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# Literacy Matters

## Scottish Executive Allocation

*New funding until 2006*

Following a recent spending review, the Scottish Executive is allocating funding to Community Learning Strategy Partnerships for adult literacy and numeracy for the period 2004-2006.



Highland has been allocated £345,399 for 2004-05 and £354,905 for 2005-06. The award is conditional upon the Executive receiving a satisfactory Action Plan for the period. The new funding is linked to a new national target of helping at least 150,000 adults over the 5 years from 2001-2006.

## Adult Literacies Funding Awards

*£29,021.20 awarded*

The second round of funding applications was considered by our working group on 17 December 2002. The following 4 projects were successful.

### North Highland College – Alness

This project aims to train up to 30 volunteer tutors in the Ross-shire area.

It hopes to raise awareness among existing staff and students and aims to train some of these as 'spotters and referrers'. It intends to train 2 current staff members as tutors, to make tuition and guidance accessible to previously under represented client groups and to increase the number of students/learners accessing a level of core skills which will enable them to access employment and other opportunities. The project is based in Alness and will run from March 2003 to February 2004. Award £18,800

### Aviemore & Area Learning Project

Aiming to provide a series of seminars to increase awareness of Adult Basic Education, this project is targeted at people who work with the public on a daily basis. They hope to encourage people on to the ABE volunteer programme and will build a database of contacts. They also plan to conduct an in depth survey with local businesses and agencies about literacy and numeracy levels in order to identify need for ABE services. The project will be based in throughout Badenoch & Strathspey and will run from January to June 2003. Award £5,590.50.

### Inverness College/ Sabhal Mor Ostaig

Offering Gaelic literacy courses to native speakers who wish to develop their reading and writing skills and courses to learners of Gaelic who wish to increase literacy skills. Courses for native speakers will be based in Skye & Lochalsh and those for Gaelic learners will be based in Inverness. The project runs from January to May 2003. Award £3,475.

### Highland Council – Gypsy Traveller Education

– An innovative project using the driving theory test as a framework for providing integrated literacy and numeracy support for young Gypsy/Travellers. It is hoped that this will encourage learners to access other lifelong learning opportunities. The project is based in Inverness and runs from January to March 2003. Award £1,155.70.

## Application Deadlines

The following dates have been set for applications for the next financial year:

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2003

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2003

Further dates will be set for later in the year.

For those organisations planning to apply for funding, it is strongly recommended that they contact their local Adult Basic Education Co-ordinator (details opposite), to discuss their project before submitting the application.

 <p><b>Adult Basic Education</b>  <b>Library Support Unit, 31a Harbour Road, Inverness IV1 1UA</b>  <b>Telephone 01463 251278/9</b></p>			
<b>Ross &amp; Cromarty</b>		<b>Caithness</b>	
<i>Norma Christie</i>		<i>Libby Cook</i>	
Dingwall	01349~864579	Wick	01995~605423
Alness	01349~882150	Thurso	01847~895782
<b>Lochaber</b>		<b>Sutherland</b>	
<i>Ann-Marie Donoghue</i>	01397~705003	<i>Alison Dunbar</i>	01408~623900
<b>Badenoch &amp; Strathspey</b>		<b>Skye &amp; Lochalsh</b>	
<i>Isabel Duncan</i>	01479~811689	<i>Liff Pederson</i>	01478~612812
<b>Inverness &amp; Nairn</b>			
<i>Isabel Duncan</i>		01463~710013	

## Training Sessions for 2003



**Our next four training sessions have now been scheduled. These sessions are free and open to anyone who is interested. Please tell colleagues and friends. To book your place, please telephone or e-mail the Highland Adult Literacies Office as detailed overleaf. Numbers will be limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.**

**FRIDAY 24<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2003**  
**10.30 am – 1.00 pm followed by a light lunch**

### Literacy and Mental Health

Exploring the links between literacy and mental health

*Presented by a team from the Highland Users' Group*

**Location ~ Beaufort Hotel, 11 Culduthel Road, Inverness IV2 4AG**

**THURSDAY 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2003**  
**10.30 am – 1.00 pm followed by a light lunch**

### Dyslexia

Identification, Strategy and Support

*Presented by Audrey Forrester who is Manager of the Highland Dyslexia Association*

**Location ~ Beaufort Hotel, 11 Culduthel Road, Inverness IV2 4AG**

**TUESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> or WEDNESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2003 ~ 1.00 – 4.00 pm**  
**preceded by a light lunch**

### BBC Basic Skills Training

An Introduction to BBC Becoming Webwise (BWW) and BBC Skillswise

*Presented by Catherine Garvie, BBC Learning Project Manager*

**Location ~ Hedgefield Management Centre, 23 Culduthel Road, Inverness IV2 4AN**

**WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2003**  
**10.30 am – 1.00 pm followed by a light lunch**

### Literacy and ICT

A critical evaluation of ICT materials both on CD Rom and on-line

*Presented by Julie Simmons, Adult Literacy Strategy Officer, Highland Council*

**Location ~ Beaufort Hotel, 11 Culduthel Road, Inverness IV2 4AG**

## Signed Up Yet? Campaign

*SALP Event ~ Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2003*

2003 sees the start of the UN Decade of Literacy and, to celebrate this, the Scottish Adult Learning Partnership have organised an event as part of *Signed Up Yet?* This is a national campaign which SALP co-ordinates in Scotland. It coincides with the beginning of the new term and the New Year and is run to encourage those who do not usually participate to take up a learning challenge. The guest speaker is the writer, Mamie Lang and the event takes place from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February at the Town House, Inverness. To book a place or for further information, please contact Nel Whiting, SALP National Projects Manager by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January on 0131 220 5567. Email: [salp@salp.org.uk](mailto:salp@salp.org.uk)

## New NALA Web-site

The National Adult Literacy Agency of Ireland is developing a new pilot website as a resource which will allow literacy tutors and learners to access relevant exercises, both printable and interactive. The site can be accessed on [www.literacytools.ie](http://www.literacytools.ie) and the developers are inviting feed-back from users.