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Department for Work and Pensions

Work Programme Live Running Memo

To: Work Programme Providers

Cc: Account Managers
Account Executives
Senior Performance Managers
Performance Managers

From: Work Programmes Division

Memo Serial Number: 175

Date: 11 December 2014

Subject: Movement to Work

Action: For information and action

Timing: Immediate

Summary and Action

The purpose of this memo is to confirm the information given at the Work Programme Operational Forum on 20 November 2014.

Background

Movement to Work is an employer-led approach to helping all young people aged 18 to 24 years old into opportunities that will move them nearer to the world of work or into a job. The Movement is an employer-led initiative, supported by the Prime Minister and our Secretary of State (although it receives no Government funding and is not a Government programme).

Movement to Work offers new vocational training schemes which are being pledged by an expanding number of Britain's largest employers including Accenture, BAE Systems, Barclays, BT, Centrica, Diageo, GSK, HSBC, Kingfisher, M&S, National Grid, Tesco and Unilever. The intention is to involve the supply chain of each of these large companies, which will include small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), delivering a staged take up.

These high-profile UK employers have pledged a commitment to the Movement to Work aspiration, which is to offer 100,000 work experience and vocational training opportunities by the end of 2015.

The opportunities are for people aged 18 to 24 who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS). They generally last four to six weeks and contain vocational training and/or work experience. Crucially, young people

can continue claiming Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment Support Allowance while taking part, as long as the opportunity fits with the conditions for receiving benefit.

Action

Movement to Work opportunity placements are currently being offered through key delivery partners such as Jobcentre Plus and Prince's Trust. However we are now asking Movement to Work employers to also work with Work Programme providers in order to make opportunities available to Work Programme participants. To facilitate this, we will forward the Work Programme provider single points of contact that were established for the Feeding Britain's Future initiative to the Movement to Work employers. This will allow those employers to contact your employer engagement contacts should they wish to engage with you to offer opportunities.

There will be no obligation for Movement to Work employers to offer opportunities to Work Programme providers or for providers to participate in the initiative, however nominating suitable participants to opportunities offered may be a useful addition to the range of activities you can offer your participants to move them closer to work. Provider participation also presents an opportunity to build on any existing relationships with these employers or to establish new relationships.

Where opportunities are notified and you identify participants you believe will benefit, you will need to agree a referral mechanism with the Movement to Work employer to ensure that each participant is referred appropriately. In doing so, you will need to be mindful of the information sharing requirements detailed in DWP Provider Guidance Chapter 8:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/260426/pg-chapter-8.pdf

As with any activities of this nature that you arrange for participants to undertake, you should ensure that participants are aware of the practical arrangements for getting to and from the employer and that you cover reimbursement of travel expenses. Participants should not be mandated to opportunities as participation in Movement to Work opportunities is voluntary.

Work Programme providers may also wish to consider joining the collaboration of Movement to Work employers to offer your own work experience or vocational training opportunities.

For further information about Movement to Work, including how to register your interest in joining the collaboration of employers offering opportunities, please visit the website: <http://www.movementtowork.com/>

Further information and contact details

All enquiries in relation to this memo should be raised with Jeremy Moorcroft by e-mail at jeremy.moorcroft1@dwp.gsi.gov.uk in the first instance.

Regards

Work Programmes Division