

**EXCERPT OF MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE HOUSING COMMITTEE HELD ON
10 MARCH 1999****NEW FUTURES INITIATIVE, EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT PROJECT**

12. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 1 March 1999 by the Director of Housing regarding the successful outcome of a bid made under the New Futures Initiative to establish an Employment and Support Project for young homeless people (1) advising that the New Futures Fund was established to provide intensive support for unemployed people aged 16-34 who have suffered serious disadvantage in the labour market and whose needs were not met by other programmes; (2) indicating that the Initiative run by Scottish Enterprise, had been piloted in 5 areas including Lanarkshire with £10 million being available over 3 years; (3) intimating that a joint bid submitted in August 1998 by the Directors of Education, Housing and Social Work in conjunction with the Careers Service had been successful; (4) informing that funding of £68,110 per annum which included the appointment of 2 Project Workers and clerical support had been secured for 2 years with a start date of 1 April 1999, and (5) advising that the project would be based at a supported accommodation unit in Airth Court, Motherwell, and would be developed and monitored by an inter-departmental Management Group involving Housing, Social Work, Community Education and the Careers Service.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report regarding the successful funding application under the New Futures Initiative be noted;
- (2) that the implementation of the Project, including the appointment of the relevant staff be approved, and
- (3) that the report be remitted to the Education, Personnel Services and Social Work Committees for information and action.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: HOUSING COMMITTEE		Subject: NEW FUTURES INITIATIVE - EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT PROJECT
From: DIRECTOR OF HOUSING		
Date: 1 March 1999	Ref: GSW/PH/3	

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the successful outcome to a bid made under the New Futures Initiative to establish an employment and support project for young, homeless people, and seek approval to implement the project.
- 1.2 This report has been prepared in conjunction with the Directors of Education and Social Work and will also be reported to Education, Social Work and Personnel Committees.

2 Background

- 2.1 The New Futures Fund was established to provide intensive support for unemployed people aged 16 - 34 who suffer serious disadvantage in the labour market and whose needs are not being met by other programmes. The initiative, run by Scottish Enterprise, is being piloted in 5 areas, including Lanarkshire, and £10 million is available over 3 years.
- 2.2 A joint bid was submitted in August 1998 by the Education, Housing and Social Work Departments in conjunction with the Careers Service to obtain funding from the New Futures Initiative to establish a project to help young, homeless people access and sustain employment and training opportunities.
- 2.3 The aim of the Accommodation, Employment and Support Project (ACCESS) Is to provide a programme of self development to increase the confidence and self esteem of the young people and ensure they are better equipped to access and sustain employment, training or further education opportunities.
- 2.3 In February the Council was advised by Scottish Enterprise that its bid had been successful and funding of £68,110 per annum has been secured for 2 years with a start date of 1 April 1999. The funding will be used to appoint 2 project workers and clerical support. In addition there is provision within the budget for specialist sessional staff and other operational costs, as outlined in the full bid submission appended to this report.
- 2.4 The project will be based in Airth Court supported accommodation unit in Motherwell but will provide outreach support, based on individual assessments, to young, homeless people throughout North Lanarkshire.
- 2.5 The project will be developed and monitored by an inter-departmental management group involving Housing, Social Work, Community Education and Careers.

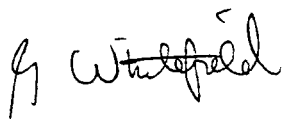
3 Recommendations


3.1 The Committee is asked to:

- note the contents of this report regarding the successful funding application under the New Futures Initiative.
- approve the implementation of the project, including the appointment of relevant staff.
- remit the report to the Social Work, Education and Personnel Committees for information.

4. Background Information

4.1 Background information is available from the Housing Department.



 Gavin Whitefield
Director of Housing



Scottish Enterprise New Future Fund Initiative

Appendix 1

Project Proposal Form (1)

Details of the Organisation

Organisation: North Lanarkshire Council - Community Education Service
Housing Department
Careers Service
Social Work Department

Address: North Lanarkshire Council
Community Education Service
Municipal Buildings
Kildonan Street
Coatbridge ML5 3BT

Tel: 01236 812285 **Fax:** 01236 812309

E-mail Address: cehq@rmpc.co.uk

Contact Name: Jim Sweeney **Position in Organisation:** Principal Community Education Officer

Project Proposal Summary

Project Title: Accommodation, Employment and Support Service (ACCESS)

Objectives and Outcomes:

- To offer a programme of self development and initial, and ongoing support to young single tenants which will:
 - enhance their basic skills (numeracy, literacy, oracy);
 - increase their self confidence and self esteem;
 - give them access to basic IT training;
 - make them aware of the jobs and training opportunities;
 - provide a programme linking healthy living to sustained employment;
 - provide them with a CV and Record of Achievement;
 - offer them a residential experience.
- Liaison with local employers to arrange work placements which the employment counsellors would help the young people sustain.
- To offer financial and material assistance to young people to help them access opportunities, eg: necessary equipment / materials for college courses etc, suitable clothing, help with transport.

Target Group/s: Young, homeless people who are considered vulnerable and in priority need in terms of the Housing (Scotland) Act. This may be because of their age; because they were previously looked after and accommodated by the Council; or they may have health or other problems which make them vulnerable, eg: family breakdown, drug and alcohol abuse, inability to hold down tenancy, mental health problems, poor educational achievement etc.

Duration: March 2001 **Cost:** £68,110 per annum

For Internal Use

Project Proposal: Received Date: _____ **Phase:** _____ **Code:** _____

Reviewed Date: _____ **Recommendation:** **Approved:** _____

Conditional Approval: _____
(Additional Support Required)

Not Approved: _____



Scottish Enterprise New Future Fund Initiative

Project Proposal Form (2)

Profile of Organisation (Description of type, aims, staffing etc):

- **Local Authority:** Project would involve joint management team from Community Education, Social Work, Housing, Careers. Presently employed staff would co-ordinate and manage project with group workers being employed to operate the programme together with specialists for delivering some of the more specialist sessions.
- **New Deal:** Some of the target group will be eligible for New Deal - Gateway. The project will ensure an integrated approach to current provision through links with Lanarkshire Adult Guidance Network.
- **Community Education:** Main areas of work include youth empowerment, youth information, basic skills, eg: numeracy, literacy, new technology.
- **Housing Department:** Statutory responsibility for homelessness and provides temporary accommodation for over 100 homeless young people within 5 supported accommodation units. Many of the young people have complex needs and the support workers within the units carry out joint assessments with Social Work staff and liaise with area housing offices when young person is ready for independent living.
- **Social Work Department:** The Throughcare Teams provide support to many of the young people, particularly those who were previously looked after or accommodated by the Council. The Throughcare staff carry out joint assessments with Housing staff and help young people access the services available to them.
- **Careers Service:** Has a careers guidance and placement role with this age group of young people with regard to employment, training and educational opportunities.

Current Work/Activities with Target Group/s:

- Some joint work already takes place with these tenants but it is not specifically geared to employment and training.
- Present work is around tenancy issues, social skills, health and lifestyles and benefits.
- A Joint Assessment Procedure involving Housing and Social Work is in place and initial evaluations have raised the need for support of a pre-vocational nature to enable many of the young people to become able to access job and training opportunities.

Significant Achievements / Successes in Current Activities:

- The implementation of the Joint Assessment Procedure between Housing and Social Work has helped to ensure that young, homeless people get access to the accommodation and support they require to enable them to live independently in the future. The joint assessment has improved co-ordination between the 2 departments and resulted in a more effective service for young, vulnerable people. It is hoped it will result in fewer tenancy breakdowns and cycles of homelessness. A monitoring system is also being developed to help with future joint planning.
- The Council was successful in obtaining Scottish Office funding to appoint 2 Outreach Workers under the Rough Sleepers Initiative. The workers research the problem of rough sleeping in the area and help rough sleepers access available services.
- A pilot Homelessness and Health Project targeted at young, homeless people within one of the supported accommodation units was successful in raising awareness about health issues, including diet and lifestyle, and helped young people take part in sporting and leisure activities. The project involved Community Education, Social Work, Leisure and Housing, and effective corporate working was a key feature of the project's success. It is now proposed to develop the programme and expand it to all the supported accommodation units.

For Internal Use

Phase: _____ Code: _____



Scottish Enterprise New Future Fund Initiative

Project Proposal Form (3)

Project Title: Accommodation, Employment and Support Service (ACCESS)

Briefly describe the project and what it hopes to achieve:

We would provide tailored programmes which would increase the confidence of the young people, raise self esteem and ensure they are better equipped to access and sustain employment training or further education opportunities.

Target Group/s:

- In 1997/98 the Council accommodated approximately 180 homeless people in the 16-21 age range within its supported accommodation units.
- As at 1 August 1998 the Council was accommodating 36 homeless people in the 16-21 age range within the supported accommodation units. Of these young people only 4 are in full-time employment and 6 are on training schemes.
- As at 1 August 1998 Blue Triangle was accommodating 12 young people, 3 of whom are on training courses, one is in full-time employment and one is participating in the Prince's Trust programme.

Graphical Area: Wishaw, Motherwell, Viewpark, Airdrie, Coatbridge.

Duration: **From:** September 1998 **To:** March 2001

How did the idea for the project come about, eg: how was the need identified?:

Through the joint assessment process and staff currently working with the young people.

Indicate here any other organisations / partners involved in the proposal, address, contact numbers and their role:

- YMCA/YWCA Cumbernauld - Stewart McCrae, Kildrum Farm, Afton Road, Cumbernauld
Tel: 01236 721382
- Blue Triangle Housing Association - Ellen Scullion, 596-606 Old Edinburgh Road, Viewpark
Tel: 01698 816801

To provide referrals and complimentary support for young people, including those who have support needs.



Scottish Enterprise New Future Fund Initiative

Project Proposal Form (3 cont)

Activities / processes to be used in achieving the objectives and outcomes of the project:

- Individual assessments and action plans agreed with the young person.
- Group work, team-building skills and exercises to improve self esteem and self confidence.
- Residential experience.
- CV preparation and job search, presentation skills, awareness of local labour market.
- Understanding local labour market and visits to employers, including the local authority.
- One-to-one careers counselling.
- Compilation of Record of Achievement and provision of a reference.

How do you intend to evaluate the project?:

- Participants, key workers and managers setting realistic goals and targets via Joint Assessment Procedure.
- Individual action plans to be monitored.
- Pre-during, post exit guidance interview.
- External evaluation.

How will you measure success, progress or achievement of individual / group involved in the project?:

- The joint assessment process includes the young person's employment / training situation and is reviewed at regular intervals. This will help monitor the young person's progress in accessing employment / training or further education.
- Individual progress monitoring of participant's Record of Achievement.
- Views of key workers, in terms of noticing progress.
- Bench marks to allow celebration of success throughout the programme.
- Completion rate.
- External evaluation.
- Follow-up for 12 month period by key workers, to register progress and ongoing destination in terms of employment and training.

Description of funding required:

1	Co-ordinator	£19,760
2	Support Counsellor	£19,760
3	Specialist / Sessional Staff	£10,600
4	Residential Visits (£50 per client x 100)	£5,000
5	External Evaluation	£2,000
6	Admin Support (GS2 x 10 hours per week x 6.71)	£3,490
7	Clothing Assistance (for interviews etc)	£500
8	Printing, Stationery, Record of Achievement, SQA Costs	£1,000
9	Transport (for residential)	£1,000
10	Equipment / Materials	£3,000
11	Travel and Subsistence for Clients	£2,000
	Total	£68,110 per annum

Council Contribution:

- 1 Property Costs
- 2 Office Accommodation within Supported Accommodation Unit
- 3 Training of Sessional Staff
- 4 Accommodation in Community Education Centres
- 5 IT Access (computer training)
- 6 Operational Management and Overarching Inter-Departmental Group

For Internal Use

Phase: _____ Code: _____



Scottish Enterprise New Future Fund Initiative

Project Proposal Form (4)

Additional Information You Wish to Submit to Support Your Proposal

(Please note that this should be limited to one page. Alternatively you may wish to append some information about your organisation to support your proposal.)

The following information is available on request:

- Joint Assessment Procedure.
- Evaluation of Health and Homelessness Pilot Project.
- Further information regarding client group.
- Youth Housing Strategy.
- Rough Sleepers Strategy.

In addition, a breakdown of the client group based on an analysis of a sample of joint assessment forms is provided for information.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Internal Use

Phase: _____ Code: _____

Joint Assessment Analysis

Profile of Client Group Based on Analysis of 43 Forms from Supported Accommodation Units

<i>Sex</i>	<i>Age</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>16 - 17</i>	<i>18 - 21</i>	
Male	9 (21%)	2 (5%)	11 (26%)
Female	22 (51%)	10 (23%)	32 (74%)
Total	31 (72%)	12 (28%)	43 (100%)

	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>
Number of young people:		
• with dependent children	1	
• who are pregnant	6	(19% of females)
• previously looked after / accommodated	20	(47%)
• with alcohol / drug issues	8	(19%)
• with history of offending	6	(14%)
• with identified health problems:	14	(33%)
◦ physical	6	(14%)
◦ mental	8	(19%)
• taking part in leisure activities	9	(21%)
• dependent on benefits:	31	(72%)
◦ income support	10	(23%)
◦ sickness benefit	2	(5%)
◦ disability	4	(9%)
◦ jobseekers	10	(23%)
◦ hardship	5	(12%)
• in employment / training:	6	(14%)
◦ full-time	2	(5%)
◦ skillseekers	3	(7%)
◦ youthstart	1	(2%)
• with income not specified	6	(14%)