

**East Area Services to Young People
Implementation Group
Future Development – Options**

Background

The East End Youth Initiative was established to enhance the capacity of local youth providers to deliver additional services over weekend periods.

A funding package totalling £131k was secured from The Community Planning Partnership, Communities Scotland and Glasgow Housing Associations, to develop a range of activity based programmes and provide additional streetwork sessions throughout the area, with emphasis on targeting areas where the need was greatest.

A partnership group, consisting of representatives from the Housing Associations, Community Planning, East End Youth Network, John Wheatley College and Cultural and Leisure Services (now Culture and Sport Glasgow), was charged with the co-ordination of the programme and to oversee operational issues, while responsibility for management and administration of the resource rested with the Housing Associations.

Current Position

Existing funding is available until March 2008 and whilst it is recognised that significant progress has been made, issues around the sustainability and further development of the initiative require attention.

It is clear that the ability to secure funding beyond March 2008 is pivotal to the process, the implementation of future activity and the involvement of local agencies and organisations.

What is less clear, however, is specifically how that funding should be used and what are the most effective structures to ensure the long term viability of the initiative?

Options

Three options have been considered which could potentially address the issues, all of which have relative merits and drawbacks.

1. Maintain the status quo, keep things more or less as they are with no major changes.
2. Seek additional funding to employ a person who would co-ordinate and oversee the work and its development. The individual could be managed through either Housing Associations, CHCP, CSG or a Youth Project.
3. Develop a significant East Area Streetwork Project, which would, not only link with existing organisations, but seek to involve other partners e.g. Health Providers, Careers Scotland etc.

This process would also look to maintain and develop activity based programmes, which were responsive to identified needs.

Option 3 could also incorporate elements of Option 2.