Meaningful Learner Experiences – Reflecting on Groupwork – Support Resources

Supporting Effective Groupwork

Learning Outcome 2.5

Investigate the positive and negative **impacts on a community of an organisation from an economic, social and environmental perspective**

Learning Intentions:	Success Criteria:
• *To work together to make informed budget decisions within the context of limited resources* • *To become more aware of how we work together in groups*	**I can:** • *Use information from the case study to make an informed decision* • *Prioritise and categorise spending giving justification* • *Negotiate and contribute to a group plan* • *Reflect on my role in a group task*

Case Study:

You work for your local town council and you have just received your budget for next year. You have €1,000,000 to spend on improving the town and the surrounding area. The town has a population of approximately 8,500 people.

Population Profile:			
Preschool age 0-4	***784***	Primary school age 5-12	***847***
Secondary school age 13-18	***551***	Persons aged between 18 – 64	***5,380***
Aged 65 and over	***983***		
3013 employed (1577 of those working outside area)			
Cars account for 66% of all journeys to work (average journey time 26 minutes)			
1259 persons have a disability			
93% of households live in houses or bungalows 7% in apartments or flats			
60% of houses are owner occupied and 40% are rented			
30% of households have 2 or more cars			
57% have broadband access below national average of 63%			

Local Amenities Include:

- Public Sports Centre and Swimming Pool in need of modernisation
- There is no local public transport system but the town is serviced by both private and public operated national bus routes.
- There are sports facilities within the town with a focus on team sports, soccer, rugby and GAA. There is also a golf course.
- Public Library

There have been increased incidents of anti-social behaviour and local residents are concerned. Residents have campaigned for many years for an all-weather play facility as well as a walking / cycling trail. In recent years fly tipping has become an issue and residents have noticed an increasing amount of illegal rubbish disposal.

You must decide what is the best way to spend the money in order to most benefit the people who live in the area.

Landscaping and cleaning up local park	€90,000
Develop a walking / cycling trail at the old railway	€450,000
Re-designing and extending local library	€250,000
Renovating sports and leisure complex	€250,000
Support elderly day care services	€185,000
Fund a community transport service	€175,000
Building an all-weather playground	€180,000
Running a campaign (bill-board ads, social media etc.) for decreasing pollution	€70,000
Marking cycle lanes	€75,000
Security 'CCTV' cameras on every corner	€150,000
Opening an Internet café	€80,000
Housing those waiting for social housing	€550,000
Building a recycling centre	€350,000
Creating a car pooling zone to reduce car numbers commuting	€120,000
Provision of disabled parking and ramps in town centre	€200,000
Funding for the establishment of a tidy town working group	€20,000
Bikes for hire dock in the centre of town	€90,000
Other Initiatives: Please describe and cost	

Individual Task:

You must decide on what you would spend the money on in order of priority and decide whether
each of these is a social, economic or environmental priority and explain your choice.

Individual Priority Sheet

Priority	*Cost*	*Env.*	*Soc.*	*Econ.*	*Reasons*

Group Task:

Your group must then come together and agree on how to spend the budget based on everyone's contributions and suggestions.

Group Priority Sheet

Priority	Cost	Env.	Soc.	Econ.	Reasons

Principles of Effective Groupwork: Ranking Ladder

Group Contract/Learning Agreement

Opportunity for everyone to express ideas

Interdependent Roles

Agreed timeline for group work

Evaluation of both group & individual work

Shared Goals

Clear Task

Assigned Roles

Time for Review and Reflection