

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: Petition from Residents of Leslie Street Area Regarding the Children's Home in Leslie Street, Motherwell
FROM: Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 25 January 2001	
REPORT AUTHOR: J Dickie	
REF: JD/AB	

1 CONTENT AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

To bring to the attention of the Social Work Committee a petition from residents in the Leslie Street area regarding concerns about the Children's Home and its residents. The petition was received by the Director of Administration on 22 November 2000 and has been brought to this committee as the first available Social Work Committee date.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Children's Home in Leslie Street has been in existence for some 2 years and provides care for young people who are looked after and accommodated by the Council because of family breakdown and related difficulties. The unit is located in central Motherwell and was established as part of the Council's Residential Child Care Action Plan to create small scale residential units and to move away from historical reliance on large scale units.
- 2.2 The Convener of Social Work has commissioned a review of certain aspects of residential child care services in North Lanarkshire and has convened a group of members and officers to undertake the detailed work necessary. It is anticipated that the work of this group will result in proposals to Social Work Committee for addressing some of the difficulties in this sector.

3 PETITION

- 3.1 The petition's terms are as follows:
 "We, the undersigned, demand the closure of the Children's Home in Leslie Street due to the anti-social behaviour and total disregard for other people and possessions."

Approximately 223 people have signed their names and given their addresses in support of this statement. A copy is available in the Department of Administration or the Department of Social Work for perusal.

4 CONCLUSIONS

Members of the Committee are invited to consider this petition and the covering report. The working group will bring forward proposals in due course.

5 RECOMMENDATION

Members are invited to note the contents of the report and the petition.



**Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
28 December 2000**

For further information on this report please contact, J Dickie, Director of Social Work (TEL: 01698 332011)