

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL**REPORT**

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| To: SOCIAL WORK (OPERATIONS AND SERVICES) SUB COMMITTEE | | Subject: COMMUNITY DAY PROGRAMME | |
| From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK | | | |
| Date: 29 JUNE 2005 | Ref: GMcl/DH | | |

1. Purpose of Report/Introduction

To report to Committee on the progress of the Community Day Programme and to advise of a successful application to the Community Regeneration Fund to extend the programme for a further period of three years.

2. Background

- 2.1. In May 2004 a report was submitted to the Operations and Services Sub Committee advising of the completion of a successful Community Day Programme for individuals with an alcohol misuse problem. The programme had run over an eight-week period, Monday to Friday, with an emphasis on corporate and inter-agency working.
- 2.2. The aim of the Community Day Programme is to provide a structured scheme of intervention for people who are at serious risk due to their alcohol misuse. The programme covers a range of topics i.e. the damage to health, the physical and psychological affects of alcohol misuse, along with matters such as relapse prevention and coping strategies. It also provides the opportunity to develop a community based service which could be used in some circumstances as an alternative to the provision of residential rehabilitation.
- 2.3. The programmes were held in Motherwell, Cumbernauld and Coatbridge. In total 36 people participated in the three programmes with 25 of those who started, completing the course. The most recent event which was held in the Coatbridge area saw 14 people joining the programme with 10 of them completing. All of those who finished have signed up to a Pre Access course at Coatbridge College.
- 2.4. The three programmes which operated between August and March 2005 were again a model of co-operation and collaboration between Health and the Local Authority. At a Council level there were inputs to the programme by Money Advisers, Welfare Rights Officers and Housing Officers who delivered sessions on their individual subjects but in addition also offered one to one intervention where this was required. Community Services also had a key role both in the provision of the accommodation and through access to leisure and sports facilities.
- 2.5. In light of the continuing success of the programme an application was made to the Community Regeneration Fund and resources have been allocated to fund the programme from 2005 to 2008. Four locations have been identified for the coming year; Motherwell area in April, Airdrie in July, Viewpark in October and Coatbridge in January. It is anticipated that in total, services will be offered to 50 people and the completion rate, based on previous experience, will be in the region of 35 individuals.

- 2.6. While funding will enable a minimum of 12 programmes to take place over the next three years, it is intended to use the model as a means of developing community based services. This will ensure that people can access services without major disruption to their lives and that of their families.

3. **Financial/Personnel/Legal/Policy Implications**

- 3.1. Following a successful bid to the Community Regeneration Fund, an allocation of £69,000 per annum has been made to fund the programme over the next three years. Whilst Communities Scotland have approved the submission, North Lanarkshire Council Policy and Resources Committee have still to endorse the arrangement.
- 3.2. In the event that the programme continues to achieve successful outcomes, consideration will be given to seek funding to make the service a standard part of addiction services which are available to the community of North Lanarkshire.

4. **Recommendation**

- 4.1. Committee is requested to:
- i) remit to Community Services Committee for information
 - ii) note the contents of the report


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Director of Social Work
8 April 2005

For further information on this report please contact George McNally, Manager Social Work Strategy on telephone 01698 332555