

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: SOCIAL WORK (OPERATIONS AND SERVICES) SUB COMMITTEE		Subject: INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR MENTAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP (IIMHL)	
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK			
Date: 2 MAY 2006	Ref: JD/RM		

1. Purpose of Report/Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Committee of the involvement of North Lanarkshire Council in an initiative which is supported by the Scottish Executive, designed to promote good practice in services and support for people with mental ill health.

2. Background

2.1 The Scottish Executive has been keen to develop learning among agencies in Scotland, in relation "Best Practice, Best Value" and "Peer Learning" among its associated agencies and local government partners

2.2 The International Initiative for Mental Health Learning (IIMHL), is an example of the Executive's efforts to encourage new learning and the objective of learning through "peer collaboration".

2.3 The intention is that representatives from different Health and Social Care service agencies who support people with mental health difficulties and come from different countries – Scotland, England, New Zealand, Australia and North America, meet annually to share learning opportunities.

2.4 North Lanarkshire was invited to join the learning opportunities, in late 2005 and it was agreed that participation would be useful, in order to consider different/new approaches and contribute the knowledge base of others, from experience, which North Lanarkshire has developed, to date.

2.5 At the time of writing the details of the events arranged for June 2006 are not finalised but some individuals will be linked to staff in Social Work and Health , who are delivering services.

3. Details of Current Commitment to IIMHL

3.1 Currently one organisation is due to have a representative visiting North Lanarkshire on 5 and 6 June 2006, before she travels to the two day conference in Edinburgh on 8 and 9 June 2006. This individual is the chief executive of a large voluntary organisation which provides services for individuals who have mental ill health difficulties.

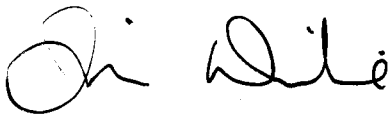
- 3.2 Other people may be linked to North Lanarkshire, which has highlighted its wish to promote and share learning regarding social inclusion approaches to supporting those with mental health difficulties.

4. Financial/Personnel/Legal/Policy Implications

- 4.1 The Scottish Executive, as sponsors of this initiative are funding the involvement of Scottish agencies, which are taking part in this initiative and therefore any financial costs incurred by the Council will be minimal.
- 4.2 Staff involved in this work will advise Committee of any benefits from the initiative and will produce an updated report at a later date.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1. Committee is asked to:
- (i) Support this initiative
 - (ii) Receive a future report on the subject
 - (iii) Otherwise note the content of this report



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
18 April, 2006

For further information on this report please contact Bobby Miller, Development Manager, Tel. No. 01698 332286, on email - millerr@northlan.gov.uk