

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

SCRUTINY REVIEW INTO INCLUSIVE GROWTH

UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS – OCTOBER 2019

Below is an overview of actions taken to date following implementation of the recommendations agreed by the Executive with regard to the Community Leadership Scrutiny Committee's Scrutiny Review into inclusive growth:

Recommendation	Action undertaken
<p>(1) That the Council works with The Network to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- review/establish referral mechanisms between Lincolnshire MOVE Partnership (which helps people aged 16+ move into employment) and The Network (which helps people aged 16-24 with advice and guidance including on training and employment);- identify referral opportunities between The Network, Lincolnshire Move Partnership and Linkage Community Trust (a Lincolnshire based charity helping people with learning difficulties on a range of topics, including employment);- identify how the key sectors important to economic growth in the city are targeted.	<p>The Network initially established robust referral mechanisms with the MOVE partnership operated by Voluntary Centre Services. The MOVE project offers a range of intensive support to people furthest from the labour market who may be experiencing multiple barriers preventing them from accessing learning and work which supplements the opportunities available to young people through The Network. Young people accessing support from the MOVE project are also encouraged and supported to visit The Network to find out about opportunities available to them once they overcome initial issues and barriers and are in a position to consider moving into work or learning. The Network also works closely with Volunteer Centre Services to enable young people to access volunteering opportunities to supplement their learning and job search.</p> <p>The Network has now developed one to one support and advice for young people as part of the Greater Lincolnshire MOVE Project – an initial trial support package commenced in February 2019 with a view to becoming a formal project delivery partner in July 2019. Funding has now been secured for two years (July 2019 – June 2021) for The Network to provide targeted support to young people furthest from the labour market to move closer to work and training.</p>

	<p>The Council has reviewed and is responding to the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership's Local Industrial Strategy which has identified key sectors important to economic growth across the Greater Lincolnshire area and three key priorities – productivity, wages and inclusive growth and resilience. The Council wants to use this evidence base to develop its own Inclusive Growth Strategy for the city and wider urban area. A brief is being prepared for this.</p>
<p>(2) That the Council continues to support the Living Wage and promote the emerging Corporate Social Responsibility Charter.</p>	<p>The Council continues to support and adopt the Living Wage.</p> <p>The Corporate Social Responsibility Charter has been officially launched with 60 businesses currently signed up. The Charter had initially been promoted through business groups such as the Business Breakfast Forum, the Bailgate Guild and the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, as well as via the Council's social media and Your Lincoln magazine. Further engagement and promotional activity will take place next year, targeting all businesses in Lincoln who pay non-domestic rates.</p>
<p>(3) That the Council seeks out funding opportunities to expand the offer of employability courses currently provided by the authority with Health and Wellbeing Board funding and delivered through Lincoln College. These offer free courses to low income households to upskill and secure employment.</p>	<p>The highly successful four-year Health and Wellbeing Board 'Assisting Low Income Households' project ended in September 2019. Officers are working on a potential bid for European Social Fund monies to expand and further enhance the principles of the Assisting Low Income Households scheme into a new, wider project.</p>
<p>(4) That the Council continues to support young people to gain practical skills through supporting the National Citizens Service workshops and providing work experience placements.</p>	<p>The Council continues to offer work experience placements and has a successful apprenticeship scheme in place, providing young people with opportunities to gain practical skills and experience.</p>

<p>(5) That the Council begins a discussion with key strategic partners in the city to identify any similarities in investment priorities in Lincoln, and explore opportunities to pool or co-ordinate resources to deliver on shared agendas that continue to make Lincoln a great place to live, work and enjoy.</p>	<p>This is part of the Council's 'business as usual' approach to engage stakeholders to deliver the best outcomes for the city. It is proposed to set up a city board of stakeholders to oversee the anticipated Town Deal programme. The prospectus is expected shortly.</p>
<p>(6) That the findings of this inclusive growth review be considered in any future economic or industrial strategies produced by the Council. For example, this could include supporting initiatives that may help people work flexibly around childcare responsibilities.</p>	<p>Inclusive growth is a key priority within the Local Industrial Strategy and will be for any city strategy.</p>
<p>(7) That the Department for Work and Pensions have a discussion with the Council's Planning Services to explore any opportunities to encourage local employment when engaging with developers.</p>	<p>An initial meeting took place in 2018 to make the Council's Planning Services aware of Department for Work and Pensions schemes to assist people into work for new/expanding businesses looking to recruit. A follow-up meeting took place in September 2019 to further develop this principle, and this process will be reviewed in January 2020.</p>
<p>(8) That the Council explores options to offer skills and training to small businesses.</p>	<p>The Council continues to explore options to offer skills and training to small businesses.</p>
<p>(9) That the Council works with organisations such as the Lincolnshire Open Research and Innovation Centre which aims to share learning and good practice across the business community of Lincolnshire.</p>	<p>The Council continues to explore opportunities to work with organisations such as the Lincolnshire Open Research and Innovation Centre.</p>