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A CELEBRATION OF 20 YEARS OF EUROPEAN FUNDS IN WESTERN SCOTLAND

Project Title	20 Careers In Care
Project Sponsor	ProsPects for Employment

PROJECT ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT

The project was designed to meet the growing demand for experienced and qualified Social Care Assistants. Unemployment in the Cambuslang areas is 6.5% compared to South Lanarkshire average of 3.8%. It was felt that through this project local people could be offered training and support to allow them to take up local employment opportunities.

The programme was a partnership between ProsPects for Employment and Social Work Resources. The project links in with Cambuslang and Rutherglen New Leaf Regeneration Framework, Working & Learning agenda. The project added value to mainstream Training for Work programme.

PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The project aimed to address the needs of work-less beneficiaries from the local Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP) areas who are lacking work experience and formal qualifications, by providing them with supported work placements, vocational training and ongoing support, so that they can engage with local employment opportunities.

The project allowed beneficiaries to gain entry level employment in the Social Care industry.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The project was delivered in two stages:

Stage One: covers job seeking skills, confidence building, First Aid, Food Hygiene Cert & Moving/Handling. Beneficiaries received talks from workers within the social care field and visits to various work places.

Stage Two: beneficiaries undertook a 20 week work placement in a Social Care setting and worked towards the SQA Progression Award (equivalent SVQ Level II) in Care. Beneficiaries received on-going support including Job and Interview Skills from their Client Development Officer.

There was be a full aftercare service, which included full support from the Client Development Officer to assist beneficiaries to find, and settle into, employment.

PROJECT STRUCTURE

Work Preparation stage was delivered in-group basis by ProsPects Group Worker and covered insensitive job seeking skills with talks from workers within the social care field covering social care values. Beneficiaries also undertook Hygiene Certificate and Moving/Handling Course.

Work placement/Vocational Training

Beneficiaries undertook a 20-week work placement in Social Care settings that meet the course requirements. The SQA Progression Award in Social Care was completed through ongoing assessment. Beneficiaries spend four days on work placement and one day in training to underpin their knowledge, including sessions on health/safety.

Aftercare

All completing the course received assistance in interview skills and a guaranteed interview. The Client Development Officer gave beneficiaries who gain employment ongoing support so that they settle in smoothly to employment. Those who do not gain employment straight away also received ongoing support.

PROJECT FINANCE

Funding Partners	ProsPects for Employment (Training for Work)
Eligible Costs (£)	£64,495
ERDF/ESF Support (£)	£29,023
Priority/Measure	Priority 3, Measure 3.2

PROJECT PERFORMANCE

Indicator	Target	Achievement	% Target Achieved
No of beneficiaries given guidance or advice	28	16	57.14%
No of beneficiaries who are from areas of most need	28	16	57.14%
No participating in ESF training	28	16	57.14%
No working towards a qualification	28	16	57.14%
Total no of beneficiaries	28	16	57.14%