



NEWS RELEASE

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20 NEW BUSINESSES TO BE CREATED IN THE WESTERN ISLES

20 young people between the ages of 18 and 30 are to be given the chance to set up their own business in the Western Isles over the next 12 months. The Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust (PSYBT) are offering low interest loans and grants worth £120,000 to young entrepreneurs to help them set up and continue in business. Applications are invited from young people with a good business idea who are in need of practical support and financial assistance to help them get started.

Councillor Donald Maclean, Regional Chairman for the PSYBT in the Western Isles said "This represents a great opportunity for young people, who have a business idea that could blossom. All that we ask is that the idea is viable and that they can demonstrate the necessary initiative and commitment to make a go of running their own business".

Since PSYBT was launched in 1989 they have helped 180 young people in the Western Isles to set up their own businesses and almost 7,500 nation-wide.

PSYBT Regional Manager, Jane Campbell said "We can support young people through the various stages of starting a business from 'Do I want to do this?' to writing a Business Plan, to raising finance and once started, keeping going. We would welcome enquiries from anyone with a business idea they want to discuss."

The PSYBT Aftercare programme ensures that the best possible support is available in the initial stages of starting a business. Every new business supported is allocated their own Business Aftercare Adviser who is with them for two years. The Adviser, many of whom are volunteers, acts as a sounding board for new ideas and helps the young person keep on the right path financially.

PSYBT in the Western Isles offers start-up funding and advice to young people aged between 18 and 30, with a business idea. For further information contact: Jane Campbell, PSYBT Regional Manager, Business Advantage, Town Hall, Stornoway, Tel. 01851 707475 or email westernisles@psybt.org.uk or visit our great new look website at www.psybt.org.uk

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