

To: COMMUNITY SERVICES (COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT) SUB COMMITTEE	Subject: DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICE DEVELOPMENT FUND
From: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES	
Date: 10 MAY 2000	Ref: BP/MF

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Sub Committee of the outcome of the bid submitted to the Scottish Executive Domestic Abuse Service Development Fund.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 On 27 October 1999 Scottish Executive Ministers announced the establishment of the Domestic Abuse Service Development Fund. During the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 additional funding of £1.5 million will be made available to develop practical, effective and efficient multi agency arrangements at a local level to help victims of domestic abuse. Subsequently the Scottish Executive, Justice Department, invited local authorities to co-ordinate applications. Additionally a further £2 million over 2 years has been allocated from Scottish Homes to provide more refuge places as well as more permanent accommodation for victims.
- 2.2 At its meeting of 29 February 2000 the community services committee considered a report seeking approval to submit a bid for revenue funding to establish a dedicated co-ordinator post, and in conjunction with Scottish Homes, seek capital funds for refuge provision.
- 2.3 Members are reminded of the ongoing working arrangements through the North Lanarkshire community safety partnership to develop a multi agency strategy to tackle domestic abuse.

3. OUTCOME

- 3.1 On 27 March 2000 the Justice Department of the Scottish Executive confirmed the success of the North Lanarkshire bid, noting that £23,000 had been awarded. Additionally a capital award of £231,000 has been approved.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Planning for implementation of the project is now underway and is being progressed through the community safety partnership, domestic abuse working group.

- 4.2 The funding award contains provision to establish a co-ordinator graded at PO1 and the director of community services in conjunction with the head of personnel services seeks approval to establish this post. A job description is attached as appendix 1. The post will initially be on a 2 year fixed term contract.
- 4.3 The capital element of the bid will be the subject of a separate report to the appropriate committees.

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 Members of the sub-committee are asked to:
- (i) note the success of the council's bid
 - (ii) refer the report to the personnel services committee for approval to establish the co-ordinator post
 - (iii) authorise the director of community services, in liaison with the head of personnel services, to take the necessary steps to fill the post
 - (iv) refer the report to the housing and property services, social work and social inclusion committees for their information and interest.

Paul Jones

North Lanarkshire Council

Job Description

Post: Service Co-ordinator (Domestic Abuse)

Grade: PO 1 (£22,083 - £24,009)

Responsible to the chair of the Domestic Abuse Strategy Group the postholder will be responsible for developing more effective inter-agency working to help prevent domestic abuse; protect women and children affected by domestic abuse; and providing appropriate, responsive services to abused women and their children.

Key Duties

1. Audit current service provision across all the interested agencies, including council departments and external organisations such as the police and health authorities, and identify gaps in provision.
2. Develop joint training and awareness raising within and between agencies
3. Assist in the development of protocols between agencies to help facilitate more effective joint working, including information sharing and referral procedures.
4. Develop service standards across agencies and a monitoring framework to help inform future service development.
5. Produce a range of good quality information on services available in the North Lanarkshire area.
6. Develop consultation arrangements with service users to inform service development.
7. Liaise with the education department with a view to promoting increased awareness within schools to help challenge attitudes underpinning domestic abuse.
8. Disseminate information and good practice to all relevant agencies regarding domestic abuse.
9. Contribute to the development of the multi agency strategy on domestic abuse and other relevant strategies.
10. Identify resources and funding sources available to help develop services for abused women and their children
11. Produce regular progress reports for the Domestic Abuse Strategy Group.
12. Overall responsibility for the day to day management of the project including budget monitoring.
13. Any other duties appropriate to the post.