

End of Project Report

SECTION1: PROJECT TITLE

Access to Industry – Community Partnerships

SECTION 2: PROJECT PERIOD (please state start and end dates)

August 2007 to 31 July 2008

SECTION 3: LEAD INSTIUTUTION AND PROJECT LEADER

**Stevenson College Edinburgh
Access to Industry**

SECTION 4: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF PROJECT

To support SESWARF in extending community engagement across its membership, the Access to Industry consortium proposes to develop 39 community based course partnerships over 3 years across the South East of Scotland.

The proposal is based upon three key aims: -

- i) To widen the geographical impact of SESWARF, through a bottom-up approach.
 - ii) To target particular excluded and vulnerable groups as part of the wider access agenda.
 - iii) To explore new and innovative approaches to curriculum design and partnership working to develop sustainable pathways into education and employment.
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SECTION 5: KEY ACHIEVEMENTS / OBJECTIVES MET (including any information on the impact of project)

5.1 Summary of Year 3 Key Achievements

Against a target to manage 14 course partnerships, Access to Industry delivered: -

- 4 'full-time' one year FE programmes
- 1 eighteen month Higher Education Certificate programme
- 1 six-month preparation programme
- 15 'Prepare For' programmes based on new courses and new partnerships
- A continually 'rolling' accredited basic skills programme targeted at recovering substance users delivered in partnership with Edinburgh's Telford College and Jewel and Esk Valley College on behalf of Edinburgh City Council, Edinburgh Drugs Action Team, which achieved its highest enrolment figures.
- A personal development programme based on the SQA Personal Effectiveness Unit accredited by Jewel and Esk College and targeted at the hardest to reach members of the community including **looked after young people; people experiencing homelessness and those leaving prison**; as part of an Edinburgh wide regeneration partnership, including City of Edinburgh Council Throughcare and Aftercare Team.
- A programme of personal support and course delivery with **young offenders** within Polmont Young Offenders Institution in partnership with Scottish SPS to move young offenders into education and employment upon liberation.

In total, against a target to recruit 160 students Access to Industry recruited and supported: -

- **257 community based adult learners.** Of which a total of 187 students (73%) were retained to course completion – 16 still to complete one course.
- **187 recovering substance users** on the Jewel and Esk College 'Transition' programme.
- **53 young offenders**, achieving a 94% attendance rate across sessions and 85% engagement of offenders post release from prison.
- **83 school leavers who are or were in care**
- **78 registered homeless people**

The total number of students involved in the project over this third year, therefore, was 658 an increase of 60 students on last year.

Progress with each of these groups is now considered in more detail.

5.2. Total Project Performance summary over the three years of SEF funding

The following table provides a summary of performance across the three year funded project.

Criteria	Target	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Actual Total
Number of courses	39	10	15	21	46 (117% of target)
Number of students	390				1555 (398% of target)
CBAL	390	149	226	257	632
Substance Users	0	150	176	187	513
LAYP	0		54	83	137
Young Offenders	0		62	53	115
Homeless	0		80	78	158
Completion rate of Community Based Adult Learner Cohort	70%	80%	70%	73%	74% average
Positive Outcomes achieved by Community based Adult Learner Cohort	60% 40% FE /HE 20% training / employment	64%	65%	70%	66% average

The total number of students recruited was 1555 over the three years against an original target to work with 390 students.

5.3 Year 3 Performance Summary

Target Learners

1. Men

Over the year the project was successful in recruiting 463 male students, which is 70% of the total student body recruited.

Project	Total Number recruited	Number of Men	% of men recruited
CBAL	257	133	52%
Recovering Drug Users	187	157	84%
LAYP	83	50	60%
Young Offenders	53	53	100%
Homeless	78	70	90%

2. MCMC

The project recruited 178 students from the MCMC grouping (27% of the total student body).

3. Lowest quintile / Adults from deprived areas with low participation rates in FE/HE

In terms of the community based adult learners cohort, 137 students were recruited specifically from Deprivation Zones 4 & 5 (61 and 76 students respectively). On average, students were recruited from Data Zone 4.

5.2.1 Student Profile

A summary of the student population is contained across the following tables:-

1. Community Based Adult Learner Cohort

Criteria	Result
Number recruited	257
Number dropped out	70
Number returning	1
Number progressing into work	51
Number progressing into FE / HE	108
Number progressing into recognised training	21
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 4	Not known
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 5	Not known
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 6	Not known

Student Profile	
Number men	133
Number unemployed	87%
Number with either no qualifications or only non-advanced qualifications	82%
Number with additional support needs	50%
BME	8%

2. Recovering Drug users Cohort

Criteria	Result
Number recruited	187
Number dropped out	25
Number returning	53
Number progressing into work	16
Number progressing into FE / HE	34
Number progressing into recognised training	58
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 4	74
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 5	36
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 6	16

Student Profile	
Number men	157
Number unemployed	90%
Number with either no qualifications or only non-advanced qualifications	79%
Number with additional support needs	45%
Number with unspent convictions	34%

3. Looked After Young People – school leavers who are or were in care

Criteria	Result
Number recruited	83
Number dropped out	8
Number returning	21
Number progressing into work	9
Number progressing into FE / HE	23
Number progressing into recognised training	27
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 4	57
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 5	2
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 6	0

Student Profile	
Number men	50
Number unemployed	76%
Number with either no qualifications or only non-advanced qualifications	99%
Number with additional support needs	46% 25% physical disability
Number with unspent convictions	20%
Other	37% in care 63% left care

4. Young Offenders Cohort

Criteria	Result
Number recruited	53
Number dropped out	0
Number returning	7
Number progressing into work	2
Number progressing into FE / HE	2
Number progressing into recognised training	31
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 4	15
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 5	3
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 6	0

Student Profile	
Number men	53
Number unemployed	100%
Number with either no qualifications or only non-advanced qualifications	100% 100% have never previously engaged with FE
Other	23% are care leavers

Since the 1st July 2006, when this project commenced, up until 30th June 2008 in total: -

- 122 young people have engaged
- 75 young people were released into the community
- 64 of these engaged upon release (85%)
- Of these only 17 re-offended – this is a recidivism rate of 26% compared with the national average of 70%

5. Homeless Cohort

Criteria	Result
Number recruited	78
Number dropped out	16
Number returning	7
Number progressing into work	6
Number progressing into FE / HE	14
Number progressing into recognised training	10
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 4	22
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 5	0
Qualification attainment at SCQF level 6	1

Student Profile	
Number men	70
Number unemployed	87%
Number with either no qualifications or only non-advanced qualifications	81%
Number with additional support needs	62%
Number with unspent convictions	29%

Positive Progression Outcomes

Project	Total recruited	FE/HE outcomes	Training outcomes	Employment outcomes	Total
CBAL	257	108	21	51	180
Recovering Drug Users	187	34	58	16	108
LAYP	83	23	27	9	59
Young Offenders	53	2	31	2	35
Homeless	78	14	10	6	30
Totals	658	181	147	84	412
%		28%	22%	13%	63%

Acknowledgements

- Scottish Adult Learner of the Year Award Winner (Passport - Looked After Young People)
- Scottish Adult Learner of the Year Award Winner (Passport - Homeless Project)
- Borders Adult Learning Partnership Group Award Winners 2008 (Who Cares Programme Access to Industry; NHS Borders; Borders Community Learning and Development)
- Una Padel Award November 2007 (Centre for Crime and Justice Studies, Kings College London – for work with young offenders)
- SFEU 2007, Award for promoting Equality and Diversity (Oatridge College – Rural Skills Academy- Winner)
- The Scottish Adult Learning Partnership 2007, Achievement in Adult Learning (Borders College – Prepare to Care)
- West Lothian Chambers of Commerce 2007, Nomination for social responsibility (Oatridge College – Rural Skills Academy)
- The Scottish Adult Learning Partnership Expanding Community Participation Good Practice Award 2007

"In 2006 Capital City Partnership set Access to Industry a challenge to provide and co-ordinate an integrated employability and into work services for a range of vulnerable groups in Edinburgh. We are happy to report that AI has responded with a dynamic approach and through Passport has delivered significant learning and employment outcomes for a large number of vulnerable people in the city.." **Jim Rafferty, Chief Executive, Capital City Partnership.**

"The Passport project has continued to be one of the front runners in providing pre and post release support to prisoners returning to Lothian and Borders area. Without question the project has provided a very professional support package which is highly valued within the Link Centre, which has the responsibility for ensuring prisoner needs are addressed prior to release. The Passport project enables clients to develop self esteem and motivate themselves towards education and training on release. It has been a cornerstone for clients returning to the Edinburgh area and one which is highly valued by HMYOI Polmont", **Robert Wilson, Link Centre Manager, HMYOI Polmont.**

"Just this morning I visited the 'Transition' project in Edinburgh. I saw at first hand the excellent work being done with people who are recovering from drug use to help develop their skills and give them the confidence to move into employment. The challenge is to ensure that this type of service is provided more consistently across Scotland."
Fergus Ewing MSP, June 2008, as part of parliamentary debate on Scotland's Drugs Policy

College, University Partnerships

Course	Partners Engaged
Rural Skills Academy	Oatridge College
Performing Arts	Edinburgh's Telford College
Beauty Therapy	Jewel and Esk College
Edinburgh Playhouse	The Edinburgh Playhouse
Music Production	Jewel and Esk College
Computer Games	Jewel and Esk College
Website Design	Jewel and Esk College
IT Support	Jewel and Esk College
Preparation for Media and Design	Edinburgh's Telford College
Criminology	Newbattle Abbey College
Sport and Leisure	Stevenson College Edinburgh
Creative Industries	Napier University, Queen Margaret University
Prepare to Care	Borders College
NHS Who Cares	Borders College
Create your space	Carnegie College
Creative Art and Design	Carnegie College

Course Developments

Extreme Makeover

Jewel and Esk College
SACRO
Scot-Pep
City Edinburgh Council

In this reporting period, in response to a request from Edinburgh City Council for strategies to assist women to move on from prostitution, Access to Industry created and delivered the Extreme Makeover course - an Introduction to Beauty Therapy as a pilot initiative to help women move out of prostitution.

The objective of the course was to provide vulnerable women with a supported route out of prostitution by providing access to education and employment opportunities in the area of Beauty Therapy and also by providing essential 'moving on' skills to get women back into education and work.

The Extreme Makeover course provides an introduction to Beauty Therapy; is available part-time to be compatible with benefits and is delivered by Jewel and Esk College and Access to Industry in the New Links Centre at SACRO, Edinburgh.

As part of the college partnership agreement, Jewel and Esk College provide two lecturers and all the necessary equipment for the beauty treatments. Access to Industry supports the course through the provision of a dedicated member of staff who supports the students throughout.

Each student on the Extreme Makeover course receives two National Qualification Units and 5 College Certificate Units in; Eye treatment, Facials, Waxing, Nail care, Personal Presentation and Employability Skills. Plus the course can extend with an optional three month supported work placement.

The course started on the 15th of April, the academic part ran for 10 weeks, and the placement element is still ongoing at the moment.

The recruitment target of 10 students was achieved and impressively, given the client group, 80% were retained to completion, which exceeded expected targets.

With regard to progression, 63% of the students started their placements at the beginning of July; 60% of the students applied for courses at the next academic level; and 12% did not feel ready to progress yet.

Due to the collective agreement that the pilot project was a success, the course will repeat in September 2008.

Fastrack to Training

Stevenson College Edinburgh
Edinburgh Leisure

A 12 week sport and fitness course delivered in partnership with Stevenson College Edinburgh and Active Futures, Edinburgh Leisure. The first course ran from 22nd April – 10th July 2008.

The original idea to develop a sports course with Stevenson College was broached over three years ago. The original view was that there were jobs in the sports and fitness sector at a range of levels and that the Council had extensive sports and fitness facilities across the city. However, by the time initial research was carried out by the college, priorities changed for all partners and resources were being directed elsewhere.

In September 2007 Access to Industry attempted to reignite interest in the project. The goal was to create a course for young people to access careers in the fitness industry. The young people would be given the opportunity to gain at least an Intermediate Level 2 SQA Qualification and practical experience which could progress to SVQ Level 2, Fastrack to HNC, NQ and HNC level courses in coaching, sport and fitness.

Stevenson College Edinburgh agreed to provide a tutor for the SQA Unit "Personal Well Being and Exercise" but they were limited in terms of facilities as their sports facilities were being refurbished. As a result, Access to Industry contacted Active Futures, Edinburgh Leisure – an initiative to encourage young people to get active. They allowed us to deliver both the theoretical and practical components of the unit on site at their facilities in Meadowbank Sports Centre. They also offered another dimension to the course by delivering the Certificate in Sports Leadership Award Level 2, Basic First Aid and the physical component of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award.

The course received an enthusiastic response resulting in there being many more suitable applicants than there were available spaces. The publicity material targeted young people with few qualifications who envisioned a career in the sport and fitness industry, but did not know how to access it.

By the end, 13 students had successfully completed the course. The 80% who progressed to further and higher education were accepted onto courses such as SVQ Level 2 Fitness Instructor and HNC Youth and Community Work. The remaining 20% went on to look for employment and work experience within Edinburgh Leisure.

Following the success of the course, both Active Futures, Edinburgh Leisure and Stevenson College Edinburgh have expressed an interest in running the course again and developing it for the future. Meetings have been arranged in August to evaluate the areas for development and the most appropriate time to run the course again.

Associate Principal of Stevenson College Edinburgh, Science, Sport and Engineering, Sharon Drysdale said: *"Young people rarely get a chance to apply leadership skills without fear of failing - on this course they were given the confidence and support to develop and succeed. They present a positive image of young people in their generation"*

Active Futures, Edinburgh Leisure co-ordinator Claire Ferry said: *"This course added a whole other dimension to our original remit. The partnership between Active Futures, Access to Industry and Stevenson College Edinburgh was very positive, supporting 13 young adults through leadership qualifications. Not only did this encourage them to become more active and more confident in themselves, it also gave them a very tangible exit pathway into activity, further education, employment and voluntary experiences. This full rounded approach would not have been as successful without the expertise, experience and enthusiasm of all three partners involved. Fastrack to Training is a programme I would like to see continue and look forward to future joint working."*

Prepare to Care & Who Cares

NHS Borders, Borders College, Borders Community Learning and Development

In 2005 the Prepare to Care partnership was set up by Access to Industry in the Scottish Borders. The Prepare to Care course became successful in recruiting wider access students from across the region and moving students on into employment and further education within the care sector. The Prepare to Care course is 1 day per week over 10 weeks leading to an SQA Intermediate level 2 qualification in, 'Understanding Care Skills' and includes a work placement opportunity.

It was targeted at three areas of disadvantage across the region and in total 6 courses have generated 198 enquiries, 120 applications and 79 starts on 6 courses sustaining 95%. The three Prepare to Care courses are now part of the Borders College academic calendar; Duns in September, Hawick in January and Galashiels in March. The success of the Prepare to Care course has led to the development of a new 1 year Social Care course at Intermediate level 2 as an alternative progression route to the current Higher Social Care or Access to Nursing Course at Borders College.

Since the initial seed funding from SEF, the Prepare to Care courses are jointly funded by AI, Borders College, Scottish Borders Council Social Work Services and Community Learning and Development. Prepare to Care has secured funding for 2008-09.

On the back of this perceived success, AI was asked to develop a follow up course to provide the pre-employment skills to work within the Health and Care sector in the Scottish Borders. The partnership was set up and a 12 week pre-employment course was designed, called 'Who Cares?' (8 weeks training and 4 weeks clinical work placement.)

The partners involved are NHS Borders, Scottish Borders Council Social Work Services department and Borders College (BC Consultants). Scottish Borders Council Community Learning and Development provided additional literacy support. There is input from Careers Scotland and guest speaker representatives from Health and Care providers, such as NHS, Scottish Borders Council and public and voluntary sector organisations such as Brothers of Charity. The programme is funded by NHS Education for Scotland (NES).

The 'Who Cares?' pre-employment training programme is aimed at those with few or no qualifications and wanting to start a rewarding career in the health or care sector. It runs for 12 weeks, 3 days a week and is held in central Borders at Selkirk. Free transport is available from the surrounding area and start and finish times to fit in around school times. Following the 8 weeks of training the 'Who Cares?' course provides a 4 week supported clinical work placement with NHS Borders or Scottish Borders Council.

The majority of the training is delivered by Borders College (BC Consultants) and NHS Borders. It includes the NHS Induction, Moving and Handling and Prevention and Management of Aggression and Violence. Plus other preparatory subjects such as First Aid, Delivering Personal Care and Preparation for SVQ. Built into the course is a weekly group support session by AI which includes general academic support and the delivery of the Personal Effectiveness SQA unit.

Due to the high number of applications (47), the partners requested a second course to run. In total 21 students started and 20 students completed, 4 of which had previously completed the Prepare to Care course. 17 are now working in the health or care sector and 2 have chosen to go on to further or higher education.

Due to the great success in moving people onto further study or education, funding has been secured for the renamed 'We Care' course to go ahead in September 2008.

Maria Hawkes Prepare to Care tutor from Borders College, said, ***"The underpinning knowledge and practical skills gained on this course ('Who Cares?') are very much what employers are looking for. Following on from the successful "Prepare to Care" courses, participants will, hopefully, feel prepared, confident and ready to enter what can be a very rewarding career in the care field."***

SECTION 7: FUTURE PLANS/DEVELOPMENTS

Looked After Young People

Over the past four months Access to Industry has been pursuing an application to the Inspiring Scotland Fund to deliver a national model to improve success rates of looked after young people when leaving care and accessing education and employment. Delivering across 3 Forum areas, on a scale and replicate basis, Access to Industry is trying to create 3 dedicated learning 'hubs' connected to the regional Wider Access Forums that will offer the target young people:- access to accredited learning flexible to meet their needs; dedicated key worker support to remove barriers preventing progression; access to better community connections by bringing together colleges and specialist support services to expedite access to education and employment and provide the ongoing support to sustain. The project proposal also intends to assist practitioners on both sides of this problem - social work staff, T&AC and FE staff - as part of a national coordination effort linked by the Wider Access Forums.

If the application is successful, Access to Industry will create 3 local area partnerships (Edinburgh, Dundee and Glasgow) linked by a National Advisory Group, to deliver dedicated local learning hubs that fill the gap in mainstream provision. Delivered first in Edinburgh and Glasgow, where links are already established, with partnership development work with Dundee which will roll-out in year two with project completion in 2012.

The overall ambition is to create a dedicated centre in each city that can provide an always available programme of relationship based support and accredited learning focussed on progression into mainstream education and employment. This programme will include; Assessment / allocation of key worker to organise personal development plans based on interests and goals in education and employment; induction and preparation; access to a daily programme of accredited learning based on short chunks supplemented by additional activity; sector skills sessions and visits; specialist support (financial literacy; careers planning); support to complete personal development activity in partnership with other agencies.

Locally the idea has emerged from the Edinburgh T&AC Education and Employment Strategy Group, led by Access to Industry on behalf of T&AC, Careers Scotland, city FE and HEI's, CLAN, Move On and Children and Families. The idea also links with national T&AC strategy and with the MCMC agenda. At a local level the strategy group has coordinated the key delivery partners and allowed us to configure the model to fill the gap in existing provision. Access to Industry's involvement in the strategy group is on behalf of the South East Forum. Nationally the model fits with the Scottish Government Lifelong Skills Strategy and policy statements on the attainment and progression of LAYP, for example, 'Can and Must do Better'. It links directly to LA actions on the 15 outcomes of the concordat, with its emphasis on a 'more educated, more skilled and more successful Scotland'.

A decision on funding will be known in September 2008.

SECTION 8: BUDGETARY REPORT

Please complete Appendix 1.

Signature of Project Leader: _____

Date: _____

Project reports should be sent (via email) to the SESWARF Office.

Email: k.musselbrook@napier.ac.uk
