



Department of Social and Family Affairs

Minister Coughlan Provides €150,000 Funding For The Irish National Organisation Of The Unemployed

The Minister for Social and Family Affairs, Mary Coughlan T.D., today authorised funding of €150,000 for the Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed (INOU) towards the cost of maintaining and developing a welfare to work service and the publication of an information booklet, 'Working for Work'.

Minister Coughlan said: "In conjunction with the many support programmes organised by the Government, the INOU plays an important part in assisting unemployed people, particularly those who are long-term unemployed, in rejoining the working economy. I urge the INOU to continue their efforts by helping people access the opportunities available for seeking work, further education and training."

Minister Coughlan's Department has funded the Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed for more than ten years. Initial funding of €15,000 in 1992 has increased ten-fold to €150,000 this year. The funding consists of €123,000 for the welfare to work service and €27,000 towards the publishing of the booklet 'Working for Work'.

The INOU's welfare to work service aims to help long-term unemployed people enter the working economy by providing a confidential one to one information and advice service. The booklet 'Working for Work' complements this service.

ENDS

4th March 2004