

To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: TRAINING ASSISTANCE GRANT QUARTERLY REPORT (April – June 2000)
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 24 August 2000	Ref.: DD/Rep.716	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the operation of the Training Assistance Grant Scheme (T.A.G.) for the period April – June 2000.

2 Sustainability

- 2.1 This programme meets the sustainable development policy adopted by the Council through Local Agenda 21 by addressing elements of Section 3 “Economy and Work” and Section 8 “Social Needs”. In particular the scheme addresses the following areas:

- reducing poverty and low pay
- increasing employment opportunities for local people
- helping local and community based business to set up and grow

3. Introduction

- 3.1 The TAG Fund is designed to be a flexible and reactive training grant fund providing assistance for unemployed residents of North Lanarkshire to undertake employment related training where such training is unavailable or inaccessible elsewhere. The TAG programme is directed toward unemployed individuals who have been out of work for at least three months. The maximum grant award is £650. Payment is made directly to the training provider.

4. 2000/2001 Programme

- 4.1 In total the budgetary provision for grant assistance to unemployed residents of North Lanarkshire, for this financial year is £45,000. TAG is funded solely by North Lanarkshire Council.
- 4.2 Details of all applications received by the Economic Development Unit during the period April to June 2000 is contained in Table 1 below.
- 4.3 The information is further reduced to detail the impact of the programme in each sub-area of the North Lanarkshire Council geographical area.

TABLE 1 - APRIL TO JUNE 2000

AREA	APPROVED		REJECTED / CANCELLED		TOTAL APPLICATIONS	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
North	4	-	-	-	4	-
Central	12	1	3	-	15	1
South	20	30	2	-	22	30
Total	36	31	5	-	41	31

- 4.5 As can be seen from Table 1 the total number of applications approved in the financial year to date is 72, comprising of 41 male and 31 female.
- 4.6 The high level of female applications, 31 in total (see Table 1) is mainly a result of a large-scale redundancy, which took place at Granby, Wishaw. Members will recall that the Training Assistance Grant can assist those individuals threatened by redundancy as the fund forms part of a response measure within the Council's Redundancy Support Programme.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 It is the recommendation of this report that the Committee:
- (i) Note the contents of this report and;
 - (ii) future reports will be submitted to Committee on a quarterly basis.



Director of Planning & Environment

For further information contact David Doyle, Administrative Assistant (Tel 01236 616274)
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