

Future Jobs Fund
Briefing Note

A major driver for the development of Stockport Council's new Employment Programme is the opportunity provided by the Future Jobs Fund (FJF) to help tackle worklessness, among young long-term unemployed and workless residents in our unemployment hot spots.

As part of the successful Greater Manchester wide FJF programme, Stockport Council is taking a leading role, as an employer, local strategic lead partner, and as a strategic support to the development of the AGMA delivery programme. The Future Jobs Fund forms one of the key elements of the Government's Young Person's Guarantee, announced in the last Budget. The Government wishes to create 100,000 temporary 6 month jobs, undertaking work of community benefit up to March 2011. FJF (funded by the Department of Work & Pensions) is funding up to £6,500 per individual, which will meet salary, NI costs and a contribution towards training and personal development for the 6 months.

Within Stockport, this initiative will deliver 500 paid employment opportunities in work of community benefit for 6 months, for long term unemployed people (claiming 6-12 months) aged 18-24, and other long term benefit claimants from our unemployment hot spot areas. Individuals will be paid National Minimum Wage, and will receive structured training and personal development support as part of their 35 hour working week (this can be negotiated down to a minimum of 25 hours per week). These jobs must all be additional to existing vacancies. There is no expectation that the employment continues beyond the 6 months, but the individuals will be supported with job search assistance for longer term employment beyond the FJF job.

Stockport Council is the employer for jobs in Stockport within the Greater Manchester programme, and will provide support (through a dedicated team in HR) with developing job descriptions, recruitment (including running Assessment Centres), payroll, organising training and personal development support, as well as liaison with Jobcentre Plus and the Greater Manchester programme management team.

If you wish to discuss job ideas to develop as part of the Future Jobs Fund, please contact either Anna Ruscoe, Sally Mason or Janine Amans on either Tel: 4743354 or e-mail employment@stockport.gov.uk