

To: PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE	Subject: North Lanarkshire Voluntary Organisations Database	
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2002	Ref: Rep848	

## 1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to highlight a partnership project to develop a North Lanarkshire Voluntary Organisations Database and to receive approval for financial support of the project over the next three years.

## 2 Background

- 2.1 Community groups and voluntary organisations have been recognised as key players in the social and economic regeneration of communities. Through the services they provide and opportunities they offer for people to participate in their community and develop their skills and experiences, community organisations play an essential role in the regeneration and future prosperity of North Lanarkshire. In recognising this pivotal role key public sector agencies and voluntary sector organisations wish to engage more regularly with this sector.
- 2.2 Currently there is no comprehensive, up to date listing of voluntary organisations. It has been recognised that a fully comprehensive database of all organisations throughout North Lanarkshire is required. The partners (North Lanarkshire Council's Planning and Environment, Social Work and Chief Executives department, Scottish Enterprise Lanarkshire, Lanarkshire Health Board, Communities Scotland and Strathclyde Police) have commissioned Monklands Association for Voluntary Service to undertake the work to develop the database and to make it available on-line at [www.NLVO.org.uk](http://www.NLVO.org.uk). This work is being undertaken under a Service Level Agreement.
- 2.3 The three year development and maintenance financial package for the database has been agreed with the various partners, the costs stand at £11,000 for the current year and £9,000 for the two subsequent years. The total project cost is £29,000. Planning and Environment are looking to contribute £2,000 for each of the three years of the project, to be funded from existing resources.
- 2.4 The registration forms for the database are to be mailed out in mid April, with a publicity campaign also being launched to raise awareness of the database across North Lanarkshire, and maximise the number of registrations.
- 2.5 When complete the database will be available for use by all Council departments

## 3 Recommendations

- 3.1 The Committee is requested to note the content of the report.



David M Porch

**Director of Planning and Environment**

For further information, please contact Bernadette Milligan 01236 616276

Date of Report: 15 April 2002