



Glasgow City Region - City Deal

Cabinet

Report by Director of Regional Economic Growth

Contact: Kevin Rush Tel: 0141 287 4613

Item 7

13th August 2019

Working Matters Evaluation Final Report

Purpose of Report:

This report accompanies a presentation to the Cabinet on the final evaluation report for the Working Matters Project and to propose that the findings be used to inform the future regional approach to delivering employability services.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet is requested to:

- (1) note the Conclusions and Recommendations of the Final Evaluation Report of Working Matters and the presentation provided by GCC as the Project Lead; and
- (2) agree that the Glasgow City Region Skills & Employment Portfolio Group consider the Evaluation Report and how the lessons learned from Working Matters can shape the future regional approach to the delivery of employability services.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report accompanies a presentation to the Cabinet on the final evaluation report for the Working Matters Project and to propose that the findings be used to inform the future regional approach to delivering employability services.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Working Matters (WM) project was approved as part of the Glasgow City Region City Deal in August 2014 and became operational in August 2015. The total funding package is £9m, made up of £4.5m grant award from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and £4.5m match funding provided by the 8 City Region Member Authorities (MAs).
- 2.2 The programme was designed to operate over three years from August 2015 until August 2018, in recognition that the majority of the client group would require long term, intensive support to progress into employment. The Glasgow City Region Chief Executives' Group (CEG) and the DWP agreed that the delivery of the project would be extended and would conclude on 31 March 2019.

3. Evaluation

- 3.1 Independent consultants, Ekosgen, were commissioned to carry out an ongoing evaluation of the project and their interim findings have previously been presented to the CEG.
- 3.2 The Final Evaluation Report for Working Matters has been produced and it has been shared with the Working Matters Operational Delivery Group who have provided feedback on the contents. The full report is available on Objective Connect and by request to the Clerk. The Conclusions and Recommendations are attached as an Appendix to this report and GCC as the Project Lead for Working Matters will present the findings at the CEG meeting on 1 August 2019 and Cabinet 13 August 2019.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 This report proposes that the Skills & Employment Portfolio Group is asked by the Cabinet to consider the findings of the Evaluation Report and how the lessons learned from Working Matters can shape the future regional approach to the delivery of employability services.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 The Cabinet is requested to:
 - (1) note the Conclusions and Recommendations of the Final Evaluation Report of Working Matters and the presentation provided by GCC as the Project Lead; and

- (2) agree that the Glasgow City Region Skills & Employment Portfolio Group consider the Evaluation Report and how the lessons learned from Working Matters can shape the future regional approach to the delivery of employability services.