

October 26, 1981

£100.5M FROM SOCIAL FUND FOR UK EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES

Third Allocation for 1981

The European Commission has announced the third and final allocation of the 1981 Social Fund grants for the UK totalling £100.5m. Money from the Fund is used to assist vocational training, retraining and resettlement schemes in the member states of the Community, with special emphasis on helping the unemployed. The UK has received a total of £140 88m in 1981.

How the Social Fund works

In order to be eligible for assistance from the Social Fund, a training scheme must have financial support from a public authority. For schemes run by public authorities themselves, the Commission will meet up to half the cost of the project, while for schemes run by private organisations, the Commission may match public authority support.

Grants are made under Article 4 and 5 of the Social Fund.

Article 4

Under this Article, the Fund can assist with training or retraining of particular groups of workers: people leaving agriculture, leaving the textile industry, or acquiring new skills in that area; migrant workers moving between member states or from third countries; young people under 25 years of age looking for their first job; or women over the age of 25 who are unemployed or seeking a return to work after having a family.

Article 5

Under this Article, the Fund can help workers in regions of the Community where unemployment is particularly serious, such as Northern Ireland ('absolute priority region'). For the UK, priority is also given to schemes in the designated assisted areas. Grants are also given for training or retraining required as a result of technical progress; to help workers who are the victims of changes in particular industries which lead to altered labour needs; and to rehabilitate and train the disabled to compete on the open labour market.

In the UK, most applications for assistance from the Fund are made by the Manpower Services Commission, which has had support for the Youth Opportunities Programme, Training Opportunities Programme (TOPS) and a number of other schemes concerned with helping the unemployed and young people enter the job market, especially in poorer regions. Grants are also requested by other public bodies such as the Industrial Training Boards and local authorities. However, applications have increasingly come from private companies and voluntary bodies supporting local unemployment and training initiatives.

In this last allocation for 1981 over £25m has been granted to help handicapped people enter open employment. One new feature is the support by the Commission for a project by East Leeds Women's Workshop. This includes creche facilities as part of the running costs for a women's training scheme. Details of individual grants in the latest allocation are listed below. These are for one year's duration unless otherwise stated. .../

Article 4 - Te s

1. Training courses for 120 skilled weavers and technicians/managers in the textile and clothing industry to update their skills for the new technologies and new products.
Northern Ireland Training Executive £79,749
2. Retraining programme for 232 Bengalese workers employed in small firms in the clothing sector.
Tower Hamlets Training Forum £132,793
3. Training and retraining programme for 1014 workers previously engaged in the clothing and textile industry, looking for employment either in the textile industry or another sector.
Manpower Services Commission. Training Services Division (TSD) £1,748,349

Article 4 - Migrants

1. Intensive English language tuition for 96 young immigrants combined with vocational preparation and guidance during and after the course.
Camden Committee for Community Relations £94,498
2. Language course for 114 Vietnamese refugees who have recently arrived in emergency conditions, to assist them generally in their new social and working environment.
Cleveland County Council £17,075
3. A scheme to teach basic English courses to 40 Vietnamese refugees, and train the teachers for these courses.
Lothian Regional Council £21,750
4. Practical language courses for 1190 migrants, carried out in-company and aimed at migrants in industry.
Manpower Services Commission (TSD) £151,809
5. Language courses for 10839 migrants in Further Education Colleges to improve their job prospects.
Home Office and Local Authorities £357,525
6. Language teaching programme for 1059 Vietnamese refugees.
Home Office, Scottish Office and Local Authorities £183,356

Article 4 - Young People

The following allocations relate to programmes in the priority regions of N.Ireland, Scotland, Wales, North and North-West England.

1. Community Industry Programme for 6300 young unemployed, providing work experience.
Manpower Services Commission. Special Programmes Division (SPD) £1,962,410
2. Scheme for first job seekers, teaching 531 under-eighteen year olds computer skills.
Manpower Services Commission (TSD) £632,430
3. Basic vocational preparation for 223 first job seekers wishing to enter the fishing industry.
Manpower Services Commission (TSD) £42,000

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Article 4 - Young People (cont'd)

4. Two programmes for 270 disadvantaged young people, including young offenders involving preparation courses and work experience in voluntary social services.
Community Service Volunteers £70,229
5. Vocational preparation and skilled training schemes for 216 young un-employed people in horticulture, administration and the building trades, run by three Local Authorities.
Sunderland Borough Council (100) £78,872
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (56) £15,730
South Tyneside Borough Council (60) £102,360
6. Vocational preparation and guidance schemes under the Youth Opportunities Programme (YOPS) for 168,528 young people seeking their first job. The schemes include training in local centres, work with community services and practical work experience.
Manpower Services Commission £60,000,000
7. Subsidy schemes to promote recruitment of 323 first job seekers under 25, aiming to create additional jobs that give the young unemployed vocational work experience. Several Local Authorities are the beneficiaries.
Mid-Glamorgan County Council (43) £9,051
Cleveland County Council (150) £31,575
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council (50) £21,050
South Tyneside Borough Council (80) £38,147
8. Two experimental programmes offering grants to firms in the distributing sector to establish additional training posts for 60 first job seekers under 25.
Distributive Industry Training Board £35,550
9. A scheme to create additional training places in the engineering trades. 30 young unemployed will receive practical and theoretical training.
West Cumbria Training Association £52,026
10. A recurrent programme for 350 young unemployed for skilled training in data processing occupations.
Manpower Services Commission (TSD) £185,500
11. A new programme for skilled training in the international freight forwarding industry. 30 first job seekers will be trained in this industry.
Manpower Services Commission (TSD) £11,250
12. Seven recurring programmes for 3474 young unemployed training for skills linked to labour market needs and including on-the-job elements.
Manpower Services Commission (TSD) £3,600,000
- *13. A programme for 500 young unemployed girls to train them in the mechanical and electrical engineering industries to technician level. The four year course includes theoretical and practical training.
Manpower Services Commission (TSD) £630,000
14. Two programmes forming part of the Youth Opportunities Programme in Northern Ireland for 2130 educationally disadvantaged young people. Training is in basic skills common to several occupations to improve the participants' employment chances.
Department of Education Northern Ireland £1,584,134

* relates to a national programme

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Article 4 - Young People (cont'd)

15. Seven programmes organised by the Northern Ireland Training Executive providing basic and skilled training for 977 first job seekers in the catering, construction and engineering industries and in management and office skills.
Northern Ireland Training Executive £840,779
16. Courses for 1200 young unemployed people involving practical work experience on employers' premises and familiarisation courses in local preparation units.
Department for Manpower Services, Northern Ireland £1,037,708
- *17. Three experimental national programmes under the Unified Vocational Preparation Schemes for 600 young people. The programmes combine training and work experience in the tourist and printing and paper industries and other manufacturing operations.
Manpower Services Commission (TSD) £230,000

Article 4 - Women

1. Training for 120 women aged over 25 in carpentry or electrical repairs. Training is preceded by preparation for working life and help in entering these occupations traditionally done by men. The three year training programme is specifically aimed at one parent families and provides creche facilities.
East Leeds Women's Workshop £105,286
2. Training for 7 women aged over 25 in occupations related to the dress-making and design industry. The programme includes preparation for working life and raises the participants' level of training.
Leicestershire County Council £3,878
3. Training of 40 women aged over 25 years for new occupations in the fields of computer programming and micro-processing technology, and for occupations in which women are under-represented such as environmental planning, technicians, bricklayers, interior decorating and surveying.
Chelmer Institute of Higher Education £70,400

Article 5 - Regions

1. A programme in Merseyside involving recruitment and job creation operations for 700 people.
Merseyside County Council £200,000
2. Various courses under the Training Opportunities Programme (TOPS) for 4614 people in several assisted areas.
Manpower Services Commission (TSD) £9,000,000
3. Courses providing specialised training for 536 unemployed people in a number of sectors such as catering and the distributive trades in Northern Ireland.
Department of Education, Northern Ireland £359,766
4. A new job creation programme, Action for Community Employment, providing for the recruitment of 600 long-term unemployed adults in Northern Ireland in the construction, repairs, environment and decorating sectors.
Department of Manpower Services, Northern Ireland £146,520
5. A variety of sector-wide training programmes (construction, welding, road transport, office workers, training officers) offered to 916 unemployed and employed people needing higher skills.
Northern Ireland Training Executive £377,759

* relates to a national programme

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Article 5 - Regions (cont'd)

6. An employment creation scheme in Derwentside for 250 unemployed workers for new jobs in small and medium-sized firms.
Derwentside County Council £100,000
7. A programme for recruitment and training for 72 unemployed people for whom a job is regarded as assured.
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council £228,945
8. A practical training course for 100 unemployed for occupations in the catering industry, in Northern Ireland
Department of Manpower Services, Northern Ireland £60,500
9. A Recruitment Subsidy programme for additional jobs for 50 unemployed in small firms employing less than 25 people and for new jobs created in larger companies for those unemployed for longer than six months in Yorkshire.
Barnsley Metropolitan District Council £17,000
10. A training programme in assisted rural areas for 1601 people, some unemployed but for whom a job is assured and some working in small firms threatened with redundancy.
Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas £148,908
11. In-company training programmes in assisted areas for unemployed workers for whom a job is assured and for workers threatened with redundancy. 750 participants in total.
Department of Industry £500,000
12. Retraining and resettlement programmes for 161 workers threatened with redundancy in the assisted areas of the North East and Yorkshire and Humberside.
Central Electricity Generating Board £93,277
13. Non-continous programmes for training workers who are unemployed or threatened with redundancy in six private companies:

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| Babcock Power Ltd | 60 workers | £25,200 |
| Firth Brown Ltd | 10 workers | £15,000 |
| Inwork Mechanical Products Ltd | 10 workers | £12,000 |
| Mullard Simonstone | 108 workers | £ 9,256 |
| RHM Foods Ltd | 679 workers | £11,508 |
| Sir James Hill & Sons Ltd | 355 workers | £12,707 |
| Total | 1,222 workers | total £85,671 |

Article 5 - Technical Progress

1. Training, retraining and recruitment programmes for 106 technicians and other employees in the engineering industry.
Engineering Industry Training Board £90,484
2. A retraining programme for 1462 technicians threatened with redundancy, in new advanced telecommunications techniques.
The General Electric Company £435,575
3. Retraining in computer-related skills of 59 workers threatened with redundancy.
National Water Council £132,417
4. Training of 15 employees in computer-assisted management techniques to safeguard existing jobs and create additional employment.
Greater Manchester Youth Association £40,327

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Article 5 - Groups of undertakings

1. A programme to facilitate the transfer of 173 dockers from the old Port of London to the new docks at Tilbury designed to handle container traffic.
Port of London Authority £219,295

Article 5 - Handicapped

1. A programme of rehabilitation and training of 110 mentally handicapped people for open employment in the assisted areas.
Brothers of Charity, Thingwall Hall, Merseyside £342,810
2. A number of programmes providing employment rehabilitation for 12,481 adults and young people in Government Rehabilitation Centres and in non-government centres. Programmes also include assistance towards schemes for the adaptation of premises and equipment for handicapped people and to encourage the provision of trial employment periods with employers.
Manpower Services Commission (ESD) £6,800,000
3. Two schemes providing vocational training for 3,451 handicapped people in Skill Centres, Colleges of Further Education, Residential Centres and on employers' premises.
Manpower Services Commission (TSD) £5,800,000
4. A training course for 15 handicapped to facilitate their entrance into open employment.
South Tyneside Borough Council £28,705
5. Vocational training and assistance for readaptation into open employment for 910 handicapped.
Northern Regional Health Authority £274,600
6. Programme for 1850 handicapped in Northern Ireland to facilitate their entrance into open employment.
Department of Health and Social Services for two public bodies £1,076,272
7. A course of extended education and work preparation for 17 mentally handicapped.
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council £14,560
8. A vocational experience scheme for 25 handicapped carried out both on and off the job, to facilitate their entrance into open employment.
Barnsley Local Education Authority £17,238
9. A demonstration project lasting three years for 180 handicapped people aiming to give the benefit of special training similar to the conditions of employment that handicapped people would actually encounter in open employment.
Devon County Council £215,600
10. Pre-employment training for 15 handicapped people to aid their entrance into open employment.
Cleveland Spastics Society £3,750.

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