

Skills Board Briefing Notes

## **BRIEFING NOTES**

**Skills Jersey**

**Skills Board - Meeting**

**13<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

**Education, Sport and Culture**

### **Headlines**

**Overview of the Post 16 Landscape** – unemployment statistics

**Advance to Work** - 123 participants gain paid employment

**Advance Plus** – Programme success, potential New Schemes

### **Details**

#### **Overview of the Post 16 Landscape**

The application process from young people for places in Post 16 institutions in September is underway and will be completed by the end of the month. The process is now an on-line system.

The Careers Service reported that university applications, nationally, are up. It has been predicted that there will be 250,000 more applicants than places available for the 2011 entry. It is not certain whether this may have an effect on Jersey students as they are often not included in UK Government limits. The key message to young people however, has to be to make early applications and to work hard to ensure examination outcomes are at least as good as 'predicted' grades

Unemployment statistics for November 2010 show 1,311 registered as unemployed, of which 800 are on Income Support.. 388 of those registered are under 24 years of age with 192 of these being between 16-18.

Levels of vacancies on Jobs in Jersey have fallen against the same period in previous years. There was a reduction in temporary fulfilment posts due to the snow over the Christmas period.

#### **Advance to Work**

There are currently 140 young people active on the scheme, 123 have successfully found paid employment, In total 355 young people have participated on the scheme since 2009.

## **Advance Plus**

These schemes are designed for job seekers who are older than the typical Advance to Work participant. They are shorter, more intense and focussed on specific employment sectors

**Advance to Retail** – This programme ran from October to November 2010)  
10 of the 14 participants successfully secured employment.

**Advance to Administration** – This programme ran from September to November 2010  
9 of the 12 participants secured paid work following the scheme.

**Advance to Administration** This programme runs from December 2010 to February 2011  
16 participants joined the scheme – 12 female, 4 male – the age range was 20-56.  
1 participant has already had a job offer from their current placement provider. 10 are in placement, 4 have planned placements for next week and 2 are still to be placed.

## **Potential New Schemes**

### **Care Work**

There has been considerable interest in a scheme to access care work. There could be increased demand for skilled staff in the future due to an ageing population. Discussions are taking place with Family Nursing and Home Care as well as Highlands College on the feasibility of providing training. Further research will be undertaken,

### **Bookkeeping and Accounts**

Discussions are taking place with Highlands College regarding training in bookkeeping, a general introduction to accounts and working in the finance industry. Highlands College are currently costing the scheme and it is hoped that participants will receive a basic qualification in this area. Research is still required to gauge employer reaction.

### **Construction**

Interest in this area is high. Relevant on-island training specific to both employer and individuals' needs (taking into consideration a wide range of previous construction experience) continues to create challenges. Representatives from Advance Plus will be meeting with stakeholders to discuss the project.