

West Call for Projects: People Board

4 March 2020

West Get a Better Job

Budget £8,967



Large grants are scored out of 115

Brief:

As part of the West Area Committee 'Improving Aspirations' priority, West Area Committee would like to run a pilot project to work with local residents who are already in employment but aspire to move to a better job. The project will identify and seek to overcome individual barriers to progression through training and skills development..

This pilot will support individuals from across the West who are currently in employment but require training to enable them to progress into a better job. The outcome of the pilot will provide key information to West Area Committee in relation to identifying specific obstacles faced by residents, in low income employment in the area, in moving up the employment ladder. In addition to the opportunities that are, or could be, made available to them to increase their chances of progression. The evaluation of the pilot may then inform future delivery to support the 'Improving Aspirations' priority for the West.

It is expected that the successful applicant will have a knowledge of training that is already freely available and good links to local training providers and employers. The successful applicant will also be expected to have a good relationship with other voluntary sector groups within the West and understand the current projects being delivered to ensure no duplication of activity

Projects must demonstrate how they would

1. Identify residents who require training to improve their employment prospects
2. Provide information advice and guidance to residents
3. Identify any relevant free training and signpost residents to eligible projects
4. Identify relevant training for individual/groups and check on progress after training
5. Evaluate the pilot and make recommendations for future opportunities

Project proposals must be targeted across the West.

Project Name: Get a Better Job
Organisation:- Pallion Action Group

The

Pallion Action Group have worked with unemployed people for over 20 years directly in the Community. We are increasingly seeing a number of clients who are working but wanting to upskill in order for them to get a better-paid job. This is due to a number of reasons but the most common one is Universal Credit and finding themselves “working poor”

PAG has a robust and trustworthy relationship with other organisations across the City and in particularly the West Area of Sunderland. This is important to ensure no duplication, the project is well publicised, the project is fully accessible to all local residents and the community knowledge PAG possess can utilise all other external provision

Pallion Action Group (PAG) will support individuals in the West Area of Sunderland who are currently employed to upskill them in order for them to progress into a better paid job which will raise their aspirations and inspire them to progress through work opportunities. The impact of this could lead to less skilled jobs becoming available for the wider community. This provision will be offered at weekends or hours deemed “out of hours” to accommodate workers who wish to take up this offer.

We will identify clients a number of different ways including:

- Linking in with local traders to speak to current employees who would benefit from this programme. These will include those who may want to look at career progression through their existing employer
- Approach companies whom are issuing redundancies to offer support for employees in the West Area who may have work based internal qualifications, which would not be recognised by other employers.
- Speak to local employers who have workers on temporary, short term or zero hour contracts
- 1st Tier Welfare Advice Projects to target those who are on low incomes

We will host information days in community organisations across the West to promote the offer. These will include Youth Almighty, Pennywell CA, Tansey Centre, Farrington Youth and Community Group, Parker Trust, Lambton Street Youth and Community Hub, St Lukes Church and Grindon Young People's Centre. We will also promote through West Area Facebook page and the VCS Network.

We will offer to do on site visits to companies including those with employers who are at risk of redundancies including Npower, GENTOO, and Bibby Financial, Unipres, EDF Energy and MoreThan. We will use employers' intelligence to identify the most needed areas of personal and professional development.

We will provide information; advice and guidance to individuals after training needs have been addressed. Signpost clients to opportunities and other projects, which are being delivered in the West Area including Building Better Opportunities (BBO), Community Local Led Development (CLLD) LA6 Projects, and West Area Community Helpers.

PAG will utilise the existing provision in the City to access FREE training offered by training providers such as FACL, Mayberry Training, Ingeus, Springboard and other local training providers. Courses that are currently on offer include Literacy and Numeracy, CSCS Card, SIA Licences, 1st Aid, Health and Safety, Food Safety and Customer Service.

We aim to identify training for clients who have a maximum income of £26,000 and use “Get a Better Job” fund to offer bespoke training to people. Training could include Paediatric 1st Aid, Assessor Qualifications- Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational achievement (CAVA), Award in Education and Training (AET), Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) – Level 3 or above, Sage 50 qualification and Level 3 Management

Clients will have support to apply for other job opportunities through partnership working across the West or could be signposted to FISCUS or BIC Centre who both have a City Wide CLLD project helping those who want to become self-employed.

All clients will have an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) where their training journey will be documented and recorded. Progress will be checked by staff through telephone calls and face-to-face meetings with both the client and if applicable the referral agency. Each client will complete an action plan to address their development needs and record this in their Continuing Professional Development Record (CPD). This will ensure robust monitoring throughout the programme and their professional goals and achievements are accurately recorded.

The project will be fully evaluated to feed into the future delivery and support “Improving Aspirations” which is a West priority.

We will feed this information in to the Sunderland City Council to show how the project compliments the 2019 -2030 City Plan of Sunderland being a Vibrant, Healthy, and Dynamic City. We will achieve this by case studies and client feedback on how they have personally developed through accessing this project.

SIB requested	Score
£8,957	115