

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE JOBS EXPO

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To update Cabinet on the North Lincolnshire Jobs Expo.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 North Lincolnshire has experienced an increase in its claimant count due to Covid, over the last 18 months with 3,430 claimants in January 2020 compared to 4900 in August 2021. Businesses report experiencing high vacancy levels, which in some instances, are now seriously impacting on business continuity and productivity.

- 2.2 The Council Plan sets out its priorities to Grow the Economy, supporting both businesses and residents.

One of the biggest barriers for businesses is their ability to recruit to vacant posts and the most significant barrier for those seeking work is being able to understand the opportunities in the labour market.

- 2.3 The Jobs Expo was developed and delivered to address both these issues by inviting employers to attend with live vacancies ready to recruit people. Whilst working in collaboration with the DWP delivering an extensive communications campaign encouraging those seeking work to attend and engage with employers.

We also offered a range of ancillary support for others who may have perceived barriers to accessing work including Wheels to Work, Employment support and coaching.

The event even held a quiet hour to support anyone with additional needs.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 The Jobs Expo was held on the 19th October at the Baths Hall:

The Expo had 700 attendees, all of whom were surveyed by DWP. 90% of attendees found the Expo useful, 5% in part and 5% said not!

When asked why they attended the Expo:

- 2% were advised to attend by work coach,
- 19% came to find out about jobs in area,
- 66% came to find employment and
- 13% attended looking for a career change.

Over 100 job seekers with additional needs came during the quiet hour to seek work and over 40 businesses attended on the day with over 20 stalls supporting people into employment.

3.2 Many of the businesses commented on the success of the event particularly the opportunity to fill their vacancies quickly with job ready attendees.

3.3 We will be running another Jobs Expo in the first quarter of 2022 building on the success this Expo.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 N/A

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)

5.1 The event was funded through our business discretionary grant.

6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

6.1 The Jobs Expo contributed significantly towards the priorities, values, and outcomes of the Council Plan.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

7.1 The event was inclusive, and an integrated impact assessment was undertaken as part of the event, all issues raised through the assessment were mitigated and addressed in delivering the event.

8. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

8.1 Not applicable report for information.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 That Cabinet note the success of Jobs Expo and the positive impact it had for both individuals and businesses.

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Church Square House
SCUNTHORPE
North Lincolnshire
Post Code: DN156NL
Author: L Potts
Date: 11.11.21

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report – Nil