



NEWS RELEASE

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Information Campaign to Help People Get Back to Work – Hanafin

Minister launches INOU booklet - Working for Work

“Information on available opportunities is vital to helping people get back to work,” Minister for Social and Family Affairs, Mary Hanafin TD, said today (9th September 2008). The Minister was speaking at the launch of the booklet ‘Working for Work’, 30,000 copies of which are to be distributed all over the country by the Irish National Organisation for the Unemployed (INOU).

The publication draws together information from a wide variety of service providers and will serve as a valuable one-stop-shop for unemployed people who want to know what their entitlements are and what supports are available to them.

“Becoming unemployed can be a great shock and a major source of distress”, the Minister said. **“This information campaign is aimed at ensuring that people have access to the kind of clear information and helpful support that they need to figure out their options and hopefully get back to work as soon as possible.”**

In addition to providing funding of €61,000 for the ‘Working for Work’ publication, the Department of Social and Family Affairs has put in place a wide network of other information sources –

- A comprehensive range of information leaflets and booklets covering each social welfare scheme is available from Social Welfare Offices, Citizens Information Centres and Post Offices nationwide;



Department of Social and Family Affairs

- There is also a LoCall Leaflet Request Line – 1890 20 23 25;
- Each of the Department’s 130 local and branch offices has staff dedicated to providing information and explaining supports and services to people who visit them; and
- Details of all schemes and services are available on the Department’s website, www.welfare.ie. Information leaflets can be downloaded from this site or a request can be made online for a booklet to be posted out.

The Department of Social and Family Affairs is also providing more than €172,000 in funding this year to the INOU towards the cost of maintaining and developing their welfare rights and information unit.

The booklet ‘Working for Work’ is also available on the INOU’s website (www.inou.ie).