

### Community Coaching 2015

The unemployed with the securing of funding under the Dormant Accounts Scheme via Sport Ireland, the Partnership delivered community coaching training for the unemployed in 2015. 20 trainees commence the community coaching programme in two locations (Birr and Edenderry). Edenderry proved to be a particularly challenging location within which to deliver the programme, and experienced a high level of drop out.



*Participants on Offaly Sports Partnership's 2015 community coaching programmes in Birr and Edenderry*

Of the 20 the commenced the programme, 15 (11 from Birr and four from Edenderry) completed the programme. On the Birr course, some trainees expressed interest in joining the defence forces; however, when the Partnership undertook fitness testing with the group, there was a realisation that trainees would struggle to pass the fitness test, particularly in respect of the 2.4k timed run that applicants are required to complete. A training programme to supplement the community coaching programme was therefore organised for trainees in Birr.

A further aspect of the course was a field trip to the Athlone Institute of Technology to discuss further education opportunities; with a number of trainees since expressing interest in further education in the future.

In addition, one trainee from the Birr programme has been recruited for the Defence Forces cadet programme.

Following the success of the community coaching programmes; in conjunction with Laois Sports Partnership and Portarlinton Leisure Centre; and with additional support from the Dormant Accounts Scheme via Sport Ireland, an advanced cross county community coaching programme with a specific focus on employment skills for the leisure industry has been planned for 2016.

For further information on community coaching, contact the office on 057 93 57462 or by email to [sports@offalycoco.ie](mailto:sports@offalycoco.ie)