

AGENDA ITEM No 23 (b)

REPORT

To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		Subject:  BOOST FOR BUSINESS START-UP - QUARTERLY REPORT
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 26 November 1998	Ref: EB/REP492	

**1 Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform committee of the progress of the BOOST for Business Start Up programme during the period 1 July 1998 - 30 September 1998.

**2. Introduction**

- 2.1 Boost for Business Start Up provides a grant for unemployed people assisting 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. An additional £300 is available to meet childcare costs of those successful applicants residing in Regeneration areas. To date there have been no applications received from those eligible to receive this top-up grant. A panel member has been recruited from relevant community organisations. It is hoped that this will raise the profile of this start up grant within Regeneration areas along with targeting of these areas by the relevant Enterprise Trust.

**3 Awards**

Applications Received	33
Applications Approved	21
Total Grant Awarded	10,500

	<u>Northern Area</u>	<u>Southern Area</u>	<u>Central Area</u>
Applications Received	15	11	7
Applications Approved	6	9	6
Total Grant	3,000	4,500	3,000

**4. Recommendation**

Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.



 Stanley C Cook  
Director of Planning and Development

26 October 1998