

ANGUS COUNCIL

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

27 FEBRUARY 1997

**SUBJECT: ANGUS COUNCIL TRAINING SERVICES
ESF OBJECTIVE 3 PROPOSAL
RETURNERS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING INITIATIVE**

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, TRANSPORT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Abstract: This report outlines an ESF Objective 3 proposal for a Returners Information Technology Training Initiative and seeks Committee approval to submit the project for part-funding.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee approve the submission of the Objective 3 proposal for the Returners Training Initiative.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The European Social Fund is one of three structural funds designed to strengthen the economic and social cohesion of the European Union - Objective 3 aims to combat long-term unemployment by facilitating the integration of unemployed people into working life.

2.2 ESF Objective 3 funding provides Angus Council Training Services with the opportunity to deliver additional training opportunities for the long-term unemployed in Angus, thus contributing to the economic development of the area and ensuring a high quality labour force.

2.3 The project will be managed and delivered by the staff in the Information Technology Centre, Arbroath Business Centre.

3 RETURNERS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING INITIATIVE

3.1 This project is aimed at those individuals who have been out of the labour market for two years or more. These individuals have unique problems in accessing employment or training opportunities.

3.2 The project aims to equip participants with the skills and confidence they require in order to compete effectively in the labour market.

3.3 Two twenty week courses, for twenty participants (ten on each course) are planned and each participant will attend for sixteen hours per week. Vocational training will be delivered in information technology skills e.g. word processing, spreadsheets, typing skills, leading to a nationally recognised Level I vocational qualification. Advice and

guidance will also be provided in job seeking skills, completion of C.V., interview techniques etc.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The staffing of the project will come from within existing resources of Angus Council Training Services and will be delivered in the Arbroath Business Centre. The total cost of the project is shown below:-

Heading	£
* Staff Costs	7,286.00
Participant Costs	12,500.00
* Rent, rates etc.	2,300.00
* Advertising	500.00
* Miscellaneous Costs - Stationery etc.	831.00
* Electricity	600.00
TOTAL	20,917.00
ESF Contribution	9,413.00
Angus Council Contribution	11,504.00

- 4.2 Based on the above costings the financial contribution from ESF Objective 3 would be £9,413.00 (45% of the total cost) in the 1997/98 financial year, and Angus Council's contribution £11,517.00 (55% of the total), of which £11,517.00 (*staffing, *rent/rates, *electricity and *miscellaneous costs) is contained within the existing Training Services budget.

5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Law and Administration and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 This project will provide a springboard for those individuals who have been out of the labour market for some time and are at a distinct disadvantage when competing for jobs in the labour market.

NOTE

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

AA/DV/LP/MR
14 February 1997

Alex Anderson
Director of Planning, Transport & Economic Development

