

WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF DECISION

SUBJECT: WORK & HEALTH PROGRAMME

Notice is hereby given that , Cabinet Member for Business, Culture and Heritage, has made the following executive decision on the above mentioned subject for the reasons set out below.

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The report seeks formal approval for the City Council to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Central London Forward. This to support the management and delivery of the new Work and Health Programme.

Formal approval of the Memorandum of Understanding will provide transparency and accountability over the reasons for the decision and enable officers to continue to support the design of the new programme. Overall, the ambition is to shape mainstream employment services, a priority of the City Council's Employment Programme and to drive better outcomes for long term unemployed residents – a City for All Priority.

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Summary of Decision

The Cabinet Member was asked to:

- i. **Agree** that the Council entered into a joint agreement with Central London Forward, which would enable the City Council to support the design and delivery of the new Work and Health Programme.
- ii. **Agree** to delegate sign off of the joint agreement through a Memorandum of Understanding to the Chief Executive.
- iii. **Note** key issues relating to this Memorandum of Understanding, the new Work and Health Programme and the local impact set out at section 5.

Reasons for Decision

1. The Work and Health Programme was part of ambitious devolution which Westminster and Central London Forward had long championed. The City Council's on-going involvement would demonstrate our commitment to making devolution work and to supporting better employment outcomes for local residents aligning to City for All.
2. A Memorandum of Understanding sought confirmation of the Council's commitment to support delivery of the new Work and Health Programme. Day-to-day and contract management of the new provision will be led by Central London Forward.

3. There were potential risks associated with delivering and managing employment programmes, however, the model designed by the boroughs with expert input overcomes constraints of the previous Work Programme.
4. Local authorities would be able to support outcomes for residents by harnessing their convening powers with local employers that can offer employment opportunities. Services to help residents prior to work including adults skills courses, health provision and childcare support could also be effectively co-ordinated by local authorities to help drive better performance and outcomes.

Reasons for Decision

**Charlie Parker, Chief Executive,
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LONDON SW1E 6QP**

Publication Date: 22 June 2017

Implementation Date:

Reference: