

To: SCRUTINY PANEL (Strategy and Policy Implementation)	Subject: UPDATE ON SHOPMOBILITY IN NORTH LANARKSHIRE	
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 24 August 2005	Ref: HQ/JM	

### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on the development of Shopmobility within North Lanarkshire.

### 2. Background

- 2.1 Following the successful implementation of the Shopmobility project in Coatbridge it was decided that Motherwell was an appropriate town centre for another facility to be installed.
- 2.2 After examination of a number of sites it was decided to proceed with a site at the east end of Brandon Parade East which is accessed from Pollock Street. This site became operational before Christmas 2003.

### 3. Current Position in Coatbridge

- 3.1 An extension to the facility is being pursued which would give more scope, better storage and would improve the facility.
- 3.2 Although the search for sponsorship has been slow, one company has sponsored three scooters over April, May and June.
- 3.3 In May there was a Shopmobility information fortnight in Airdrie library. The display boards provided information on North Lanarkshire and Hamilton Shopmobility. Following this there was an increase in registrations throughout the month of June. The boards have since been displayed in Motherwell and registrations will be monitored. For current user figures see Appendix 1.

### 4. Current Position in Motherwell

- 4.1 The shopmobility volunteers were nominated for Volunteer Team of The Year at the annual awards organised by the Volunteer Centre in June. Unfortunately they were not winners but received a Certificate of Recognition for the team.
- 4.2 In terms of sponsorship, one local business has already agreed to sponsor a scooter and work is ongoing in trying to secure further commitments.

4.3 The mobile unit for Support and Advice for Independent Living (SAIL) and Shopmobility are looking to join forces and access the Town Centres to help increase awareness of both services. The mobile unit has already visited the car park to test if scooters can be transported in their unit and it is hoped that dates can be organised for August/September.

## **5. Future Provision**

5.1 Within Cumbernauld Town Centre some discussions have taken place with the developers of the Antonine Centre however we await further discussions as the development is finalised.

## **6. Conclusion**

6.1 The service is well used in both Town Centres and hopefully usage will continue to increase. As usage increases additional revenue funding will be required to support the expansion of the service.

## **7. Recommendations**

7.1 Committee are asked to:

- (i) note the contents of this report
- (ii) note that total users, new users and registrations are continuing to rise
- (iii) note that as the service expands additional revenue funding will be required



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18 August 2005

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact John Marran, on 01236-616253

## APPENDIX 1

### North Lanarkshire Shopmobility User Figures (January to June 2005)

	<b>Coatbridge</b>	<b>Motherwell</b>
<b>January</b>		
Total Users	157	126
New Users	7	5
Registered Users	426	189
<b>February</b>		
Total Users	203	159
New Users	9	7
Registered Users	435	196
<b>March</b>		
Total Users	240	152
New Users	7	5
Registered Users	442	201
<b>April</b>		
Total Users	266	170
New Users	9	13
Registered Users	451	214
<b>May</b>		
Total Users	278	169
New Users	11	10
Registered Users	462	224
<b>June</b>		
Total Users	357	189
New Users	26	13
Registered Users	488	237