

To: PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: REDUNDANCY SUPPORT PROVISION – MONITORING REPORT
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 1 st May 2002	Ref: Rep. DB/841	

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the work undertaken by Council departments in the provision of redundancy support to affected workforces throughout North Lanarkshire.

2 Introduction

- 2.1 Members will recall that the Council has adopted a protocol that informs and guides the Council's approach to dealing with redundancy situations and in the provision of redundancy support for affected workforces.

3 Current Situation

- 3.1 In the period since the last report to the Economic Development Committee, dated 6th August 2001, submitted to the Committee on 12th September 2001, 9 new redundancy situations have been notified to the Policy and Economic Development Service.

(a) **Retronix Ltd., Coatbridge**

20 people were made redundant from Whifflet in August 2001. Advice on employment and training opportunities and welfare benefits was made available to those affected. These redundancies were due to the closure of Motorola.

(b) **Scottish Power, Bellshill & Cumbernauld**

Following the sale of some of the company's retail outlets 140 redundancies were announced in Bellshill and 100 in Cumbernauld. Through the PACE partnership, a programme of open-nights was scheduled in Bellshill and Cumbernauld Job Centres. Officers from Policy & Economic Development Service and Social Work were in attendance.

(c) **Camp Brothers, Shotts**

15 people facing redundancy in November 2001 were given the opportunity to attend a group session and access individual advice on training employment and welfare rights.

(d) **TFC Cable Assemblies, Motherwell**

20 employees were placed on gardening leave prior to redundancy in December 2001. Every effort was made to ensure that these individuals received the appropriate information as to their rights and entitlements.

- (e) **Adecco Powergen, Uddingston**
80 employees who had been placed on gardening leave were invited by the PACE partners to attend information sessions in the workplace prior to their termination in January 2002. Officers from Policy & Economic Development Service and Social Work were in attendance.
- (f) **Geodis, Cumbernauld**
Two group information sessions and one-to-one follow-up opportunities were provided by officers from Policy & Economic Development Service and Social Work to the 29 members of the workforce facing redundancy in January 2002
- (g) **Stadium plc, Airdrie**
Group information sessions and individual advice were offered in March 2002 prior to the redundancy faced by the workforce of 50.
- (h) **Coilcraft, Cumbernauld**
A further 34 members of the workforce faced redundancy in March 2002 and Officers of the Council were once again in attendance to offer advice on training, employment and benefits.

4 Additional Considerations

4.1 Annual Summary

In the past year, officers of North Lanarkshire Council have provided assistance to the workforces of 14 firms facing redundancy. These redundancies have affected some 893 employees.

8 Firms requested that group session be provided requested a total of 21 group sessions, attended by 326 individuals.

Subsequent to the sessions 54 individuals entered group training in ICT, funded by North Lanarkshire Council. A further 47 sought advice on education and training and 57 individuals requested advice on welfare rights and benefits as pertinent to themselves and their immediate families.

Residents of North Lanarkshire affected by redundancies out with the authority area, most notably Motorola, were also assisted, whilst workers who resided outwith the area were referred to their relevant support via the PACE Partnership.

Appendix A attached provides details on all the redundancy support provided by the Council for the financial year 2001 – 2002.

4.1 PACE (Partnership Action for Continuing Employment)

The PACE partnership continues to strive to provide the highest quality service to the workforce of North Lanarkshire by means of a taskforce approach, tailored to the needs of those at risk.

The partners are currently monitoring the situation at Levi Strauss, Bellshill and are geared to providing a response to the events.

5 Conclusion

5.1 There appears to be no reduction in the number of company liquidations and redundancies since the previous report dated 6th August 2001 and submitted to the committee on the 12th September 2001.

5.2 Manufacturing industry continues to bear the brunt of these liquidations and redundancies with particular concern for the electronics sector.

5.3 North Lanarkshire Council Officers will continue to provide support to affected workforces through the auspices of PACE and will continually strive to improve the organisation and effectiveness of this partnership.

6 Recommendations

6.1 It is recommended that the Planning & Environment Committee:

- (i) note the content of this report and approve the actions taken to date.



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For further information contact Diane Bennett, Training & Development Officer, Tel 01236 616562

Date of Report 27th March 2002