

To: Policy and Resources (Community Development) Sub Committee	Subject: SOCIAL INCLUSION CONFERENCE
From: Chief Executive	
Date: 29 September 1998	Ref: CE012/003/020

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to enable the Sub-Committee to consider and approve the arrangements for the Social Inclusion Conference.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Social Strategy Working Group held a planning day in February to assist in planning the implementation of the Social Strategy. One of the main proposals emerging from the day was to hold a seminar on social exclusion. A key objective for the event is to consider the links between the Government's emerging approach to tackling social exclusion and the Council's Social Strategy.
- 2.2 Outline proposals for the event were considered by the Sub-Committee at its meeting in April 1998. At that time it was hoped that the conference could take place before the Council's summer recess. However, this timescale proved unfeasible due to the unavailability of Lord Sewell the Scottish Office Minister responsible for Social Exclusion who was invited to make the keynote address.

3.0 Proposed Arrangements

- 3.1 It is now intended to hold the conference on Friday 20 November 1998 in the Civic Centre, Concert Hall. A letter of invitation has been sent to Lord Sewell.
- 3.2 All Elected Members, chief officers and other key staff will be invited to participate and expected to attend if possible.
- 3.3 A briefing note covering the conference aims, potential outcomes, draft programme and proposals for preparing participants is set out as Appendix 1.
- 3.4 Arrangements for the conference are being co-ordinated by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) and the Social Strategy Working Group. The costs involved in running the event can be met from the Social Strategy allocation within the Payments to Agencies and Other Bodies budget for 1998/99 held by the Chief Executive's department.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Sub-Committee:
- (a) approve the arrangements for the social inclusion conference as detailed in the report; and
 - (b) otherwise note the contents of this report.


 J. Casals
 Chief Executive

*Social Inclusion Conference - Briefing Note**Conference Aims*

- to consider the key characteristics of social exclusion
- to examine the Government's proposals for tackling social exclusion
- to explore the nature and level of social exclusion in North Lanarkshire
- to identify the role for local government in combating social exclusion
- to identify key issues for North Lanarkshire Council
- to consider the role of the Council's social and economic strategies in tackling social exclusion
- to agree the key dimensions of an effective and sustainable approach to building social inclusion in North Lanarkshire
- to identify the next steps

Potential Outcomes

- raised awareness of the extent and nature of social exclusion and opportunities to respond
- improved working relationships involving Members/Chief Officers
- better understanding of Corporate Plan and Social Strategy
- shared vision/commitment to corporate action
- political and managerial leadership on social exclusion established

Date: Friday 20 November 1998

Venue: Concert Hall, Civic Centre

Draft Programme

9.30	Registration, coffee
10.00	Introduction and Welcome (Leader of Council)
10.05	Keynote Address (Lord Sewell, Minister responsible for Social Inclusion)
10.35	Questions /Open forum
11.00	Coffee
11.15	'Responding to the Challenge' (Leader of Council)
11.30	Workshops
12.30	Lunch
13.30	Workshops
14.30	Coffee
14.45	Feedback - key issues from workshops
15.00	Plenary Discussion 'The Way Forward' (Chair: Assistant Chief Executive (Operations))
15.45	Close

Workshops: two sets of the same five workshops are proposed with participants attending one workshop in the morning and a different one in the afternoon. Workshops will be led/facilitated by Officers of the Council. Support in preparing for the workshops be provided by appropriate members of the Social Strategy Working Group. The following themes are proposed:

Health
Early Intervention
Poverty
Community development
Employment and training

Brief input would be followed by a structured discussion to identify key issues, opportunities and proposed actions with an emphasis on corporate and partnership responses.

Plenary: It is anticipated that the plenary discussion 'The Way Forward' would concentrate on the keys to making things happen such as leadership, resources, policy framework, partnership, corporate working, implementation structures, community involvement and review process.

Preparing Participants:

A briefing note will go out to participants before the event covering the conference aims, key issues and programme as well as briefly summarising the government's approach to tackling social exclusion and the Council's social strategy.

A brief input at the corporate management team, departmental management team meetings and political group meetings may also be worthwhile.