

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE	Subject: REMAND FOSTERING SCHEME – RESTRICTED TENDERING PROCESS	
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 30 OCTOBER 2003	Ref: DM/AB	

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval for the appointment of NCH Scotland to provide a remand fostering scheme in North Lanarkshire.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. North and South Lanarkshire Councils are part of the pilot Youth Court initiative for 16 and 17 year olds. In order to develop positive alternatives to custody the Council was awarded Scottish Executive funding of £200,000 per annum, initially for 2 years, to develop remand fostering (care in a family environment instead of custody whilst waiting trial). Social Work Committee gave approval for a restricted tendering process for this service development from organisations with sufficient experience and expertise in this field.

## 3. PROPOSALS / CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1. Expressions of interest were sought from three organisations deemed to meet the required criteria, of whom only NCH Scotland tendered to provide the service.
- 3.2. An assessment of their submission was considered against a set of criteria including: previous experience of delivering the service; flexibility and responsiveness; management arrangements; supervision and support; capacity to deal with contingencies; performance management; values and inclusiveness of approach.
- 3.3. The service proposed is highly specialised and requires skilled recruitment and support of paid carers. NCH Scotland run a Community Alternative Placement Scheme (CAPS) which requires similar attributes and the manager of that scheme will manage the North Lanarkshire service. The organisation also has experience of running a remand scheme in England.
- 3.4. It was considered that NCH Scotland met the qualities required of a provider for this service.


#### 4. FINANCIAL / PERSONNEL / LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1. Funding of £200,000, initially for two years, for remand fostering has been awarded by the Scottish Executive for this service.

#### 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Committee is asked to:

- (i) approve selection of NCH Scotland to provide a remand fostering scheme; and
- (ii) otherwise note the contents of this report.



**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**6 October 2003**

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