
Report To:	Regeneration Committee	Date:	6 September 2010
Report By:	Corporate Director - Regeneration & Environment	Report No:	RC/10/09/05/SJ/SL
Contact Officer:	Stuart Jamieson	Contact No:	01475 712401
Subject:	Future Jobs Fund - Update		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with a requested update on the delivery of the Future Jobs Fund programme.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Future Jobs Fund programme is delivered in Inverclyde, in a strategic partnership between Inverclyde Council, Job Centre Plus and Inverclyde Community Development Trust.
- 2.2 The Department of Work and Pensions notified Inverclyde Council in May 2010 that the National Future Jobs Fund programme would be terminated from March 2011, however due to the excellent performance they would honour the Inverclyde contract until its natural termination.
- 2.3 On this basis we continue to recruit new employees on a monthly basis and will continue to do so until 31st March 2011. To date 258 people have been employed in the programme and by the conclusion of the programme the Inverclyde Future Jobs Fund programme will have employed a total of 480 people throughout the Inverclyde Community.
- 2.4 A host of local organisations have participated in the delivery of the local programme include the following;

Alzheimer Scotland, Ardgowan Hospice, British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research, CBC Contractors, Fitzgerald Centre, Fergusons Shipyard, Financial Fitness Resource Team Finlaystone Country Estate, Greenlight Environmental Ltd, Gryffe Landscapes, Inverclyde Association for Mental Health, Inverclyde Community Hubs, Clune Park Resource Centre Highholm Community Centre, Inverclyde Council, Inverclyde Youth for Christ Ladybird Pre 5 Centre, Maxie Richards Foundation, PDSA, James Watt College, RJ McLeod Street League, Treetops Community Nursery, Port Glasgow Business & Training Centre Volunteer Centre, University of West of Scotland, James Watt College, Youth Connections.

- 2.5 The Future Jobs Fund programme has enabled the completion of several projects in Inverclyde which otherwise would have been unable to go ahead, including the Comet Restoration, environmental improvements, tidy up of cycle path and recycling initiatives.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Regeneration Committee recognise that the Future Jobs Fund has been a success in Inverclyde.

Stuart Jamieson
Head of Regeneration and Planning

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Future Jobs Fund programme has been delivered in Inverclyde since October 2009 and has, to date, employed a total of 258 people throughout the Inverclyde area.
- 4.2 Over the course of the contract period from October 2009 until March 2011, a total of £3,120,000 additional monies will have been secured for employability in Inverclyde.
- 4.3 Whilst the Future Jobs Fund programme is aimed primarily at people aged 18-24, Inverclyde has been identified as an unemployed “hot spot”, with claimant count unemployment being over 1.5% above the UK National Average.
- 4.4 As a result, this allows some provision of job opportunities to people aged over 25, who have been unemployed for more than 6 months.
- 4.5 All jobs created offer have, and will continue to, offer a community benefit as demonstrated by previous examples in this report.
- 4.6 In developing Future Jobs Fund positions, recognition was also given to the existence of the “jobs gap” in Inverclyde, resulting from a reliance predominantly on the public sector and SMEs for employment.
- 4.7 Inverclyde also has areas where generational unemployment is prevalent, meaning that some positions were created to target those not completely ‘job ready’, with additional in work support offered to employees from this client group to aid transition.
- 4.8 Furthermore, with the enticement of a new employee at no cost to the ‘host employer’, Inverclyde Council was able to build on employers who provided employability support.
- 4.9 It is hoped that Inverclyde Council will be in a position to build upon this increased level of Employer Engagement in the months and years ahead.

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 Financial Implications – The annualised contract value of the future jobs fund is £2.34m.

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (if Applicable)	Other Comments
02335	Future Jobs Fund		£2,340,000	NA	

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 Consultations regarding the Future Jobs Fund have included all appropriate partners.