



Measure:

Human Resources
Development and Skilling

Promoters:

Easilift Community
Transport

Title:

**Drive to Employment –
Cross Border Bus Driver
Training Project**

This project originally aimed to provide 30 participants from Strabane and East Donegal areas with the opportunity to gain an International D Licence and associated driver training (First Aid, Vehicle & Tacograph Familiarisation, Child Protection and Interview & Application Skills) to address a skills shortage in the area.

This project was co-ordinated and administered by a new cross border Partnership with the intention of leading the way for further joint partnerships in a bid to promote employment, reduce border exclusion and enhance cross border travel.

The project was set up to help increase employability opportunities for participants by developing their skills and building up their confidence and self-esteem.

At the end of the project, thanks to the successful completion of 'first' driving tests and additional funding from SEUPB, 96 people received training under this project.

'The project has not only opened up employment opportunities for the participants who completed the project but it has affected self confidence in a number of cases and has broken down barriers to further training and education that may have existed in the past.

The researcher believes that the project has been an unqualified success, due in no small part to the professional and supportive manner in which it was implemented by Easilift Community Transport.' (Independent Evaluation, June 08)

Total Project Cost: £200,374
Grant Awarded: £150,279

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Senator Joe McHugh pictured with representatives from Strabane & District Community Network, NWRCBG and some of the successful project participants

