

To: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	Subject: ENVIRONMENT TASK FORCE	
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 8 June 2000	Ref: FM/REP/700	

1. **Purpose of Report**

- 1.1. To inform the Committee of the progress for the final quarter (January to March 2000) of this year in the implementation of the Environment Task Force in Lanarkshire and the role of the Council within this option of New Deal.

2. **Sustainability**

- 2.1. The Environment Task Force meets the sustainable development policy adopted by the Council through Local Agenda 21 by addressing elements of all sections listed:-

- Section 1 "Building Planning and Land Use"
- Section 2 "Natural Environment"
- Section 3 "Economy and Work"
- Section 4 "Housing"
- Section 5 "Transport"
- Section 6 "Waste, Resource and Energy"
- Section 7 "Pollution"
- Section 8 "Social Needs"
- Section 9 "Arts, Culture and Leisure"
- Section 10 "Participation and Democracy"
- Section 11 "Partnership and Funding"

3. **Background**

- 3.1. The New Deal for 18 - 24 year olds in Lanarkshire is the keystone of the Government's Welfare To Work Initiative. While there are other key elements to New Deal, addressing unemployment among young people has been very much the initial focus of Government policy.

- 3.2. The main elements of New Deal for 18 - 24 year olds include:-

The Gateway - a period of up to 4 months during which individuals receive personally tailored support designed to assist them overcome barriers to accessing employment. This can be wide ranging including confidence building, careers guidance, and counselling around specific social problems like alcohol or drug abuse. This is followed by a referral to one of four options:-

- 1) Jobs Option - employment by a participating company with the first six months supported by a job subsidy and £750 towards the cost of training.
- 2) Full Time Education and Training Option - enrollment on a vocational course for up to a year related to opportunities in the labour market.
- 3) Voluntary Sector Option - placement for six months on voluntary projects providing work experience and training which helps to move individuals into the job market.

- 4) **Environment Task Force (ETF)** - again a six month work experience placement within the Environmental sector providing work experience and training which helps to move individuals into the job market.

4. **Council Management Role**

- 4.1. North Lanarkshire Council is leading a consortium, in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council, to deliver the Environment Task Force option of the New Deal across Lanarkshire, under contract to Employment Service. The day to day delivery is managed within the Economic Development Unit of the Planning and Environment Department.
- 4.2. The ETF is currently managed by a team within the Economic Development Unit consisting of an Economic Development Officer, Project Co-ordinator and Clerical Assistant. Due to the success and high volume of work of the ETF in Lanarkshire it was necessary to set up a team to ensure that the ETF continues to be delivered in an efficient and effective manner.

5. **Delivery / Progress To Date**

- 5.1. The ETF is delivered through partnership with a range of training providers, local authorities and private companies contracted to North Lanarkshire Council. Appendix 1 gives details of the projects each provider currently has approved in Lanarkshire.
- 5.2. Lanarkshire is consistently the second largest ETF provider in Scotland, marginally behind Glasgow with 169 young people currently placed. Placements are offered either on the basis of a wage (ranging from £96 to £160 per week), or an allowance (benefit plus £15 per week) depending on the individual projects. Appendix 1 details the latest ETF statistics from 1st January to 31st March 2000 including specific information for each project.
- 5.3. Appendix 2 and 3 gives a full account of the statistics from August 1998 to March 2000.

6. **Theatre Arts Project / Progress Update**

- 6.1. The Committee may recall that at the Economic Development Committee meeting on 25 November 1999 (Paragraph 6 - Report dated 25 November 1999) was agreed that a delegation from the Council would visit the Theatre Arts Project in East Kilbride with a view to replicating the project in North Lanarkshire.
- 6.2. John Turley, Senior Economic Development Officer attended a special performance on Friday 21st January 2000. The feedback was excellent and a meeting was convened with representatives of the Education and Community Services Departments to examine a video of the performance and to discuss the issues to allow this project to be delivered in North Lanarkshire.
- 6.3. Discussions have now taken place between representatives from South Lanarkshire Council and North Lanarkshire Council, and it has been agreed that rather than replicate this project in North Lanarkshire, it would be more cost effective to extend the current provision to include both North Lanarkshire schools and participants. In order to facilitate this it has been suggested that we relocate the project from its current base in East Kilbride, to a central location with good transportation links to all areas of Lanarkshire. Discussions with the various partners are currently nearing a conclusion and a report will be submitted at the next Committee cycle giving a full account of the proposals.

7. **Recommendations**

- 7.1. It is recommended that the Committee note the contents of this report.
- 7.2. Note that future monitoring reports will be submitted on a quarterly basis.

David M Porch
Director of Planning & Environment



For further information contact Fraser MacKenzie, Economic Development Officer (ETF) - Tel 01236 616273
Date of Report 9 May 2000

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

Environment Task Force in Lanarkshire

ETF Statistics 1st January to 31st March 2000.

NO. OF PARTICIPANTS CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER	149*
NO OF STARTS	200
NO OF LEAVERS	180
CURRENTLY PLACED	169

* Report to Committee on 9 Mar 2000 (Ref: REP665) indicated 154 to carry forward however there were 5 late notified leavers.

WAGED OPPORTUNITIES

Provider	Location	Type of Work	No. of Places	Placed at 31/3/00
Everwarm	Livingstone	Energy Efficiency	20	18
Fibreglow	Shotts	Energy Efficiency	4	3
Microcom	Airdrie	Energy Efficiency	8	5
Multiskills	Blantyre	Energy Efficiency	10	4
NLC	Bellshill	Energy Efficiency	4	3
SLC	South Lanarkshire	Environmental Improvement	2	2
SLC	Hamilton	Landscaping	10	10
WiseStart	Various	Landscaping	25	23
TOTAL			83	68

ALLOWANCE BASED OPPORTUNITIES

Provider	Location	Type of Work	No. of Places	Placed at 31/3/00
MI TECHNOLOGIES:				
Pastoral Centre	Newmains	Landscaping	10	10
Summerlee Centre	Coatbridge	Landscaping	18	15
Summerlee Centre	Coatbridge	Ind. Painting	10	9
St Columbkilles	Rutherglen	Landscaping	10	8
St Marys Hospital	Lanark	Landscaping	12	12
PROSPECTS:				
David Livingstone	Blantyre	Landscaping	40	17
Bothwell Woods	Blantyre	Landscaping	16	8
Rawyards Nursing	Airdrie	Landscaping	26	16
SLC				
Vocational Training Network	East Kilbride	Theatre Arts	8	6
TOTAL			150	101

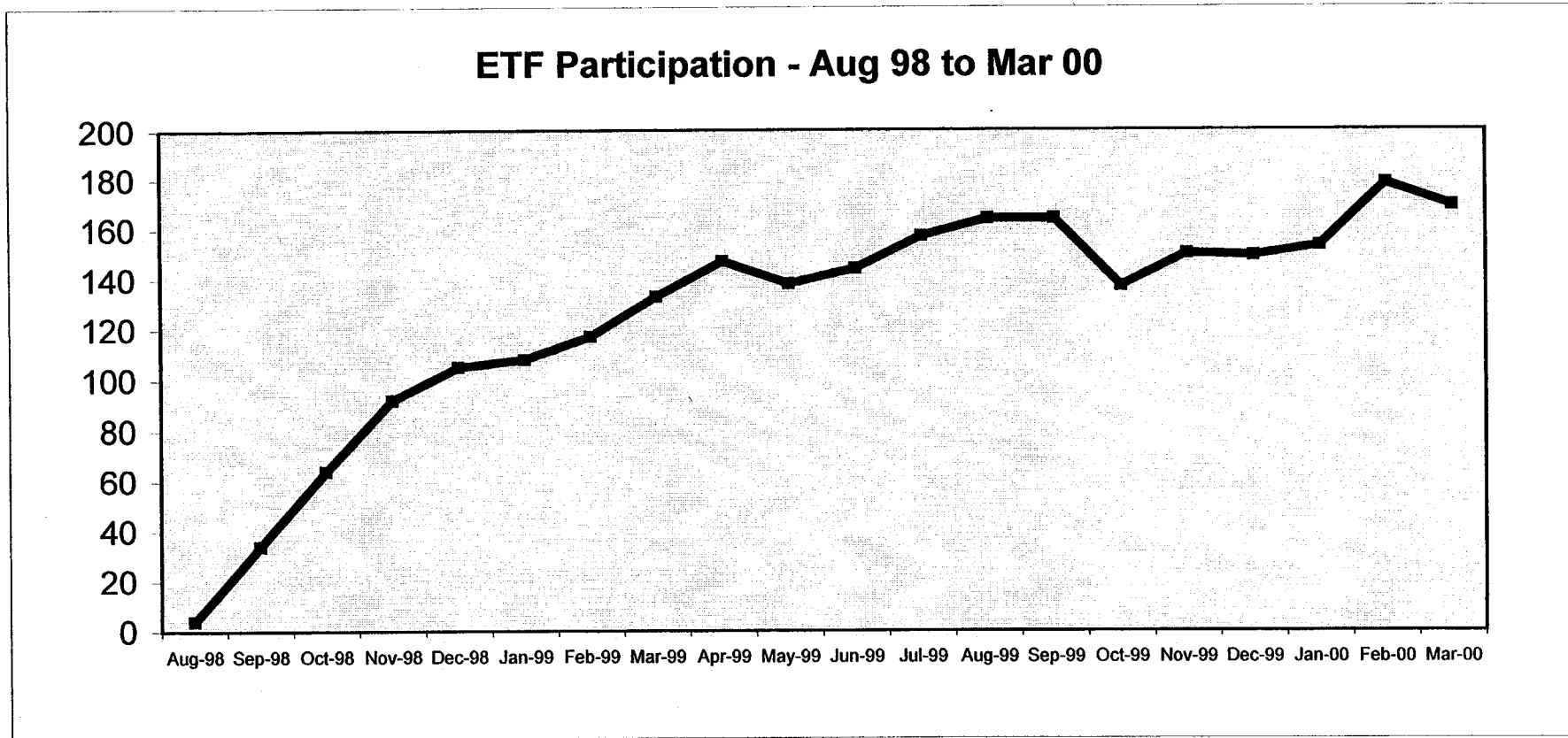
Leaver Destination 1st January to 31st March 2000.

FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT	33 (18%)
DISMISSED / NON ATTENDANCE	87 (48%)
TRANSFERRED TO OTHER OPTION	10 (6%)
COMPLETED 26 WEEKS	50 (28%)

Lanarkshire Environment Task Force

Statistics From Aug 1998 to March 2000

Month	Starters			Leavers			Placed		
	Allowance	Waged	Total	Allowance	Waged	Total	Allowance	Waged	Total
Aug-98	4	0	4	0	0	0	4	0	4
Sep-98	25	7	32	2	0	2	27	7	34
Oct-98	25	16	41	10	1	11	42	22	64
Nov-98	22	22	44	13	3	16	51	41	92
Dec-98	20	5	25	10	2	12	61	44	105
Jan-99	21	0	21	14	4	18	68	40	108
Feb-99	38	7	45	29	7	36	77	40	117
Mar-99	33	13	46	23	7	30	87	46	133
Apr-99	34	27	61	31	16	47	90	57	147
May-99	18	13	31	26	14	40	82	56	138
Jun-99	31	3	34	17	11	28	96	48	144
Jul-99	49	0	49	30	6	36	115	42	157
Aug-99	47	9	56	33	16	49	129	35	164
Sep-99	30	26	56	47	9	56	112	52	164
Oct-99	36	18	54	59	22	81	89	48	137
Nov-99	38	5	43	22	8	30	105	45	150
Dec-99	30	8	38	32	7	39	103	46	149
Jan-00	32	16	48	36	8	44	99	54	153
Feb-00	47	30	77	41	11	52	105	73	178
Mar-00	46	29	75	50	34	84	101	68	169
TOTALS	626	254	880	525	186	711			



APPENDIX 3