LEP Meeting Agenda

5 October 2025

Apologies: Gerry Lawrie, NHS Grampian

Note of last meeting

PACE Update – Jane Gibson, SDS

Contracts Update Report – Confidential Item - Paul Charlton, Catherine Georgeson, ACC

Child Poverty Activity Update – Laura Shibuya, ACC

Working Groups - discussion

ETPF Update – Anne Kain, ETPF

TSI Post – Maggie Hepburn, ACVO

SSEN Bid – Angela, ACC

Calendar – all

AOCB

Future Agenda Items

Other Funding Streams
Contract Updates (confidential)

SES - SUSE report – October
Health Determinants Data
Delivery Plan Refresh

Developer Obligations
Action Plan Timelines

Child Poverty Accelerator
Lived Experience
Paid Work Experience

April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March
		Prospers Report		Annual participation measure published	Indicative figure from SG?	Challenge Poverty Week 1st week October	Initial leaver follow-up ends and quality checks			Initial school leaver follow-up results SG published	Grant offer letter
School leaver follow-up - 1st Monday snapshot date		SLFU (April-follow-up) SG Published			Prospers Report	Conference	Scottish Careers Week	Prospers Report		Procurement launch	Scottish Apprenticeship Week
Contract renewal					SURF Awards Deadline	SLFU snapshot 1st Monday Oct	SSEN Fund Deadline	Self-assessment survey			Prospers Report
Contracts live						Half year review					Delivery Plan to Committee
					Child Poverty Meetings	Child Poverty Meetings, LEP Employer Conference	LEP Employability Conference				Child Poverty Plan to Committee
					SSEN Meetings 1&2	Regional Skills Assessments Published by SDS					
					ABZWorks Jobs Fair						ABZWorks Jobs Fair
					Community Youth Sessions						
contract management meetings	contract management meetings	contract management meetings	contract management meetings	contract management meetings	contract management meetings	contract management meetings	contract management meetings	contract management meetings	contract management meetings	contract management meetings	contract management meetings
Youth sub-group meeting	Youth sub-group meeting	Youth sub-group meeting	Youth sub-group meeting	Youth sub-group meeting	Youth sub-group meeting	Youth sub-group meeting	Youth sub-group meeting	Youth sub-group meeting	Youth sub-group meeting	Youth sub-group meeting	Youth sub-group meeting
Procurement Sub-Group				Procurement sub-group		Procurement sub-group		Procurement sub-group	Procurement sub-group	Procurement sub-group	Procurement sub-group
2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026
New/extended contracts operational	Locality Events			Community Youth Sessions					Locality Events		

Aberdeen Local Employability Partnership

COMMITTEE	Local Employability Partnership
DATE	05 November 2025
EXEMPT	Yes – commercial sensitivity
CONFIDENTIAL	Yes
REPORT TITLE	Contracts Update (6 Month Review)
LEAD OFFICERS	Angela Taylor
REPORT AUTHORS	Catherine Georgeson and Paul Charlton
REPORT DATE	27 October 2025

1:	Purpose of the Report

i. To provide the LEP with a mid-year update on the performance of commissioned employability contracts 2025-2026.

2:	Recommendations for Action

i. To note the progress of commissioned contracts at the 6 month stage.

3:	Summary of Key Information

Aberdeen City Council (ACC), as the managing authority and lead accountable body for No One Left Behind funding, is responsible for commissioning and managing employability provision.

After consultation with providers, LEP members and other attendees at the LEP Conference in December 2024, and with employability participants, a list of provision types was drawn up and endorsed by the LEP. The finer detail of each Mini Competition was decided by the Local Employability Partnership Procurement Sub-Group, including the budget and number of places per mini-competition.

Following a procurement process, detailed in the Commissioning Update report presented to the LEP on 17 September 2025, 16 new contracts were awarded and 12 contracts from 2024-25 were extended. The duration of the new contracts are from 14 April 2025 until 31 March 2026, with potential to be extended on a one year plus one year basis subject to performance and funding. The extended contracts will run until 31 March 2026.

616 people have been registered for No One Left Behind support between 1 April and 30 September 2025. Referrals have come from a broad range of sources, including DWP, Skills Development Scotland, Business Gateway, self-referrals, health agencies, training providers, and Council services.

Throughout the duration of the contracts, providers regularly meet with ACC contract managers to ensure robust monitoring and performance, and gain updates on the

CONFIDENTIAL

3:	Summary of Key Information

number of people engaging, outcomes, along with any challenges and good news stories.

Within each Mini Competition there is a section on performance targets which states: *"If performance targets are not evidenced the Council will request that measures are put in place to ensure performance reaches target within a period of 30 days, should performance not reach the agreed performance target following that period the Council reserves the right to pause monthly payments until performance targets are met or stop monthly payments and terminate the contract."*

Appendix 1 provides an overview of the 28 contracts and their performance status for the first 6 months of this financial year. This includes a Red Amber Green (RAG) status:

- 20 contracts have green RAG status and are meeting contract requirements.
- 3 contracts have amber RAG status and are are not currently meeting expected numbers, however the contracted providers are taking steps to improve performance and meet the required numbers and outcomes. These contracts are being kept under review by the contract managers and LEP sub-group.
- 5 contracts have red RAG status. The LEP Procurement Sub-Group will discuss these when it meets next week.

Across all contracts there are 1,927 places available. To date 966 places have been filled, and 175 outcomes recorded by providers as having been achieved across employment, volunteering, further or higher education and formal training.

Given the long-term nature of the support offered to participants via the contracts, we anticipate higher numbers of outcomes being achieved and reported later in the year.

4:	Finance and Risk

i. Aberdeen City Council was awarded £3,293,837 funding through the No One Left Behind scheme from Scottish Government to administer through the LEP for financial year 2025 / 2026. Of this funding, £1,988,301 was allocated to external training provision procured through the Aberdeen Employability Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS).

ii. Any NOLB funding not spent in the financial year cannot be claimed from Scottish Government. Contract management and monitoring is being used to ensure that any necessary mitigation is in place to ensure full spend.