

Title of Report:	Labour Market Partnership Additional Funding
Committee Report Submitted To:	Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting	February 2025
For Decision or For Information	For information
To be discussed In Committee YES/NO	No

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Accelerating our Economy and Contributing to Prosperity
Outcome	Enhancement of skills and job creation opportunities
Lead Officer	Head of Prosperity & Place/ LMP Manager

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	March 2025

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	£27,000 DfE / DfC £287,327 UK SPF
Included in Current Year Estimates	Yes
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	1142-30067
Staffing Costs	100% funded £50,000

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	NO
Legal Opinion Obtained	N/A

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed	No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:

Purpose of Report

1.0 Background

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the progress of the Labour Market Partnership securing of additional funding for their 2024-25 Action Plan from:

- The Department for the Economy; and
- The UK Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Shared Prosperity Fund.

2.0 Funding The Department for the Economy

Funding from the Department for the Economy has been secured by Causeway Coast and Glens LMP for a Childminding Academy. This funding is being administered and coordinated by the Department for Communities.

£27,000 has been secured in September 2024 from DfE for up to 18 candidates from Causeway Coast and Glens to undertake training, support, and resources to assist in becoming a registered childminder or approved home childcarer.

The Northern Ireland Childminding Association (NICMA) have been procured to deliver the programme. All training and 1-2-1 support will conclude by 31st March 2025.

If a candidate is considering starting their own childminding or home childcare business they can apply for start-up funding (up to £1,000) from the Labour Market Partnership Business Seed Fund.

3.0 Funding from the UK Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Shared Prosperity Fund

Funding has been secured from the UK Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Shared Prosperity Fund in February 2025 for the LMP activities supporting people who are economically inactive to develop skills, qualifications and licences to move into employment.

Causeway Coast and Glens LMP were approached in November 2024 along with four other Councils to submit project ideas. The five Councils approached for funding were from areas where Shared Prosperity Fund had underspent, under-delivered, and underperformed.

The request was for short fix programmes with a quick turnaround and quick impact. Programme must conclude by 31st March 2025.

A few interventions were explored and discussed with colleagues within Council, DfC and also the LMP Members. After engagement, application for funding was successfully submitted for £287,327 the following short projects:

Expenditure Profile		2024-25 (Oct-Mar)
Intervention	UKSPF (£)	Match funding from LMP (£)
1. Driving For Work	£134,526.00	£0.00
2. Cook For Life	£32,000.00	£0.00
3. Get Fit For Work	£22,200.00	£0.00
4. Agri Skills for Work	£43,200.00	£0.00
5. B&B Skills for Start-Up	£8,400.00	£0.00
6. Creative Skills for Start-Up	£9,750.00	£0.00
7. Beauty Skills for Start-Up	£9,600.00	£0.00
8. Causeway Festival of Learning	£15,000.00	£5,000.00
Programme Management & Evaluation	£12,650.30	£4,237.61
Totals	£287,326.30	£9,237.61

The Get Ready for Work Programme will help 228 people from across the Causeway Coast and Glens Council Area to overcome barriers that prevent them from finding sustainable employment. This will including the following interventions:

Driving for Work will support 84 people who are not currently in employment to undertake driving lessons with 56 achieving their driving licence by March 2025. All applicants must have their provisional and theory tests already completed. This will ensure candidates will complete in the timeframe, and also ensure candidates have commenced the journey, however, have not been able to pass their test. During recruitment and assessment candidates will be asked to evidence what work they would aspire to once they have a licence. Candidates must participate in Work Ready Employability Training.

Cook for Life will support 48 individuals who are not in employment to develop cooking skills needed for life. Candidates must participate in Work Ready Employability Training. This will be delivered by community partners.

Get Fit For Work will support 24 people to get active again and to get on the road to fitness and also to employment. The intervention will see 1-2-1 fitness planning and training support along with membership of a local gym until March 2025. Candidates must participate in Work Ready Employability Training.

Agri Skills for Work will support 36 candidates to undertake training in a range skills needed to find employment in the agri sector. This will include using H&S, chemicals, spraying, towing trailers, and other agri related support.

B&B Skills for Start-Up will support 12 people who are economically inactive to start a B&B business. Candidates must also participate in Go Succeed.

Creative Skills for Start-Up will support 12 people who are economically inactive to start a B&B business. Candidates must also participate in Go Succeed.

Beauty Skills for Start-Up will support 12 people who are economically inactive to start a B&B business. Candidates must also participate in Go Succeed.

Causeway Festival of Learning will be held in March 2025. A series of events will be held across the borough. Community groups and social enterprises can access a grant of up to £500 to run events during the festival. This funding can cover marketing costs, catering, materials, awards, venue costs and travel. This will be administered by CCG Grants and Funding Unit.

The five themes for events and initiative for Causeway Festival of Learning Week are:

- Celebrating previous learning
 - Promoting upcoming learning
 - Learning taster sessions
 - Inspire and engage
 - Encouraging Best Practice
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