

To: PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: PLUS Lanarkshire Limited
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 20 th March 2002	Ref: JT/DN/Rep837	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report is submitted to Committee in order to seek approval for the wind-down and closure of PLUS Lanarkshire Limited.

2. Background

- 2.1 PLUS Lanarkshire (previously Petersburn Craigneuk Initiative) was legally formed in September 2000 as a limited company with charitable status with the members of the company being North Lanarkshire Council and Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire.
- 2.2 As part of a strategic response in North Lanarkshire to meet the employment and training needs of unemployed clients a separate report to Committee (Report Ref JT/836) has been submitted for consideration on 20 March 2002. This report, which outlines the establishment of a Community Intermediary Organisation with responsibility for the provision of job access, employment and training support across North Lanarkshire from June 2002.
- 2.3 The new Community Intermediary Organisation is the result of a partnership response where financial support, employment and training initiatives will be combined to provide a more focused support mechanism to meet the needs of unemployed clients across North Lanarkshire. The model of intervention and support to be provided by the North Lanarkshire Community Intermediary organisation will reflect best value, value for money and enable economies of scale to be achieved.
- 2.4 As a consequence of the new strategic approach to service delivery it is necessary to commence the wind-down and closure of PLUS Lanarkshire as the present support services provided by PLUS will be delivered by the new Community Intermediary Organisation.

3. PLUS Wind-down and Closure

- 3.1 The funding partners, North Lanarkshire Council and Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire have intimated that to effect a smooth transition to the new Community Intermediary infrastructure immediate implementations of a closure action plan is required. This action plan is presently being progressed with PLUS and will take account of issues such as salaries, redundancy payments, overheads and transfer of assets to the new Community Intermediary Organisation.

The client engagement process will also be transferred to the CIO and start clients will also be directed to the new organisation.

4. Finance

- 4.1 The cost of closure of PLUS is estimated to be £36,000 which will require to be met by North Lanarkshire Council and Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire. In principle agreement has been confirmed by the funding parties to meet the costs of closure, subject to exact closure costs being identified. The funding parties contributions to the closure costs are detailed below:

<u>Parties</u>	<u>Contribution</u>
NLC Chief Executive's Department	£10,000
NLC Planning and Environment	£17,000
Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire	£ 9,000
Total	£36,000

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Planning and Environment Committee:

- (i) note the contents of the report in respect of the closure of PLUS Lanarkshire Limited;
- (ii) authorise the approval of £17,000 by the Director of Planning and Environment as a contribution to the cost involved in the closure process;
- (iii) note the cost will be met from the Training Relate Bank Revenue budget 2001-2002.
- (iv) remit this report to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.



David M Porch
Director of Planning and Environment

Date of Report: 7 March 2002

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