



ORKNEY
ISLANDS COUNCIL



Economic Development Grant Scheme

**Graduate / Post-graduate
Placements**

Economic Development Grant Scheme

Full details of the Council's Economic Development Grant Scheme can be found in the Scheme Guidelines, available on request from the Council or via the Council's website. This flyer provides outline details of the Council's support for Graduate and Post-graduate placements. All prospective applicants are required to discuss their proposals with a member of staff in the Council's Economic Development Service, before submitting an application.

Please note that the Council's policy is that assistance cannot be given retrospectively. Therefore **you must submit a completed application before you begin the Graduate/ Post-graduate recruitment process, e.g. before you advertise the position.** Once your application is received, you may start the recruitment process, although this will be at your own risk as there is no guarantee of assistance until you have a formal written decision from the Council.

Please note

Grants are paid out only on submission of evidence of actual expenditure, which for Graduate/Post-graduate placements would normally involve submission of copy pay slips.

Key industry sectors

The Economic Development Grant Scheme is targeted towards the following key industry sectors:

- food and drink production, where the products are primarily intended for export outwith Orkney;
- creative industries and manufacturing, where the outputs are primarily intended for export outwith Orkney;
- high-end niche products which are only available in Orkney;
- tourism accommodation and facilities;
- knowledge and technology, where projects can demonstrate a benefit to the Orkney economy;
- renewable energy (but not energy production) and its supply chain;
- service sector where the service is not currently provided in Orkney and a viable demand for that service can be demonstrated (provided it is not simply a marginal modification of an existing service already available locally); and
- service sector where a viable external demand can be demonstrated.

Available support

Assistance is primarily aimed at the key industry sectors but placement in non-key sectors may still be eligible, although it is likely that levels of assistance will be lower than the maximums available.

There are two strands of support available under this measure:

Graduate Placement

The Graduate must be qualified to HND level or above and the employment must be the first related to the qualification since graduation and should be within two years of graduation. The post should be for a minimum of one year and should be incorporated within a business growth plan.

Assistance is in the form of a grant of up to 50% of the total wage and national insurance costs, up to a maximum of £15,000, subject to 50% being the maximum funding made available by all funders. The grant will only be available towards the first year of the post.

Post-graduate Placement

The Post-graduate must be aiming to qualify at Postgraduate Diploma (PgDip) level or above. Applications should clearly demonstrate how the research undertaken will result in realistic economic benefits for Orkney.

Assistance is in the form of a grant of up to 30% of the total wage and national insurance costs, up to a maximum of £10,000, subject to 50% being the maximum funding made available by all funders.

Applicants for post-graduate placement support must produce to the Council all findings, including written reports and studies upon completion, and any other records as requested.



For further information please visit www.orkney.gov.uk

Orkney Islands Council | Economic Development

14 Queen Street, Kirkwall, KW15 1JE

Telephone: (01856) 873535

Email: economic.development@orkney.gov.uk

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