



European Communities
Commission
Press Release

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SOCIAL FUND GRANTS - FIRST SERIES 1977 - 217 maa* (£ 90.4m)

UK Young Workers' Schemes Get Over £ 16 million

The Commission has approved the financing of the first set of applications for 1977 from the European Social Fund for vocational training activities in the Member States.

The Social Fund's assistance in the form of non-repayable grants for the first series of applications amounts to approximately 217 million units of account (£ 90.4m).

Some of the training programmes assisted are spread over the three-year period 1977 - 78 - 79, though most of the expenditure is likely to be spent during 1977.

Further grants from the Social Fund will be announced in the course of the year so care should be taken not to draw conclusions concerning the total allocations for 1977 on the basis of this first series.

The total Social Fund budget for 1977 is 616 million u.a. (£ 257m)

In this first series the United Kingdom receives a total of around £ 23.4m. Last year the overall total allocated to the UK was some £ 36.2m.

In accordance with the rules of the Social Fund the Commission can reimburse 50% of the cost of retraining schemes financed by a public authority. In the case of schemes carried out by private bodies, the Commission grant will equal that made by the public authorities.

Applications for Social Fund aid are first assessed by the Commission's services for conformity with the Fund regulations and with the guidelines laid down for the management of the Fund which are periodically updated. Then the Social Fund Committee, consisting of representatives of governments, trade unions and employers, gives its opinion on the applications and the Commission takes its final decision in the light of the Committee's views.

A. ACTIONS IN FAVOUR OF CATEGORIES AND SECTORS (Article 4)

Under this heading, the Social Fund can assist in the retraining of persons who are : leaving agriculture; leaving textiles or acquiring new skills in textiles; migrant workers; handicapped workers; young

* 1 u.a. = £ 0.42, FB 50, FF 5.55, Fl. 3.62, Li. 625, DM 3.66, DK 7.5

persons under 25 years of age and unemployed or in search of a first job. Applications approved under this heading in this first series amount to about 146 million u.a. of which 104 million u.a. is for the retraining of young people.

B. ACTIONS ON STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS (Article 5)

Under this heading, the Social Fund can grant financial assistance for retraining schemes in favour of workers who are threatened with unemployment in the poorer regions of the Community and who are affected by technical progress or by problems in groups of undertakings. Applications approved under these headings in the first series amount to about 71 million u.a. of which 63 million u.a. is for regional schemes.

DETAILS OF SOCIAL FUND GRANTS APPROVED IN THE FIRST SERIES 1977

(in m.u.a.)

(Article 4)					(Article 5)		
	Agric. Textile	Migrants	Handica- pped	Youth	Regions	Technical Progress/ Groups of undertakings	Totals
:Belgium	:	:	:	1.4	:	:	1.4
:Denmark	:	0.003	:	2.0	:	:	2.0
:France	6.7	1.5	:	31.3	22.1	0.2	61.8
:FR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
:Germany	:	4.0	12.7	:	1.1	:	17.8
:Ireland	1.2	0.06	0.5	1.2	19.6	:	22.6
:Italy	3.1	:	5.6	27.5	16.5	1.7	54.4
:Luxem- :bourg	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
:Nether- :lands	0.2	:	:	:	:	1.2	1.4
:United :Kingdom	6.2	0.06	0.3	40.1	8.9	:	55.2
:TOTALS	17.4	5.5	19.1	103.5	68.2	3.1	216.6

UNITED KINGDOM DETAILS

The following is a list of applications approved for the United Kingdom; Scotland and Northern Ireland details and totals are shown separately.

(Article 5)

1. Council for Small Industries and Rural Areas (Co SIRA) - 1977 : training of 2861 unemployed and under-employed young persons in a variety of skills for employment in small companies in rural areas £ 60,522
2. Amco Drilling Ltd. - 1977-78-79 : training of 100 unemployed people in a company involved with exploring for coal sources in N.E. and N.W. England £ 11,400

(Article 4)

3. Textile Workers - Department of Employment - 1977 : training of 2485 workers in the textile industry, located in England Scotland and Wales in new techniques £2,533,728
4. Young Workers - Manpower Services Commission - 1977 : support for vocational preparation and guidance part of the Work Experience Programme operating in all regions of the UK (except Northern Ireland) and covering some 35,000 unemployed young people most of whom will be first time job-seekers £6,471,600
5. Young Workers - Training Services Agency - 1977 : support for (a) various pre-employment courses for young first job-seekers, and (b) various training courses for young persons who have already held jobs (11,400 young persons) £3,883,660
6. Young Workers - Training Services Agency - 1977 : support for (a) vocational induction programme of the Engineering Industry Training Board, and (b) support for increased apprenticeship training via industry training boards (1800 young persons) £ 610,696
7. Young Workers - Training Services Agency/Engineering ITB 1977-78-79 : introductory training of 352 young persons between 16 and 19 years in an experimental vocational preparation programme at Perry Barr, Portsmouth, East Kilbride, & Coatbridge £ 169,500
8. Young Workers - Training Services Agency - 1977 : support for (a) new pre-employment courses to facilitate the integration of young persons into jobs in the data-processing sector (220 young people), and (b) new pre-employment courses to facilitate the integration of young persons into administrative jobs (3000 young people) £2,695,400

9.	<u>Young Workers - Inter-Action Trust, London - 1977</u> : support for pre-employment courses for young persons seeking their first job, concentrating particularly on 'social education'.	£	99,026
10.	<u>Handicapped Workers - Employment Services Agency - 1977</u> : support for the Employment Rehabilitation National Research Centre which will inter-alia evaluate the work of the Employment Rehabilitation Centres.	£	60,385
11.	<u>Handicapped Workers - Department of Health and Social Security - 1977</u> : support for rehabilitation of handicapped persons with a view to acquiring trade or professional qualifications.	£	46,336
12.	<u>Migrant Workers - National Centre for Industrial Language Training, London - 1977</u> : training of staff who will be employed by various education authorities throughout the UK to teach language to migrant workers (mainly from the Indian sub-continent) who are about to enter employment or industrial training.	£	25,000
TOTAL (for UK minus Scotland & Northern Ireland)			<u>£16,871,251</u>
<u>SCOTLAND</u>			
<u>(Article 5)</u>			
1.	<u>Devro Ltd., Glasgow - 1977-78-79</u> : training of 285 unemployed for employment in new enterprise.	£	20,000
2.	<u>Lewis Offshore Ltd., Isle of Lewis - 1977-78</u> : training of 310 unemployed persons in connection with North Sea oil industry	£	205,192
3.	<u>Scottish Development Agency - 1977</u> : (a) technical and accountancy instruction to employees of small firms in rural areas; (b) grants to enable craftsmen to take on apprentices for a two-year training period.	£	69,650
<u>(Article 4)</u>			
4.	<u>Textile Workers, Smeadow Ltd. Glasgow - 1977</u> : training of 170 workers in textile industry for new production.	£	44,200
5.	<u>Young Workers - Cunningham Training Association - 1977</u> provision of full-time, six-month training course in basis skills for unemployed young people under 18 who are seeking their first job.	£	123,718
TOTAL (for Scotland)		£	<u>462,760</u>

NORTHERN IRELAND

(Article 5)

1. Department of Manpower Services - 1977 : training of 1000 workers threatened with redundancy and the resettlement of 200 unemployed persons under the Employment Transfer Scheme £ 200,000
2. Department of Manpower Services - 1977-78 : training of 3480 persons at Government Training Centres and 975 trainees in private firms under the Attachment Training Scheme £ 2,365,327
3. Department of Manpower Services - 1977 : training of 2050 unemployed persons recruited to industry under (a) the Training on Employers' Premises Scheme, and (b) the Mature Workers Training Scheme £ 202,500
4. Private Firms - via Department of Manpower Services - 1977-78-79 : training of 1202 unemployed persons by 14 companies in the following industrial sectors, Engineering, Natural Stone Processing, Food and Drink, Hotel & Catering, Textiles, Clothing & Footwear, and one company producing fishing tackle. £ 527,431
5. Department of Agriculture - 1977 : training of 100 existing employees recruited from the unemployed in higher skilled work in drainage sector £ 4,584
6. Department of Manpower Services - 1977 : training of 200 persons, who are either unemployed or employed but seeking higher qualifications, in junior and middle management. £ 96,335

(Article 4)

7. Young People - Department of Manpower Services - 1977 : training of 1880 young persons under 25 under three separate schemes : (a) non-sponsored first-year apprentice training (off-the-job) in government training centres; (b) special ten-week vocational preparation courses in construction, engineering, and production; (c) capitation grant scheme to assist firms to provide second year (on-the-job) training courses. £ 2,301,149
8. Young People - Department of Education - 1977-78 initiation of new vocational preparator. programme for young first job seekers. £ 357,850
9. Young People - Northern Ireland Training Executive/ Engineering ITB - 1977 : special non-graduate engineering courses for unemployed young persons. £ 9,270

TOTAL (for Northern Ireland)

£ 6,064,446

UNITED KINGDOM TOTAL

£23,398,457
