

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

<p>To: Policy and Resources (Community Development) Sub Committee</p>	<p>Subject: Match Funding - European Social Fund Project: Community Care Lanarkshire</p>
<p>From: Chief Executive</p>	
<p>Date: 23 February 1999</p>	<p>Ref: CE/012/003/012</p>

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Sub Committee of progress made by One Plus and consider a request from this organisation to match fund their application to the European Social Fund for the Community Care Lanarkshire Project.

2.0 Background

2.1 The Community Care Lanarkshire programme for lone parents has received support from North Lanarkshire Council since April 1996 to match fund their application to the European Social Fund. All of the applications have been successful in securing funding from both Europe and Lanarkshire Development Agency.

2.2 The training programme has places for 16 trainees and is designed to address the particular difficulties and barriers experienced by lone parents and returners to employment who have been out of the labour market for at least 2 years.

2.3 In particular appropriate financial support is available in an attempt to overcome the financial barriers including payments for childcare and other care costs as well as travel costs.

2.4 The training programme meets the needs of employees by providing intensive personal development, for example, team work, problem solving and indeed sufficient vocational skills which leads to the award of SVQ Level II in Social Care.

2.5 The project has secured sufficient employers throughout North Lanarkshire to provide placement opportunities for all of the trainees.

3.0 Evaluation of the Programme 1998

3.1 There were 16 trainees recruited at the beginning of 1998 with an additional 5 joining part way through the course. All of the trainees were considered to be long term unemployed. The trainees were recruited from North Motherwell, Newmains and Wishaw and the project operated from Newarthill Community Education Centre.

3.3 During 1998, 3 trainees left the project due to ill health, 2 were referred to other agencies and 2 gained full time employment with 14 trainees achieving the SVQ Level II in Social Care.

4.0 Conclusion

4.1 The project in 1998 has proven to be successful in achieving both the provision of training opportunities for lone parents and assisting the trainees to gain employment in the Social Care field.

4.2 To enable the recruitment process to be more targeted it is suggested that recruitment is limited in the first instance to the PPA and Regeneration areas.

5.0 Financial Package

5.1 One Plus has applied to the Council for £27,500 which represents 28% of the total project costs. The financial package is detailed below.

Project	E.S.F.	L.D.A.	One Plus	North Lanarkshire	Total Cost
Community Care Lanarkshire	£44,514	£21,000	£5908	£27,500	£98,922

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 The Policy and Resources (Community Development) Sub Committee is requested to :-

- (i) approve North Lanarkshire Council's contribution of £27,500 from the Chief Executive's Department Payment to Agencies and Other Bodies budget as detailed;
- (ii) request One Plus to target the recruitment of trainees to the PPA and Regeneration Areas in the first instance; and
- (iii) note the contents of the report.


P. M. Castle
Chief Executive