

Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

STRATEGIC PLANNING & REGENERATION
CORPORATE DIRECTORS BOARD
CABINET

DATE
5TH NOVEMBER 2003
18TH NOVEMBER 2003
15TH DECEMBER 2003

LEICESTER LOCAL EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

Report of the Service Director Environment, Regeneration & Development

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the endorsement of the Local Authority of the Leicester Economic Regeneration Partnership's (LERP) Local Employment Strategy.

2. Summary

- 2.1 It is a requirement of Leicester's Community Plan (2003) to develop an Employment Strategy for the city.
- 2.2 The central aim of the Employment Strategy is to improve employment outcomes for all Leicester residents. The Local Authority is a lead partner in the development of a local employment strategy as outlined in the Community Plan 2003. This report reinforces the Council's commitment in developing a city wide Employment Strategy.
- 2.3 The aim of the strategy is to identify the City Council's / LERP best role and use of resources to make successful interventions and reduce unemployment in the city, either in stand alone or partnered activities.

3. Recommendations

Members of Cabinet are asked to endorse the following recommendations:

1. To endorse the Leicester Economic Regeneration Partnership Employment Strategy (**See Appendix 1, a draft copy of the Employment Strategy Report**).
2. The Local Authority to act as one of the lead partners in the delivery of the strategy and to support the Leicester Economic Regeneration Partnership to develop a multi agency action plan relating to the strategy.

4. Financial & Legal Implications

4.1 Financial Implications

4.1.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

4.2 Legal Implications

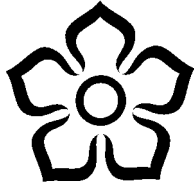
4.2.1 This is a strategic document and any legal implications arising from particular interventions to be delivered by Leicester City Council will need to be commented on as proposals arise. However, generally, the Council has the power to do anything to further the social, economic or environmental well being of its area, although it needs to exercise these powers in regards to its community strategy. I advise that in Leicester's case, the community strategy is to be found in Leicester's Community Plan.

4.2.2 Under Best Value legislation, local authorities are required to take arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which they carry out their functions, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness. Under the ODPM circular on best value and performance improvement, this now requires consideration of work force issues in the context of best value procurement.

5. Report Author

Mab Akhter (Employment Development Officer) on ext. 8657 &

Tony Webster (Team Leader- Economic Strategy Team) on ext. 8607



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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. Report

- 1.1 A second draft strategy report has been produced and circulated for consultation to key agencies in Leicester. The draft is attached with this report as Leicester's Local Employment Strategy Document (Appendix 1).

2. Financial, Legal & Other Implications

2.1 Financial Implications

- 2.1.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

2.2 Legal Implications

- 2.2.1 This is a strategic document and any legal implications arising from particular interventions to be delivered by Leicester City Council will need to be commented on as proposals arise. However, generally, the Council has the power to do anything to further the social, economic or environmental well being of its area, although it needs to exercise these powers in regards to its community strategy. I advise that in Leicester's case, the community strategy is to be found in Leicester's Community Plan.
- 2.2.2 Under Best Value legislation, local authorities are required to take arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which they carry out their functions, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness. Under the ODPM circular on best value and performance improvement, this now requires consideration of work force issues in the context of best value procurement.

3. Other Implications

3.1

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph References Within Supporting information
Equal Opportunities	Yes	Page 6 of report – Strategic Objectives
Policy	Yes	Whole report
Sustainable and Environmental	Yes	Page 6 of report – Strategic Objectives
Crime and Disorder	Yes	Page 6 of report – Strategic Objectives
Human Rights Act	No	
Elderly/People on Low Income	Yes	Page 6 of report – Strategic Objectives

4. Risk Assessment Matrix

4.1

Risk	Likelihood L/M/H	Severity Impact L/M/H	Control Actions (if necessary/or appropriate)
Community Plan Goal not being achieved	L	H	Community Plan timetable to be revised and reviewed
Lead Body in delivery of The Employment Strategy	L	H	Allocation to an appropriate agency of the LERP to lead the Employment Strategy
Allocation of Resources Relating to Employment Strategy	L	H	Resources would need to be identified from an appropriate agency of LERP
LCC Commitment to Coordinate	L	H	LCC to remain a partner and handover coordination to an appropriate agency of the LERP

L - Low
M- Medium
H - High

L - Low
M- Medium
H - High

5. Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972

None

6. Consultations

6.1 Initial consultations have been made with the following working groups and partnerships:

Consultee

Leicester Employment Agency Association
 LERP Round Table Conference Event
 LERP Employment Strategy Working Sub Group
 Leicester Economic Regeneration Partnership
 Leicestershire Jobcentres Plus
 Leicestershire Connexions
 Leicestershire Learning & Skills Council
 Leicester City Council, Service Directors, all depts
 Leicestershire Learning Partnership
 Business Link Employer Engagement Group
 Cultural Services / Neighbourhood Renewal & ERD DMT Meeting
 Learning Disability Partnership Board Employment Strategy
 Steering Group

Date Consulted

18 June 2003
 30 June 2003
 July 2003 Onwards
 June 2003 Onwards
 July 2003
 September 2003
 September 2003
 October 2003
 October 2003
 7 November 2003
 10 November 2003
 12 November 2003

6.2 100 copies of the second draft of the Employment Strategy have been circulated to the relevant agencies in Leicester for comment.

7. Report Author

Mab Akhter (Employment Development Officer) on ext. 8657 &

Tony Webster (Team Leader- Economic Strategy) on ext. 8607