

PURPOSE OF PAPER

1. Update the Committee on the most recent meeting of the YEITC.

DECISIONS REQUIRED

2. For information only.

SUMMARY OF ISSUES

3. The Youth Employment Initiative (YEITC) met on the 8 March 2019.

4. **YEI Evaluation**

The Chair ran through the main points of the evaluation, namely: -

On the negative side

- The drop in youth unemployment from 25% to 11%
- Not being able to register participants who are on zero hours contracts
- The pre-payment checks
- Late start of EUMIS
- The lack of detailed guidance available at the start of the programme
- There were a number of programmes running at the same time which targeted the same demographic.

On the positive side

- Proportionally, results are encouraging
- 80% of young people reported that YEI helped barrier removal
- 88% of young people were satisfied with the YEI support
- 77% of respondents to the survey continue to be in a positive destination
- There is evidence of progression in both employment and education
- More than $\frac{3}{4}$ reported that the support was important/very important
- Almost 60% reported that they would likely be unemployed or in a lower skilled/lower paid job without the YEI
- Testimonials received were positive
- The evaluators took into account the points of view of the lead partners and the participants

Issues raised by both West Dunbartonshire Council and Dumfries & Galloway Council included

- Issues with compliance. The Guidance was not as clear at the start of the programme as it is now
- Issues with long term results due to lack of engagement – especially those who have gone into employment

- The need to upskill small employers with regards to the compliance regime
- Issues with online banking and the information that is presented/accepted
- Different compliance regimes with other programmes (i.e. SERI)

The point was raised that although the youth unemployment rates had dropped, they may go up again after Brexit so there was uncertainty in the long term

The report was accepted, having previously been accepted by the JPMC when circulated with the minutes of the previous meeting (issued 30 January 2019).

6. In conclusion

It was confirmed that this would be the last meeting of the YEITC as the programme had now ended.

Decisions Required

For information only.

PMC Secretariat
29 May 2019