

## Report of the Chief Executive

**JOBS CLUB**1. Purpose of report

To update members of the Committee on the Eastwood Jobs Club and present options for its continuation.

2. Background

At the meeting of the Committee on 16 July 2018, members were updated on the Eastwood Jobs Club, which has been running since February 2018. The jobs club was originally set up by the Communities team. The jobs club provides valuable training, resources and support to local people in Eastwood who are out of work. The jobs club looks to encourage members back into work, training or up skilling to get them closer to the job market. It was then agreed the Economic Regeneration Team would fund the initiative from April 2018 and feedback the project's success and its achievements.

3. Breakdown of participant and progress

There have been 154 participants to date of these:

- 122 have been supported with IT support.
- Learn My Way and Online Basics has been accessed by 59 participants.
- 48 have had an email account set up.
- 25 participants have undertaken interviews.
- 48 have progressed onto other training with DHA.
- 8 people have moved into work in various sectors.

4. Financial implications

It is estimated that the cost will be £1,000 for each six-month period, there is also the intention to pair the jobs club with jobs fairs to encourage participant's attendance. The cost of a jobs fair will be £100 this will be held in Eastwood and will also be open to public. The jobs fair will be supported by the Direct Help and Advice (DHA) charity.

**Recommendation**

**Members are asked to consider the report and RESOLVE accordingly.**

Background papers

Nil

**APPENDIX****Points to Note from DHA Deputy CEO**

DHA have dedicated full sessions to the new Find a Job service, introduced by the Department of Work and Pensions to replace Universal Job Match.

Many attend to help to build confidence and social skills. However, whilst some have done additional training, do voluntary work etc, many are still not close enough to the job market.

Group discussions regarding barriers to finding employment, highlighted illness, health issues, age, transport, shift patterns.

References, length of time unemployed, lack of skills e.g. numeracy and literacy, as key areas. No customers mentioned lack of jobs.

Evaluation and feedback from the sessions the groups were asked what they wanted from a job club the following comments were made:

“personal support, don't have anywhere else”

“To book computers, support with job searches and applications, social aspect, would like to have DWP visit”

“Using Learn my way, and online basics helped me.”

Some attendees come along, get the support they need, and progress into training or employment. Currently tracking all participants to check outcomes and destinations.

**Future**

DHA would like to propose a more structured approach being brought into a Job Club e.g. interview skills, CV and letter writing work. This we believe is the next step for many long term, socially isolated customers. It would need to be timed, structured support.

DHA would like to roll out across the district and would also like to deliver “GOALS” as a bespoke pilot for long term unemployed. This has been piloted by Newark and Sherwood District Council and JCP and we are looking to roll out to other Local Authorities.