

REPORT

To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	Subject: UNEMPLOYMENT MONITORING	
From: CHIEF EXECUTIVE		
Date: 4 September 1996	Ref: SC/RM	

Purpose of the Report: To update the Committee on progress towards the regular provision of North Lanarkshire unemployment figures and trends.

1 Background

The information on unemployment made available by the Department of Employment is provided on a 1991 district ward basis, and is of little value given the boundary changes since local government reorganisation. However, information provided at the post code sector level can be used to build up data at specific spatial levels below that of North Lanarkshire. The Department of Employment have recently been approached through COSLA to update the ward data to the new boundaries, and a decision is awaited.

The Chief Executive's Department in conjunction with the IT Services section of the Finance Department is currently developing a process for establishing its own 'best fit' ward data constructed from post code sector information, although a practical date for completion of this work has yet to be determined.

2 Proposal

It is proposed that the Chief Executive's Department provides a report on quarterly unemployment statistics and trends analysis to the Committee incorporating information by age and duration.

Eventually this analysis could include details on the previous employment characteristics of those registered and unemployed, when the appropriate data becomes available.

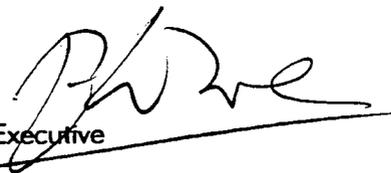
It will be possible to provide information on a number of spatial levels built up from post code sectors on the basis of

- wards
- departmental operational boundaries
- 'settlements', ie groups of wards
- North Lanarkshire Council area

3 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee notes the current progress in establishing regular reporting on unemployment, and that a further report will be submitted in due course.

Chief Executive



NLCCE/UNEMPLOY.SC

For further information contact Graham Reid on extension 2266