

**The Work Programme National Partnership Forum
Wednesday 08 January 2014**

Chair – Derek French

Attendees:

DWP, PPDG, A4e, Rehab JobFit, EOS, Working Links, ESG, G4S, Avanta, Intraining and ERSA

Apologies:

Simon Tse and Learndirect

Formal Opening of the Work Programme National Partnership Forum

Derek French opened the Work Programme Partnership Forum, welcoming those providers invited to attend the second meeting of the refocused strategic group.

Communications

An update from the DWP Strategic Communications team was provided in relation to Work Programme communications. This included how DWP can provide support, advise on good practices and assist in the sharing of good news stories and labour market statistics internally, locally and nationally.

The forum recognised the importance of working together in the promotion of the many successes of the Work Programme including celebrating the achievement of half a million people moving into work, the promotion of the Employability Awards for 2014 and innovative work with employers. However, all agreed it still remains important to report performance on the whole programme including any providers which are underperforming.

Work Programme Performance Update

Feedback was provided on the work currently being carried out by the Operations Group which includes sub-groups looking at the validation of outcomes and performance improvement for the PG6 group.

Performance of the Work Programme was discussed and the requirement to continually increase performance whilst providing the best value for money for the taxpayer. Further development and suggestions for improvement were tabled including performance reporting and market share shift.

Formal closing of the Work Programme Partnership Forum

Derek French thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the forum.

Future Partnership Forum Meeting Dates for 2013/2014

Wednesday 9 April 2014	10:30-13:30	Room 6.37 Caxton House, London
Wednesday 9 July 2014	10:30-13:30	Conf Room 2, Rockingham House, Sheffield
Wednesday 8 October 2014	10:30-13:30	Location to be confirmed

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 Operations Directorate (COD)
G4S	DWP National Partnerships
Ingeus UK Ltd	DWP Labour Market and Conditionality Directorate
Learndirect	DWP Commercial Directorate
MAXIMUS	
Newcastle College (Intraining)	
Pertemps People Development Group	
Prospects Services Ltd	
Reed in Partnership	

NB names of some DWP and provider representatives have been removed as disclosure would breach one or more data protection principles.