

ANGUS COUNCIL

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

27 FEBRUARY 1997

**SUBJECT: ANGUS COUNCIL TRAINING SERVICES - ESF OBJECTIVE 3
PROPOSAL - DRYSTANE WALLING INITIATIVE**

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, TRANSPORT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Abstract: This report outlines an ESF Objective 3 proposal for a Drystane Walling 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 part-funding of the Drystane walling initiative.

2 INTRODUCTION

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 training will be delivered by existing Training Services staff and work will be undertaken in a variety of training situations to enable participants gain realistic work experience.

3 DRYSTANE WALLING INITIATIVE

3.1 This project is aimed at individuals who have been unemployed for 6 months or more and who reside in Angus. Due to the length of time unemployed and changes in employer requirements the skills of these individuals are generally out-of-date.

3.2 The project aims to equip participants with the skills in drystane walling which will enable them to enter the labour market or take advantage of self-employment opportunities. The attainment of these skills will also increase the motivation and confidence of participants and provide the impetus they require to move forward.

- 3.3 Additional vocational training will be offered through Angus College - on a part-time day release basis and participants will have the opportunity to gain recognised vocational qualifications. Participants will also sit the Drystane Walling Association examinations.
- 3.4 Initial advice and guidance will be offered to participants to assist them make the most of informed choice regarding training and during the course of the project job seeking skills, including the completion of CV's, interview skills, letters of application etc will be delivered.
- 3.5 The project will be delivered by existing Training Services staff and a variety of schemes will be undertaken within the local community to give the participants realistic work experience.
- 3.6 Twenty participants will benefit from the project attending on a part-time basis for a maximum period of 26 weeks. It is estimated that 16 people will complete the course with 8 progressing into full-time employment/self-employment and 4 progressing into full-time education.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The staffing of the project will come from existing resources within Angus Council Training Services and delivered at various locations throughout Angus. The total cost of the project is outlined below:-

Cost	£
*Staffing	16,395.00
*Participant Travel (provision of mini-bus)	8,304.00
Participant costs	3,900.00
Consumables	1200.00
Training courses	3,480.00
Miscellaneous costs - postage, stationery etc	1,185.00
TOTAL	£34,464.00
Income	£2000.00
ESF contributions	£14,609.00
Angus Council contribution	£17,855.00

- 4.2 It is anticipated that an income of £2,000 will be generated from work completed by participants - this amount is deducted from the total cost for ESF purposes.

- 4.3 A total of £24,699 (*staffing and *participant travel) is contained within the existing Training Services budget for 1997/98.

5 CONSULTATION

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

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The delivery of this project will enhance the opportunities available to the Angus long-term unemployed. It will provide participants with relevant work experience and up-to-date vocational qualifications, thus contributing to the economic development of Angus.

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/LP/SP
12 February 1997

Alex Anderson
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