

EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION FORM

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: Councillor Angela Davies

KEY DECISION YES

PORTFOLIO AREA: Jobs and Growth

PORTFOLIOS AFFECTED: Jobs and Growth

WARDS AFFECTED: All Wards

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUND PROGRAMME FOR ENGLAND 2014-2020: WIRRAL WAYS TO WORK PROGRAMME

1.0 RECOMMENDATION:

- 1.1 Authorise the Director with Portfolio in consultation with the Director of Finance and Investment to identify and commit eligible match funds required for Wirral's Ways to Work Programme in support of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority application to DWP for ESF funding;
- 1.2 Approve the submission of an application to DWP via the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority for ESF funding to continue the Wirral Ways to Work Programme;
- 1.3 Authorise the Director with Portfolio in consultation with the Director of Governance and Assurance to approve changes to the programme and sign any future contractual agreements with the Combined Authority on behalf of the Council;
- 1.4 On receipt of a funding agreement from the Combined Authority, authorise the Director of Finance and Investment to accept the funds on behalf of the Council; and additional approval to respond to any future financial allocations or re-profiling across the wider LCR Ways to Work Programme as appropriate;
- 1.5 Approve the future delivery model for a successful funding award as set out in this report;
- 1.6 Authorise the Director with Portfolio in consultation with the Director of Governance and Assurance to progress and sign any new commissioned contracts or variations and/or extensions of existing contracts commissioned for this programme.

2.0 REASONS FOR THE DECISION

- 2.1 The Ways to Work Programme is helping to address worklessness in Wirral, an area which has had persistent levels far exceeding regional and national

averages for many years. The programme provides services that support adults and young people into employment and training, and therefore successfully supports multiple pledges of the Wirral Plan. Continuation of the Ways to Work programme via additional ESF investment will ensure existing Council funds are maximised more than twofold, and ongoing positive outcomes can be achieved in future years.

3.0 STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

3.1 The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Deputy Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been completed. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

Signed: <i>A. Davis</i> Executive Member: <i>Angela Davis</i> Date: <i>4.3.19</i> Also present:	Signed: <i>[Signature]</i> Chief Officer: <i>Paul Sarsode</i> Date: <i>7.3.19.</i>
Date of Senior Policy Team Meeting(s):	

A list of background papers on this issue is held with:

Contact Officer: Stephen Chapman, Economic Development Lead
Date: 26th February 2019

Date of Publication:

Date of Expiry of Call-In Period: