

To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: QUARTERLY REPORT ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES - BOOST FOR BUSINESS START UP
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 31 July 1997	Ref: EB/CD/REP.246	

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform committee of the progress of the Boost for Business Start Up programme.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Boost for Business Start Up provides a grant for unemployed people enabling them to become self-employed. Applicants for BOOST must undergo business counselling and training provided by the local Enterprise Development Company as a condition of receiving the grant. A grant of £500 is awarded to each applicant who must be unemployed for a period exceeding 4 weeks to be eligible for the award.

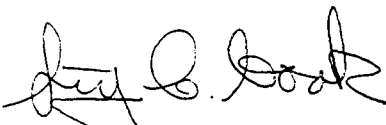
2.2 The top-up grant of £300 is no longer available for long term unemployed from Employment Services who have withdrawn their funding.

	<u>1 April - 30 June 97</u>	<u>1 April - 30 June 96</u> *
Applications received	57	20
Applications approved	<u>48</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Total Grant</u>	<u>27,100</u>	<u>6,800</u>

* During the same period last year, BOOST was only available in the Motherwell area.

3.0 Recommendation

The Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.



Stanley C Cook

Director of Planning and Development

For further information contact Ellen Byers, Senior Economic Development Officer, Tel: 01236 616275.