Will clients continue on benefits while on the 25 hour a week Community Task Force placement? Alister said that they would but it is not yet known whether additional payments will be made.
- Will the young people, and youth workers if necessary, have any input into what option they undertake? Alister said yes as there needs to be agreement for it to work.
- Projects are currently encouraged to help people go into volunteering and come off benefits – will this 'reset clock' with regard to benefits?
- When will it become mandatory to choose an option? Alister said talks will start with the client at 39 weeks. If one doesn't work out they can try another. Refusal may incur sanctions.
- Will clients be channelled into sectors where there is growth? Alister said that JCP would be speaking to employers while training was underway.

Alister didn't have all the information to hand yet but would take the questions back to find the answers.

3 **Network Communications** – Carena Brogan, Capital City Partnership

Carena spoke to her presentation.

Website

- The JU4J website currently has no links with partner organisations' websites. Could these be set up?
- There are also gaps in information which need to be filled by partner organisations.

- 20 volunteers are required to trial the website in order to highlight any difficulties encountered.

4 **DONM**

The next forum will be on Thursday 10th December in the Business Centre.

ATTENDEES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation</u>
Sue Robertson	One Parent Families Scotland
Maria Cavin	NHS Lothian – Work Rehabilitation Service
Julie Woods	Phoenix Futures – P2W
Hildegard Wylezalek	Apex Scotland
Gavin Edmonds	Spectrum
George Wilson	Edinburgh Napier
Alister McInnes	Jobcentre Plus
A Paul	Skills Development Scotland
Susan Rae	Support@Work
Barbara Webster	North Edinburgh Childcare
Gillian Cousin	Midlothian Council
Lynne Woodman	DHP Scotland
Grace Speirs	RNIB Scotland
Peter Purves	Intowork
Emma Hunter	Access to Industry
Jenny Ewing	CCP
Carena Brogan	CCP
Bruce Penman	Stevenson College Edinburgh
Jerusalem Barnabas	Skillnet Edinburgh
Myrtle Veitch	CCP