

Proposed Topic Review: 'Volunteering Opportunities across the City' Combined with 'Which Employers across the City are paying the Living Wage?'

Background

At its meeting on 18 July 2016 the Supporting Derby's Workforce Board discussed their topic review choice for the municipal year 2016/17. After a debate, the Board chose to look at 'Volunteering opportunities across the city', combined with 'Which employers across the city are paying the Living Wage?'

The Review

Members wished to carry out a survey of the top 200 companies in Derby to establish which employers paid the actual living wage and if they did not pay it what were the barriers to paying it. Members also wished to establish what volunteering opportunities the companies offered their employees.

Aims and Objectives of the Review

The Board had 3 aims for the review

Aims of the review

1. To encourage employers in the city to sign up to the employment charter.
2. To give the Board an understanding of which employers pay the actual Living Wage.
3. To identify if employers allowed their employees volunteering opportunities either individually or corporately.

The objectives of the review

1. To establish which employers across the city pay the actual living wage.
2. To establish if employers pay the living wage and why they pay it and if they don't pay it what are the barriers to paying it.
3. To establish if employers provide volunteering opportunities for their employees.
4. To establish how the Council can work with businesses to provide volunteering opportunities linked to our services and review our policies if necessary.
5. To make recommendations to the Council Cabinet.

Proposed methodology

To carry out a survey of the top 200 companies in Derby. The Board will consider written and oral information in gathering evidence for the review.

Witnesses

It is suggested that the Board carries out a survey and calls the following witnesses

- Lead officers from Human Resources

- Lead officers from Regeneration
- Head of Libraries
- Volunteering bureau

What evidence do we need to gather?

- **Policies and Strategies**
 - All policies and practices for Derby City Council on volunteering
 - Employment Charter
- **Policies and practices in other local authorities**
 - Comparator authorities – do they have an employment charter and do they have a volunteering policy?
- **Other information**
 - A survey of the top 200 companies in Derby
 - Living Wage Foundation information
 - Volunteer bureau

Timing and Timescales for the Review

The timescales for the review below are approximate.

19 September 2016	To draft the scoping report and design a survey
17 October 2016	SDW Board to amend/approve scoping report and survey
	To send out a survey to the top 200 companies in Derby Allow x weeks for a response.
16 January 2017	To consider the survey results and make recommendations SDW Board – agree to delegate sign off recommendations to chair/vice chair of the Board.
February 2017	Finalise recommendations
March 2017	Write report and agree it at the Board
10 April 2017	Move meeting to March to fit with the Council Cabinet reporting timescales.
12 April	Recommendations and final report to Council Cabinet.

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