

## BRIDLINGTON LEARNING AND SKILLS FORUM

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 20 JUNE 2018 AT 9.30AM AT BRIDLINGTON BUSINESS CENTRE

- Present:** Mike Heslop-Mullens – Bridlington Town Council  
Jane Elsworth-Barker – Aspire Igen  
Sophia White – Christ Church Community Services  
Neil Murray - Activfirst  
Melanie Brown – East Riding College  
Adrian Brown – Pure Training Solutions  
Sue Revell – Shaw Trust  
Fiona Turner – ERVAS  
Chris Adams – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Education and Skills Partnership  
Jackie Langley – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Adult Learning  
Anne Wright – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Children’s Centre  
Ann Colling – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Children’s Centre  
Rob Warner – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Local Growth Team  
Vicky Bolton – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Local Growth Team
- Apologies:** Jools Thomspn – Workers Education Alliance (WEA)  
Tomasz Glinski – Refugee Council  
Jan Simpson, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Project Coordinator  
Andy Levitt – Headlands School

#### 1. Minutes of last meeting/matters arising

Minutes approved as true record.

#### 2. CLLD Programme Update

##### General Update

Progress with the CLLD Programme now sees us in a position where delivery of projects will begin very soon. There are two Compliance Workshops organised for Monday 25 June – one focusing on ESF and one on ERDF. All those with an approved project have been invited to attend and will be talked through the claim process and what evidence is required for each of the outcomes. Standardised paperwork will be given out at these workshops.

Further workshops will be arranged as and when required when future projects are agreed.

The Programme Local Action Group (LAG) are required to meet twice each year. The latest LAG meeting was held in May with very low numbers in attendance. This was expected due to the time delays with getting the programme up and running. Future meetings will focus on what projects are delivering and in the pipeline with an overview of the remaining funding. LAG members are asked to act as advocates for the programme, to gain an understanding of the aims and how this can work in a local context and promote opportunities to access the funding or make links with other providers. The group was asked to promote the opportunity to join the LAG to their networks, once someone has signed up the LAG opportunities to join the ERDF PMG and Executive Group could be

discussed.

### **Project Update**

There have been a wide range of applications submitted to the programme. Three of these have been rejected for various reasons and several have not progressed past the EOI stage. 14 have been through the full compliance route and have been approved for delivery. A further 7 have been submitted to full application and are currently going through the compliance check. An additional 12 EOIs have been approved to move to full application.

The ESF fund aims to engage 5000 people across both areas with 2000 of these having to gain employment, 500 move onto further education and training and a further 500 inactive need to move on job search benefits. The employment measure is 1 day in employment but we are aiming for more sustained outcomes. This needs to be achieved whilst on programme or within 4 weeks of the programme ending. The education and training does not need to be accredited but needs to be meaningful.

In order to be eligible for participant on any ESF programmes individuals do not have to be claiming benefits but must not be in employment. For each individual there can only be one Individual Learner Record but individuals can move between support – for instance one project could claim a start and another could claim a job outcome. 80% of participants for ESF provision have to come from the 20% most deprived areas – postcodes and evidence will be required in order to prove this.

### **Bridlington ESF**

The total amount available for Bridlington is just under £1 million. Grants are given out on a 60% rate with a 40% match requirement.

A spreadsheet was handed around detailing projects. Three have been approved – The Hub by Activfirst, Healthy Lives by Christ Church and Lone Parent Mentor by Aspire Igen.

One has been submitted to full application with a decision expected on 5 July – Inspiring Their Futures submitted by Headlands School.

A further three have been submitted as EOIs – Brid Works by ERYC Adult Learning, Employability Support by Cat Zero and Parents into Work by ERYC Early Years.

Most projects have requested funding for three year projects. It is expected that funding, in principle, will be awarded for three years but will be performance managed with reviews at the end of each year.

The amount of interest in this fund has led to increased pressures to meet the strict employment outputs required and there is not much money left to allocate.

### **Scarborough ESF**

The total amount available for Scarborough is £2.4 million. Grants are given out on a 50% rate with a 50% match requirement.

Two projects have been approved – Employment Support by Scarborough Jobmatch and Seafood Social by Whitby Seafood.

Three have been submitted to full application with a decision expected on 5 July – Sight Support submitted by Yorkshire Coast Sight Support, Over 50s Training Support submitted by Age UK and Street Based Youth Support submitted by Sidewalk Youth.

A further two have been submitted as EOIs – Sparks by Blue Dragonfly Resources and Inclusion Zone Healthy Hub by Shop Mobility.

As above, most projects have requested funding on a three year basis which will be performance managed.

There is still around 75% of the funding pot available.

The ERDF Fund has 5 outputs. It is required to provide support to 300 enterprises, provide support to 150 new enterprises, increase employment in supported enterprises by 200, support 400 potential entrepreneurs to become enterprise ready and build or renovate 1500 square metres of public or commercial floorspace.

### **Bridlington ERDF**

The ERDF funds have been split into capital and revenue – this split has been agreed at local authority level and, therefore, can be amended if required as long as all outputs will still be achieved.

The total available for capital in Bridlington is £600,000 and the total available for revenue is £706,000. Grants are given out on a 70% rate with a 30% match requirement.

Three projects have been approved – Social Enterprise Ambassador submitted by CavCa, Office Extension submitted by Activfirst and Hilderthorpe Multi-Purpose Centre submitted by ERYC.

Two have been submitted to full application – Chip Production submitted by Richardson and Sons and Clinical Skills Centre submitted by East Riding College.

A further four are in the pipeline – Activfirst Business Support by Activfirst, Learning to Earning submitted by Athena Aspire, The Hinge Hub submitted by Club for Young People and Creative Arts Network submitted by Create.

### **Scarborough ERDF**

Funds have been split into capital and revenue as above.

The total available for capital in Scarborough is £600,000 and the total available for revenue is £816,000. Grants are given out on a 60% rate with a 40% match requirement.

Six projects have been approved – Enterprise Coach by Scarborough Jobmatch, Fit for Business by Yorkshire in Business, Construction Skills Network by Northern Regeneration, Enhancing Scarborough Construction Skills Village by Scarborough Borough Council, Centre Renovations by Age UK and Social Enterprise Ambassador by CavCa.

One has been submitted to full application – Inclusion Zone Healthy Living Hub Renovations by Shop Mobility.

A further four have been submitted to EOIs – West BS Expansion by West BS, Seaweed Hatchery by Seagrown, Fit for Business Delivery by Yorkshire in Business and Creative Arts Network by Create.

An overview of each project will be sent to the Learning and Skills Forum prior to delivery to enable knowledge for referrals.

It was explained to the group that a lot of organisations had delivered ESIF in the past and were surprised at the paperwork requirements involved in applying to the fund. This is due to different management arrangements and the fact that there is no intermediary in this process such as HLC. Applications are made directly to the managing authorities with ERYC just taking on some of the administrative role. It is important that this is related to all applicants and potential applicants.

Claims are paid on evidence of defrayal and can be made on a monthly basis. ERYC will then make quarterly claims from the managing authorities. This should allow for a

smoother process than has sometimes been experienced when applying for funds through intermediaries.

It was asked if there was money underspent in Scarborough whether this could potentially be moved to Bridlington. This is not possible. The managing authorities have stipulated the amounts available for each area. There is a chance more money could be allocated to us from other unspent provision from other areas in the future.

A discussion was had around the need for specialist mental health support to be available for those working with individuals furthest from the workplace. Although all agreed that this was vital support it is not something which will be possible through CLLD due to the high number of outputs required in comparison to the funds available. Some individual projects have included this within their own bids.

It is expected that future calls for projects will be targeted based on the outputs outstanding. Details on all projects will be posted on the Advantage Coast website - <http://www.advantagecoast.org.uk/>

### 3. **Partner Updates**

#### **East Riding College**

The college are currently hosting a fashion and art show at the site in Bridlington; this will run each day for the rest of the week between 10am and 4pm.

They continue to focus on addressing the skills gap and employment levels.

#### **Education and Skills Partnership**

They have secured some funding for the Log On Move On website to develop it into a careers gateway including the employability passport, CV writer and apprenticeship search. They have also made links with the Opportunity Area in Scarborough and the website will now include all post 16 providers in the Scarborough area.

Funding has also been secured for a Primary Careers Quality Mark working with 10 primary schools one of which will be in Bridlington.

This will be the last meeting Chris attends as he is leaving to train to be a secondary teacher. All the best was wished for his future journey.

#### **ERVAS**

ERVAS were not successful in securing the voluntary and community support services contract from ERYC. They still have a lot of contracts and work continuing. FT is working on the development of a community building for Bridlington. This will be town centre based and incorporate support for the homeless, youth coalition, crime prevention and disability support. The aim is to provide a one stop shop for a range of advice. A building has been identified and will be revealed once it is more secure.

FT has also been successful in securing funding for delivering the Local Links Network. The next meeting for Bridlington will take place on 19 July from 10.15 at the Sport and Community Club. Anyone wishing to have a stand please contact Fiona – [Fiona@ervas.org.uk](mailto:Fiona@ervas.org.uk)

#### **Pure Training Solutions**

PTS are focusing on providing full cost compliance courses aimed at those in the workplace due to the register of unemployed being quite low at this time.

### **Aspire Igen**

Currently hold the contract for delivery of National Careers Service across York and North Yorkshire. The register may be low but they have not experienced a drop off in the number of referrals they receive. Aspire Igen are also delivering Inspire Me which works with the long term unemployed.

### **Christ Church Community Services**

Have Community Learning Funds until July when the CLLD project, Healthy Lives, will start, referrals can be taken from now.

Sophia has also recently completed the Humber Employability Passport so each of her learners will be awarded this status.

Also recently held a Syrian Pop Up lunch where the Syrian refugees cooked traditional Syrian food for a wide range of people. The event was a huge success with 110 people through the door. The Syrian population are determined to find employment – the main barrier is the language.

### **Activfirst**

Activfirst have secured CLLD funding for an employability support programme in Bridlington. Two new mentors have been recruited and delivery starts from 1 July. An additional project assistant is required and is being advertised on the website currently.

Staff are also taking part in a charity walk at the weekend on behalf of MIND – donations are possible via the Activfirst Twitter feed.

### **Shaw Trust**

The Work Programme is finishing in March 2019. They aren't taking new referrals, just providing support to the clients they are already working with so numbers are low. Sue is working 2 days in Bridlington and 2 in Hull.

### **Bridlington Town Council**

The Bridlington Youth Coalition are organising an event on 31 August for those aged 10 and above – this will take place at the Club for Young People on the Havenfield Estate.

### **Adult Learning**

Are doing a lot of work with the Syrian refugees around employment. Those who have been here a year are still struggling with their English and not yet ready for employment.

They are also delivering the BBO contract in Bridlington and are doing a lot of work with ESA claimants. Following on from this they are submitting a bid to work with those long term ESA claimants who are unlikely to ever be work ready.

The Renu project is focusing on JSA claimants over 50 and is linked to Christ Church.

Springboard which focuses on 18-24s is set to end in July, an underspend may extend the project to January 2019.

They also have some LEP money to deliver a contract called Bounce Back which centres on low level mental health and involves a consultant delivering workshops on mental toughness.

In Beverley they are running a Finding Your Voice workshop in East Riding Theatre, again targeted at 18-24s. They can take referrals from Bridlington and provide transport in most cases.

### **Children's Centre**

The work has started on the Hilderthorpe site and groundworks are in. It is aimed to be finished by December and for staff to be in during January. The new build will house the

children's centre, the early intervention team, social services, troubled families, a nursery and support services.

The children's centre can support with emergency childcare. For instance if a parent is on a ten week programme but cannot attend due to childcare this could be covered. Providers were encouraged to speak to the children's centre and find out more details in case this is something that would benefit in the future.

The Advisory Board meetings are currently on hold as the format is being reviewed.

7. **Dates for 2018**

It was agreed to cancel the meeting in July and meet again in September.

19 September 9.30am

17 October 9.30am

21 November 9.30am

8. **Any other business**

The group discussed the option of using 40% staff overheads when applying for an ESF grant. Further details can be sought by contacting [Vicky.bolton@eastriding.gov.uk](mailto:Vicky.bolton@eastriding.gov.uk)