

Minutes of EI Data Group meeting – 10am, 13th April at WMRO

Present:

Attendee:

Stephen Howarth (SH)	WMRO (Chair)
Lesley Bradman (LB)	Birmingham City Council
Rosie Day (RD)	WMRO
Helena Duignan (HD)	WMRO
Mary Dunleavy	NHS West Midlands Regional Development Centre
Sally Irgin (SI)	AWM
Steve Mornington (SM)	JCP
Claire Robinson (CR)	AWM

Apologies:	Organisation:
Clem Attwood	Hereford Council
Dave Hughes (DH)	BiTC
John Lee	GOWM
Sharon Palmer	RAWM
Rosie Paskins	WMRO
Neil Powell	GOWM

Item		Action
1	<p>Welcome and introductions</p> <p>SH welcomed everyone to the meeting and individuals introduced themselves. SH advised that he will now be chairing all future meetings in place of RP</p>	

<p>2</p>	<p>Minutes of last meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and the following outstanding actions were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SM to circulate the paper on eligibility rules for JSA to the Economic Inclusion Data Group • The task and finish group is to be set up on BME groups after the election period • The X12 seasonal adjustment software used by Birmingham CC to report youth unemployment is available to download here and an ONS methodology guide to using the software. The Birmingham CC unemployment report is published quarterly not monthly. 	<p>SM</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Progress Update</p> <p>HD talked through the progress report highlighting the status of each project up to April 2010.</p> <p>The progress update can be found here.</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>Impacts of demographics: Key messages</p> <p>SH presented the key findings from the “Worklessness in the West Midlands: The impact of demographics” report. The report shows that research has looked at various demographic factors, which past research has linked to higher than average levels of worklessness. These would be considered as risk factors.</p> <p>CR mentioned that it was not clear who the audience is for the report is – it might not be suitable for some interested audiences such as the skills partnership or young people centre of enterprise for example? For these audiences, the key messages would need more introduction to why worklessness is being looked into, and what is meant by demographic risk factors.</p> <p>SH said the key audience for the report is the economic inclusion panel but that there might be value in producing documents tailoring messages for other audiences.</p> <p>MD felt that the risk factors need to be listed on the first page of the key findings report</p> <p>LB raised the question about whether, in the key messages section, it should be made more explicit that these are probabilities and not rates and not the same definition of worklessness as used in the National Indicators. Also need to mention that ONS carried out the analysis.</p> <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report is to be presented to the Economic Inclusion Panel in May 	<p>All</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any comments on the key messages report or the full report, please forward to HD by 16th April • HD to make the first section as user friendly as possible for the target audience • HD to prepare documents for different target groups, including tables focusing on their area of interest. • The advisory group will discuss the key messages report on April 14th and comments from the two groups will be incorporated where possible. 	<p>HD</p> <p>HD</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Annual Report key findings</p> <p>HD gave a presentation on the Economic Inclusion Annual report key findings. The aim of the report is as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To examine the impact of the recession on the region's worklessness profile – how has the picture changed since the baseline analysis. Do the key issues identified remain or have other issues grown in importance, or both? 2. Examination of which localities and communities have been most affected by the recession 3. Gap analysis: Have existing gaps in employment rates (in terms of population and locality) increased or decreases as a result of the recession <p>The report looked at long term issues, the impact of the recession, long and short term problems, benefit claimant increases, the effects on key groups and Sub-regional changes.</p> <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A draft Annual Report is to be formulated by the end of April which will go out for consultation • Following comments and feedback from the draft report, a final report to be published end May 	<p>HD</p> <p>HD</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>2010/11 Work Plan</p> <p>HD discussed the 2010/11 work plan and highlighted reports that are being carried out. Once a final version has been agreed, this will be circulated to the group</p> <p>It was mentioned that the group would prefer to fit meetings around research projects rather having monthly meetings. It was agreed that regular meetings should be arranged shortly before each Advisory Group meeting, with additional meetings scheduled around key project milestones.</p>	<p>HD / RD</p> <p>HD</p>

<p>7.</p>	<p>Updates on Partners research activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MD advised that she has been working with the Public Health Observatory to help develop a Mental Health score card. MD advised that there is a workshop late May / early June. The score card is likely to include some indicators on worklessness. • LB advised that she has been preparing for Birmingham's LEA • SI - AWM been having discussions with the IPPR about a national study on future opportunities for disadvantaged groups. SI advised it is a Partnership project involving (at least) AWM and Scottish Enterprise. SI to forward brief to the group. 	<p>SI</p>
	<p>Dates of next meetings</p> <p>The following meetings have been scheduled, all to be held at 10am at the Observatory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6th July 2010 • 5th October 2010 • 4th January 2011 <p>These have been scheduled to occur two weeks before the Advisory Group meetings. Further meetings may be scheduled around specific project timescales.</p>	