

ITEM No ...7.....

REPORT TO: CITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – 23 MAY 2016

REPORT ON: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EMPLOYABILITY GRANT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY DEVELOPMENT

REPORT NO: 181-2016

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval to award a grant(s) for the delivery of employability services following an evaluation of the bids received by the Dundee Partnership Employability Assessment Group.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee approves the award of a grant of £244,676 to the Wise Group to deliver employability services grant from 1 June 2016 to 31 March 2017.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The award of the grant of £244,676 will be met by the City Development Department Employability Budget for 2016/17.

4 BACKGROUND

4.1 Reference is made to Article V of the meeting of the City Development Department on 7 December 2015 which approved extensions to existing employability contracts and agreed an open competition to award grants to organisations to deliver additional employability services. In March, one of the procured contracts was extended (Craigowl Communities money and debt advice). Advertisements were made in the local press and on the Dundee City Council website to alert organisations to the opportunity to bid for grant funds of up to £250,000 for employability pipeline support for Stage 3 employability training, work placements and job outcomes. Correspondence was also sent directly to 63 external past, present and potential organisations, predominantly in the Third Sector and to the Third Sector Interface to highlight the opportunity.

4.2 The advert was non-prescriptive and invited proposals that were innovative and closely aligned to the emerging recommendations of the Review of Employability Services in Dundee, undertaken by consultants Rocket Science.

4.3 Ten proposals were received and went through the evaluation process, using the Evaluation and Scoring Framework. The Assessment Group comprises members of the Dundee Partnership: - Dundee City Council, Department of Work and Pensions, Skills Development Scotland and the Third Sector Interface. The Assessment Group met on 9th May to agree the final scores and ranking of the proposals received. These were scored using a framework to assess a number of criteria including quality, outputs and targets and value for money and alignment with the recommendations of the Review of Employability

4.4 The results of the scoring and evaluation process and therefore recommendations of the Assessment Group are to fund the following:

Company	£	Services to be offered	KPIs & outcomes
Wise Group	£244676	<p>Sector based training academies for 300 jobless people with multiple barriers to work, including accredited training, work placements and job outcomes. Employer input into the design of training and guaranteed job interviews will also be an element of the provision.</p> <p>30 academies will operate between June and March 2016, across key sectors (hospitality, care, customer service, construction) ranging from 4-8 weeks in duration.</p>	<p>300 clients engaged 270 qualifications 220 work placements 200 job outcomes 150 jobs sustained for at least 6 months</p>

- 4.5 The recommended service will target the furthest from the labour market, young people, people with health problems, the long term unemployed and people living in the SIMD areas of highest deprivation

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues.

6 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, the Executive Director of Corporate Services and Head of Democratic and Legal Services have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None.

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GH/MG/MS

12 May 2016

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