



THE COUNTY KILDARE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE NETWORK

The Local Employment Services were set up throughout the country in response to the need to help long term unemployed people gain employment. The overall aim of the service is to enable clients to explore the range of education, training and employment options available and to plan their use of these options to help them to progress from welfare to work.

The Co. Kildare Local Employment Service Network Ltd was established in 1996 by the Department of Enterprise & Trade, and is now operated in conjunction with FAS. We are managed by a voluntary Board of Directors representing the various targets groups and agencies. We are currently into our eleventh year of service.

In 2006 we registered nearly 700 clients of which over 65% were placed in employment or went on to further training or education.

Our Offices are located at Unit Five, Rathasker Square, Kilcullen Road, Naas; at The Fás Office Main Street, Newbridge, 3 Bride Street Kildare Town, 28 Duke Street Athy and Unit 2 Leixlip Shopping Mall. We also have a Jobs Club located at 3 Bride Street, Kildare Town, County Kildare.

At Present there is a total of twenty staff members divided between our five offices and the jobs club. Currently 40% of staff members are former clients of The Local Employment Service who used the service and were successful in obtaining jobs within the LESN.

TARGET GROUP

The County Kildare Local Employment Service Network Ltd, was established to assist those who find it particularly difficult to access the labour market and members of other identified groups, some of which are shown below:

- " In receipt of a jobseekers payment
- " A one Parent Family
- " An early school leaver
- " Young people at risk of becoming unemployed
- " A person with a disability
- " A member of the traveller community
- " An ex - Prisoner/Offender
- " Dependent spouse/woman returnee

We co-operate with FAS under the Dual Standard National Employment Service and continue the policy of interlinking with voluntary community groups, and have close relationships with Resource Centres For The Unemployed, County Travellers Network, Action South Kildare, OAK Partnership, Probation Services, NTDI, Department Of Family & Community Affairs, The Department Of Enterprise & Employment, VEC's, Kildare County Council and other local authorities structure.

All clients have access to local and national newspapers for the purpose of jobs searching. Photocopying, e-mail, in addition to a typing service, interview skills, CV preparation are all at the disposal of the client. Each of our offices has a JOB-BANK - a database that contains details of all FAS registered vacancies. Non-clients also have free use of the Job Bank.

OUR OPENING HOURS ARE:

Monday - Wednesday 9.00 a.m. 1.00 p.m. and 2.00p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Thursday - 9.00 a.m - 1.00 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Friday - 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

JOBS CLUB

We also run a Jobs Club located at 3 Bride Street Kildare Town, which provides a range of facilities and services to assist people who are ready to return to employment to develop there job seeking skills. Although the Mediation Services and the Jobs Club operate separately; there is a level of co-operation between both services. The Jobs Club can accommodate approximately 10 people per workshop.

QMARK & ETP

Over the past two years, the Co. Kildare Local Employment Service has been successful in achieving both the Quality Mark (QMark) & Excellence Through People (ETP) Awards. There was a huge amount of work and commitment from the co-ordinator and staff in achieving these awards. We have found the whole experience very beneficial for our service as it keeps us up to date and aware of standards expected by our clients, helping us to have continuous improvement in all areas, such as communication, recruitment, processes, health & safety and much more. I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank all staff for there hard work and commitment they have put into achieving these awards.

On October 8th 2007 Joe Curtis the Co-ordinator and three staff members Orla Harris, Nualla Nicholson and Patricia Flood attended the EIQA Awards Ceremony at which The Co. Kildare Local Employment Service were presented with a Q-Mark Recognition Award.

Co. Kildare Local Employment Service Network Ltd. is supported and funded by FÁS



From Left To Right: Orla Harris, Nualla Nicholson, Joe Curtis Co-Ordinator, Patricia Flood.

