REAL JOBS NOW!

Responding to Belfast City Council’s draft Policy on the use of Social Clauses in Council Contracts & Equality Screening Document

As an individual /organisation who supported the REAL JOBS NOW! campaign, it is important that you tell Belfast City Council that their current policy doesn’t live up to the promise Council made when it passed the motion.

The REAL JOBS NOW! motion was passed at Belfast City Council in February 2014.

It was designed by unemployed people working with a barrister to see guarantee fully paid jobs and apprenticeships for the long term unemployed when council spends public money.

The REAL JOBS NOW! motion was supported by over 2000 people from across north, west, south and east Belfast’s dole offices and 50 community organisations working in communities blighted by long term unemployed and historic neglect.

The REAL JOBS NOW! motion achieved cross party political support in Council at a time when the flags dispute divided opinion.

REAL JOBS NOW! requires...

1.....social clauses to be included “at every opportunity” not just “wherever possible” or in contracts that are longer than six months and that have a labour value of over £250,000...

2.....social clauses to be considered for inclusion in “all contracts” not just contracts of a certain type...

3...social clauses which do exactly what they say on the tin - deliver “ring-fenced fully paid jobs & apprenticeships for the long term unemployed”; not ambiguous concepts such as employment weeks...

Belfast City Council must...

• Build on existing best practice- which means learning from examples such as the social clauses in the DCAL Stadia projects

• Ensure that the people who should benefit from social clauses are clearly identified - use the available data and talk to people who are affected. Conduct a full Equality Impact Assessment.

• Use robust monitoring to make sure that once social clauses are put in contracts, change actually happens on the ground

• Ensure that Contractors take their duty to create jobs and apprenticeships for people who are out of work seriously. Make it a breach of contract if they don’t.
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Belfast City Council,

Please treat this as a response to the consultation on the draft policy on the use of social clauses in Council contracts & Equality Screening document.

I/ we

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call on Belfast City Council to ensure the full implementation of the REAL JOBS NOW! motion passed in February 2014.

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Email Address: .........................................................................................................................................

Address: ..................................................................................................................................................