



Future Jobs Fund

Future Jobs Fund in Bournemouth, Dorset & Poole

So, what is it?

The Future Jobs Fund (FJF) was announced in Budget 2009 as a means to create 150,000 additional jobs, primarily aimed at 18-24 year olds who have been out of work for 39 weeks or more to deliver real benefits to local communities across England. The funding can support the recruitment of additional staff for a period of not less than 6 months to undertake discrete activities.

Dorset County Council is leading on submitting a bid on behalf of partners across Bournemouth Dorset & Poole to the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) for funds to assist Dorset enterprises and organisations to benefit from the FJF and help prevent a 'lost generation' of young people, who could become better placed to play an active part in the local economy for the remainder of their working lives.

Who is it for?

Public, private and voluntary organisations, social enterprises and not-for-profit businesses in Bournemouth Dorset & Poole who would benefit from additional staff to undertake short-term jobs that would not otherwise be possible or affordable. The jobs must have tangible social, environmental or cultural community benefits.

What support is available?

Funding of up to £6,500 is available to create each job, based on a minimum of 25 hours per week, which should be paid at least the National Minimum Wage. The funding will support the salary costs, any material and supervision costs required to undertake the job, up to a maximum of £6,500 per job.

Jobcentre Plus works with all unemployed people from day 1 to improve their skills and identify potential jobs. They will be working with the target group of young people, identifying suitable employment opportunities offered by organisations through the FJF, according to skills and aptitude.

What can it do for me?

The FJF is an ideal opportunity for your organisation to benefit from the skills and creativity of young people to undertake meaningful activities to benefit your organisation and more importantly to benefit local communities, but that would not have otherwise been affordable or possible. Young people will benefit through increased employability skills, experience and confidence. ***There are benefits for all concerned.*** You will need to provide the essential ongoing support and further training during the placement, including preparing employees for the future if the post is not likely to be made permanent, which may include a referral back to Jobcentre Plus. You will be expected to provide the young person with an exit interview and to provide them with a reference that captures their performance, attendance record and skills learnt.

What do I need to do next?

If you think you could benefit from the injection of additional resource(s) into your organisation to undertake discrete activities, based on the criteria detailed above, and are able to deliver the community benefits expected through the funding, then we need your help in drawing up brief job descriptions as a matter of urgency.

Dorset County Council has engaged REDC Consultancy to coordinate the Future Jobs Fund bid with a view to submitting a detailed application for funding to DWP by the end of November 2009. We realise this is a very short timescale, but we only have a small window of opportunity available to apply for the funding, as applications close at the end of the year. We feel this is an opportunity too good to miss.

To discuss the Future Jobs Fund further and to establish whether the work experience opportunity you may have would fit with FJF, please contact Pam Bacon of REDC as soon as you can. Pam can be contacted on 07780 333779 or send her an email: Pamela.bacon@redc.org.uk. Alternatively contact David Walsh at Dorset County Council on 01305 224254 or Cathy Riordan at Jobcentre Plus on 01202 858618.