

## **Future Jobs Fund**

### **Summary**

This paper updates members on developments to the Government's Future Jobs Fund.

### **Recommendations**

Members are invited to note the update

### **Action**

Subject to comments from members, we will continue to use the Future Jobs Fund as an example of councils' work to help their residents through the recession.

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## Future Jobs Fund

### Background

1. The £1billion Future Jobs Fund was announced in the Budget to create 100,000 jobs for young people aged 18-24 years old who have been out of work for a year, and 50,000 jobs in unemployment hotspots.
2. The LGA welcomed the new programme. Lobbying for a locally-focussed and led job creation programme based on partnership was the centrepiece of our recession recovery plan and the discussions between LGA leaders and Ministers in the Central-Local Partnership.
3. The closing date for bids was 30 June 2009, and the first awards from the Future Jobs Fund were announced on 29 July.
4. In the first round 182 bids were received of which 117 are awarded funding. Of the 117 successful bids, 62 are local authority led. More than 62 councils were involved when successful sub-regional bids are taken into account. The other bids were from a mixture of public bodies, third sector organisations, social enterprises and private companies.
5. Together the successful bids should create up to 47,000 jobs. The jobs created will be in a range of sectors, with substantial numbers of green and cultural sector jobs.
6. The LGA responded to the announcement of the successful bids by issuing a press release, a copy of which is **enclosed** at **Annex A**. The release highlights the fact that councils are leading the way in providing new opportunities for young people through the Future Jobs Fund.

### Next Steps

7. The bidding process is continuous. The LGA will continue to liaise with Government to help councils revise any bids that have been unsuccessful and to encourage authorities to submit new bids.

### Financial Implications

8. There are no financial implications for the LGA arising from this report.

## **Implications for Wales**

9. The Future Jobs Fund covers Wales.

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## **Town halls to make job creation fund work for local people**

LGA media release - 29 July 2009

In response to the announcement of the successful bids for the Future Jobs Fund, to create new jobs for young people, Cllr Jeremy Beecham, Vice Chairman of the Local Government Association, said:

"Young people are being hit particularly hard by the recession, with hundreds of thousands finding themselves unemployed and not in any kind of training. This fund will help to ensure that a large number of young people will not only have a job but also that they gain valuable skills and improve their employability for the future.

"Town halls have been at the forefront of helping people through the recession and giving a boost to local businesses. The fund for local job creation will help to generate jobs and get local economies moving. Town halls with other local organisations are pulling out all the stops to help local people and businesses through tough times.

"Councils that have successfully put bids together will be running hundreds of small scale projects that will create tens of thousands of jobs delivering benefits to local people, from environmental clean-ups to local arts and sports events to providing help to vulnerable people - all of which will help to kickstart the local economy.

"Councils that have been unsuccessful will naturally be disappointed but there will be plenty of further opportunities to make the most of the fund.

"Local government is doing its bit to help local economies. The LGA has committed to working with local authorities to increase the number of council apprenticeships by 7,500."

ENDS

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