

Andrew for action

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Our Ref: Your Ref:

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Dear Chief Executive

FUTURE JOBS FUND

At a recent meeting of West Lothian Council, a notice of motion in the undernoted terms was approved.

"West Lothian Council notes that one of the first acts of the Tory/Lib Dem Government was to axe the Future Jobs Fund, a £1 billion support scheme to help the long term unemployed back to work.

West Lothian Council further notes that in West Lothian more than 100 young people under 25 are in Future Jobs Fund posts and that this will rise to more than 200 by March 2011, many of who will work with West Lothian Council.

Furthermore, this excellent initiative introduced by the last Labour government gave employers £6500 towards the cost of employing a young person, with £266,500 coming into West Lothian in total. The decision of the Tory/Lib Dem Government to stop funding this scheme with no replacement will mean that thousands of young Scots will be left claiming benefits with no prospect of work and/or quality training.

West Lothian Council, along with our partners in the West Lothian Economic Partnership Forum, therefore agrees to

- Write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer expressing our dismay at the ending of the Future Jobs Fund and calling for its immediate reinstatement.
- Write to all other Scottish Local Authorities and West Lothian Members of Parliament seeking their support to reinstate the scheme".

I would be grateful if you could arrange for your Council to consider the terms of the motion.









