



WELFARE RIGHTS ADVICE IN NORTH AYRSHIRE

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Health & Social Care Partnership

Money Matters Update No 51

03/09/20

New 'Kickstart' scheme launched to provide six month work placements to young people on Universal Credit

The government has launched its new ['Kickstart' scheme](#) which will provide six month work placements to young people on universal credit.

The £2 billion Scheme - part of the government's [Plan for Jobs](#) to help economic recovery in the wake of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic - will offer 16 to 24 year olds on universal credit a six month work placement for which the government will pay 100 per cent of the age-relevant National Minimum Wage, National Insurance and pension contributions for 25 hours a week.

Employers will be able to top up the wage and the government will also pay employers £1,500 to set up support and training for young people on the placement, as well as helping pay for uniforms and other set up costs. Businesses of all sizes looking to create quality jobs for young people can apply and there is no cap on the number of places. Household names including Tesco have already pledged to offer Kickstart jobs.

To help smaller businesses, employers offering fewer than 30 placements will be asked to make a bid through an intermediary, such as a Local Authority or Chamber of Commerce, who will then bid for 30 or more placements as a combined bid from several businesses.



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Young people will be referred into the new roles through their Jobcentre Plus work coach with the first Kickstarts expected to begin at the start of November.

The scheme, which will be delivered by the Department for Work and Pensions will initially be open until December 2021, with the option of being extended.

For more information see [Landmark Kickstart scheme opens](#) from gov.uk

The Child Winter Heating Assistance

Draft Regulations have been laid this week in the Scottish Parliament for a new benefit, Child Winter Heating Assistance. If Parliament approve the regulations a payment of £200 will be made to families with the most seriously disabled children to help with winter fuel costs.

To get this extra money a child or young person must be on the highest rate care component of Disability Living Allowance for Children for one day during the qualifying week of 21 September.

The payments will be made later this winter. The payment date is still to be confirmed.

There will be no need to fill in an application for the majority of people. The money will be paid automatically to eligible families using



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data provided by the Department for Work and Pensions. The exception to this is clients who did not live in Scotland during the qualifying week. They might still get the payment if they live in the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland and can demonstrate a genuine and sufficient link to Scotland.

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