

Report of the Director of Corporate and Adult Services

Local Employment Partnerships Agreement

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Council enters into a Local Employment Partnerships Agreement with Jobcentre Plus.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 Jobcentre Plus – JCP - want to work in partnership with local employers to provide opportunities for unemployed people to enter employment. Local Employment Partnerships – LEPs - are one of the mechanisms by which JCP is trying to achieve its objectives. As the City Council is one of the largest employers in Derby, we are seen as a potential key LEP partner for JCP.
- 2.2 Being an LEP employer will help demonstrate to our local community that we have faith in the local workforce, and that we want to provide job opportunities for local people.
- 2.3 LEP will help potential recruits move from welfare to sustained employment with the council and continue developing their skills to encourage progression.
- 2.4 We will encourage managers to use the specific measures within the LEP to support more potential recruits from JCP back into work.
- 2.5 JCP clients are generally currently in receipt of benefit payments and not working. Signing up to this agreement will mean we are giving some of these people the opportunity to gain employment with the Council.
- 2.6 JCP is tasked with maximising the employment of LEP candidates and, to do so, they will be working closely with them to get them as 'job ready' as possible to allow them the opportunity to secure employment.
- 2.7 In practical terms, the current recruitment activities run jointly between the Environmental Services department and JCP will deliver the LEP; formal assent to the partnership will allow JCP and the council to publicise existing relationship in this area of work and show a shared determination to assisting local unemployed people back into the workforce.

For more information contact:	Karen o'Donnell, Corporate Recruitment Adviser on x 5582 or by e-mail to karen.o'donnell@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Legal

- 2.1 The Agreement is a demonstration of our commitment to give local unemployed people an opportunity to work for the Council, it is not a legally binding agreement.
- 2.2 The necessary consent to share data in respect of LEP clients with JCP is already covered in our application form.

Human Resources

3. As shown in the main body of the report.

Equalities impact

4. This Agreement is a local partnership which means we will only be working with local people. The agreement could support our on-going activity to address under-representation in the Council's workforce.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

5. Getting people off benefit and into employment will have a significant impact, both directly and indirectly, on the quality of their lives. Therefore the LEP Agreement can contribute to the Council's objectives and priorities.