

PE1828/C

Scottish Government submission of 18 December 2020

The Committee may be interested to note other employability support, not noted in our submission of 4 November, to help those further from the labour market to secure and sustain employment:

The Young Person's Guarantee aims to give all young people in Scotland the chance to succeed despite the economic impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19). The Guarantee sets out our ambition that within two years every 16-24 year old will either be in paid employment, enrolled in education, involved in an apprenticeship or training programme, or engaged in a formal volunteering or supported activity programme.

National Transition Training Fund: On the 16th of July, the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture announced a commitment of a further £100 million in targeted employment support and training in 2020/21. This included a £25 million National Transition Training Fund (NTTF) that supports people aged 25 and over who have been made unemployed or whose jobs are under threat as a result of Covid-19. On the 8th October 2020 strand 1 of the NTTF was launched, equipping up to 6,000 people with the skills they need to enter into sectors or occupations where we are most confident of a strong recovery, high demand or tangible job opportunities. On the 27th of November 2020 strands 2 and 3 were launched. Brought together the projects in these further 2 strands have been designed to equip up to 4000 individuals whose employment has been affected by the pandemic with skills to help them retain or gain employment in growth sectors.

To access, individuals can contact Skills Development Scotland via their helpline on 08009178000 or via their website. Alternatively, if they are claiming benefits they can be referred to a local training provider by their DWP coach.

Individual Training Accounts: aim to help people to improve work-related skills and qualifications they may need for work. Learners who meet the eligibility criteria can claim up to £200 towards a single training course or training episode per year. All ITA courses must be in one of the curriculum areas aligned to the Scottish Government's Labour Market Strategy which includes: Agriculture, Business, Construction, Early Years and Childcare, Health & Safety, STEM, Social Care and Transport.

The Eligibility criteria is as follows:

- Aged 16 or over
- Not in education or involved in any other SDS funded programme
- Unemployed and looking to get back into work
- Employed, earning less than £22,000 per year and looking to progress in or change your job
- Resident in Scotland

No One Left Behind: Jointly managed by Scottish and Local Government to develop a more flexible, joined up approach to employability service with user needs at its heart.

- Individuals who have the right to live and work in the UK;
- Individuals currently not engaged in employment, training or education;

- People of all ages who are experiencing at least one of the barriers to employment listed below;
- Young people aged 16:19 years, who are at risk of not making a successful transition from school, 6 months prior to their official school leaving date.

Barriers To Employment

- Above 50 years of age
- Armed Forces Veteran
- Asylum seeker
- At risk of becoming NEET
- Criminal convictions
- Disability
- From Employment Deprived Areas
- From Remote Rural Areas
- From Rural Areas
- Homeless or affected by housing exclusion
- Living in a jobless household
- Living in a jobless household with dependent children
- Living in a single adult household with dependent children
- Long-term physical illness/ condition
- Long-term Unemployed
- Looked after young person
- Low income employed
- Living in a household with children in poverty
- Low skilled
- Material Deprivation
- Mental health issues
- Migrants, people with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)
- No or Limited work experience
- Primary carer of a child/children (under 18) or adult
- Primary carer of older person
- Refugee
- Substance related conditions
- Underemployed
- Has exited Fair Start Scotland and requires additional support

Managed by SDS, **Employability Fund** is an all age programme that aims to support individuals along the Employability Pipeline by funding provision which enables learners to demonstrate their achievements to employers. It is responsive to differing client needs, employer demand and other funded training at regional level.

Community Jobs Scotland is an employability programme delivered by SCVO which works with voluntary sector employers to create job opportunities for unemployed people aged 16 to 29.

The programme has a focus on those most disadvantaged in the labour market – those who are care experienced or are carers themselves, early Armed Forces service leavers, those with criminal convictions and those who have disabilities or other health issues.