

## Community Development Scheme (CDS) – 2013/14.

This years Community Development Scheme (CDS), previously known as Training and Development funding under a number of scheme names, has been simplified with the eligibility criteria expanded to encourage maximum take-up.

### Courses and development activities the funding supports in 2013/14

There is a budget of £200,000 per year allocated to this scheme (with significant under spend against this budget from the previous financial year too) so applications are encouraged from as many people interested in undertaking some form of personal development or training as possible this year.

### The application process

A CDS panel, chaired by the Director of Education, will meet **at the end of every month**. You can submit your application form at any time to the Director of Education at the address given below. Applications submitted up to the day before a scheduled panel will be reviewed at that panel. CDS Panel dates for 2013 and 2014 will be publicised shortly. Applications received after the date of any given monthly panel will be assessed in the following month's panel.

Applicants should use the standard application form which is available from the Education Department and submit it along with the necessary portfolio of evidence supporting the capacity to achieve the studies in question. The application should ideally also include the provisional or actual acceptance to undertake the activity from the relevant Educational body/training provider.

All applications received will be acknowledged.

All applicants will also be notified as to whether they are successful or not normally **within 10 working days** of the date their application is reviewed (i.e. within 2 weeks of the date of the monthly panel).

It should be noted that on some occasions this turn around time may not be possible i.e. if the CDS panel have to gain expert advice from sources who can qualify whether or not someone has the capacity to undertake a training activity, a teacher or manager for example.

Where it is found that the access to such a source may not be available in the expected timeframe, the individual would be advised of this fact and informed as to when they might have their application result confirmed. All attempts would be made by the panel to ensure that this process is still completed in a reasonable timeframe.

### Eligibility to apply for funding

This scheme is aimed at increasing the number of successful local learners so only those with Falkland Islands status or Permanent Residence Permits will be eligible. The criteria you will need to satisfy to be eligible for funding are as follows:

- The development activity or qualification you want to study or pursue will need to be one that is either:
  - a) required for a specific Government post or is a requirement of a range of posts or
  - b) activities which are identified by FIG as being key skills relevant to the development of the wider economy.

Qualifications or activities which are not considered relevant to these outcomes will not be funded.

Full details of eligibility criteria can be found in ExCo paper 204/13, which has been released to the public on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2013.

#### **Advice on available courses**

The Department of Education is able to advise on which qualifications and development activities might be suitable for support. Applicants can telephone 27289 to obtain such information.

#### **Where to submit your application**

Please submit your completed application to the Director of Education at the Secretariat, Margaret Thatcher Drive, Stanley.

#### **Further information**

If you require any further information on any of the above issues, please feel free to contact either the Director of Education or Human Resources (tel 27289 or 28420 respectively), who will be happy to provide you with assistance.