

Meetings Feedback form for Borders Community Action Representatives

Name and purpose of meeting: Local Employability Partnership - LEP	
Date of meeting: 11/07/2024	Attended by: J Amaral
Relevant agenda items:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employability event 13/09 • Mapping and Gapping exercise update • SPF (people and skills) and Multiply • Funding applications deliberations 	
Specific points of interest:	
<p>An employability event is being planned for Employability day on 13th September – the LEP and venue are leading this is to be identified with invitations circulated – Juliana asked about 3rd sector involvement and invitation at the event:</p> <p>Juliana provided an update on the Mapping and Gapping exercise, Ryan Martin started on 01/07 as the new BCA Employability lead. Sara Ward, independent local consultant has been appointed to lead the mapping and gapping exercise in the Borders. Sara is well known in the Borders and has a good knowledge of the employability provision and third sector landscape.</p> <p>Funding deliberations – funding applications were deliberated. The main points raised were around the importance of looking at the local landscape and provision. Fund local organisations first so they can expand their provisions and when fund is allocated to a national organisation, that consideration is given for partnerships and collaborations with locally based organisations.</p> <p>Multiply - Lesley Forsyth provided an update on multiply. This fund is now part of the people and skills intervention. UK government ring fenced an allocation to Multiply (Adult literacy programme), originally £280K but due to timescales this was passed on to the LEP. As the multiply project has now gained traction, the team is requesting a return of £70K. There is a risk that underspent is returned to government since funds need to be allocated by March 2025. Discussion around evidence of work delivered to date before a decision is made.</p> <p>Grant offer letter from Scottish Government for No One Left Behind: £1.6M allocated to the Borders. The total remaining amount is £368,448 after other committed funds are allocated.</p> <p>Employer recruitment incentives/ paid work placements: £75K – engaging employers paid work placements. Including apprenticeships – wider discussions around the need to support SMEs and third sector organisations struggling with to maintain the real living wage.</p> <p>NOLB EOI – Driving skills – this was approved due to the success of round 1 delivered in the Borders.</p>	

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Family Wellbeing Programme – This was approved with the condition suggested by Juliana that a conditional for national organisations seeking funds to liaise with local third sector organisations in the borders to avoid duplication of effort and to promote collaboration and partnership work.

CSCS (construction skills certification scheme) Scottish Borders Training – this was approved as partners all identified the need for this type of project to support local people in obtaining certification. It was identified by the job centre through the job fair, that a high percentage of people in the Borders could not move into the construction sector due to the lack of certification and inability to cover the costs to obtain this.

Additional Needs Life skills support – this was approved. It was agreed that this type of intervention is needed in the Borders.

Other updates:

CTTS Telecommunications company – moved into Melrose, this is a training academy funded by SOSE and City Regional deal partnership. Open day at Tweed Horizons on 27th August, the event is open to everyone to come along and find out more about what they are doing.

Training opportunities available across the partnership are to be compiled and shared through the LEP

Scottish Approach to service re-design training – costs being compiled for this to be delivered in the Borders. Possibly two half days.

Actions from this meeting:

Notes to be distributed

Distribution list for information:

BCA Team and BCA members

Signed: J Amaral