

8 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - EXTENSION OF FIXED TERM POSTS (AN35-2006)

At its meeting of 13 July 1998, the Recess Sub-Committee approved Report No 483-1998 "Developing the Business Base in Community Regeneration Areas", which included a recommendation to establish two posts of Temporary Project Officers, graded AP5 (£23,739 - £25,857) in the Economic Development Department.

Furthermore, with reference to Article IV of the minute of meeting of this Committee dated 10 December 2001, approval was given to extend the duration of these posts to 31 December 2005.

The project has been successful in developing demand for business start up services and has developed to the point where a senior project worker is required, in particular, to provide leadership and direction to the project in the light of the developing social economy agenda.

Therefore, approval is sought to further extend two posts of Project Officer until 31 March 2008 and also to establish one fixed term Senior Project Officer post, graded PO1-4 (£26,379 - £28,632) until 31 March 2008

Further external funding has been secured, from the European Regional Development Fund and the Community Regeneration Fund, which will assist with the costs of these posts until 31 March 2008. This funding amounts to £11,659 for the current financial year and £58,833 and £52,670 for the financial years 2006/07 and 2007/08 respectively. The reduction in the financial year 2007/08 is a consequence of the "phasing out" of the ERDF programme.

The costs, including employer's costs, of extending these posts and establishing the new post, less the funding receivable noted above, will amount to £4,367 for the current financial year and £40,429 and £49,967 for the financial years 2006/07 and 2007/08 respectively. These costs will be contained within the Economic Development Department's Revenue Budget for the appropriate year.