

# **The Work Programme National Partnership Forum – Wednesday 6 March 2013**

Chair – Richard Aitken-Davies

## **Attendees:**

Please see attached list

## **Formal Opening of the Work Programme National Partnership Forum**

Richard Aitken-Davies formally opened the Work Programme Partnership Forum and thanked everyone for their attendance.

## **Director of Contracted Customer services Directorate**

Derek French announced to forum members that the new Director for Contracted Customer Services Directorate is Simon Tse who will take up his post in April 2013. Derek took time to thank Julia Sweeney for her hard work as Interim Director whilst a permanent post was arranged.

## **Work Programme Performance Update**

Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) thanked providers for their cooperation in ensuring that there was minimal disruption during the outcome of the recent judicial review.

It was agreed that DWP and providers continue to work together, developing improvement ideas and sharing good practice in order to ensure processes remain robust in driving up the performance of The Work Programme, and should any issues arise, respond quickly with effective improvement plans.

It was agreed that work continues between DWP and providers to ensure the media has a full a picture as possible of the programme to ensure clarity of understanding the statistics when released.

## **Universal Credit**

The forum was updated on the latest available information on the development of Universal Credit.

## **AOB**

Providers are to discuss internally where further measures could be taken to improve collaboration with employers, ensuring a simple flow process between employers, providers and claimants.

## **Formal closing of the Work Programme Partnership Forum**

Richard Aitken-Davies thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the Forum.

## Future Partnership Forum Meeting Dates for 2012/2013

Wednesday, 5 June 2013, 11.00 to 13.30, Bentley Room Five Ways House, Birmingham.

Wednesday, 4 September 2013, 11.00 to 13.30, Bentley Room Five Ways House, Birmingham.

Wednesday, 4 December 2013, 11.00 to 13.30, Room GC07, Quarry House, Leeds.

## Membership of the Work Programme National Partnership Forum

A4E	Rehab Group
Avanta	Seetec
Interserve Working Futures	Serco
CDG	Working Links
EOS	Employment Related Services Association (ERSA)
ESG Group	DWP Contracted Customer Services Directorate (CCSD)
G4S	DWP Work Programmes Division
Ingeus UK Ltd	DWP Labour Market and Conditionality Directorate
JHP Group Ltd	DWP Work Programme Provision Group Management
MAXIMUS	DWP Account Management
Newcastle College (Intraining)	DWP Provision Performance and Controls Division (PPCD)
Pertemps People Development Group	DWP National Partnerships
Prospects Services Ltd	Recovery Partnership
Reed in Partnership	

**Note:** names of some DWP and Provider representatives have been removed as disclosure would breach one or more of the data protection principles.