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**A CELEBRATION OF 20 YEARS OF EUROPEAN FUNDS IN WESTERN SCOTLAND**

<b>Title</b>	Re: Focus Development Partnership
<b>Lead Partner</b>	Glasgow City Council

**Background**

Re: Focus is a Scottish Development Partnership under the Theme A of the Equal Programme, *'Helping people to be integrated or reintegrated into the labour market'*

The DP comprises 27 partners drawn from across the Greater Glasgow area

**DP Aims and Objectives**

The DP was established in Round 2 of the Equal Programme (2004 – 2007) to pilot innovative ways of delivering joined up, locally-based services to ensure that people at a distance from the labour market are able to enter and sustain employment.

The main activities and innovations focus on:

- o Creation of new models of service delivery by utilising mainstream services in new ways
- o Increasing access to mainstream provision for people who have health/social care needs
- o Supporting employers,
- o Creating pathways to employment
- o Changing the focus of welfare benefits advice to in work support
- o Creation of city wide tracking system.

**DP Outcomes**

The DP piloted 22 projects in the Greater Glasgow area to provide different target groups furthest from the labour market with tailored support to move into work. The target groups include People with learning disabilities, people with physical disabilities, people with addiction problems, people with mental health problems, homeless people, care leavers, ex-offenders, carers, people on incapacity benefits who have health and social care need.

The DP also successfully piloted innovative projects with small and large employers and with the front line staff of health housing and social care agencies in order to promote a cultural change towards engaging with disadvantaged groups. The results of the research are now available via the City Council website.

The successful DP outcomes include the development of a comprehensive Service User Database/Tracking System to monitor and track the movement of employability and health related service users in Glasgow and illustrate their pathway to employment and sustainability. The system has been developed by researching and analysing the effectiveness of current systems used in the city and is intended to be used by all organisations.

The pilot project will be embedded in the Equal Access to Employment City Strategy; the Scottish Executive expressed a strong interest in the system and discussions are ongoing to share system and lessons learned with other local authorities

**Finance**

**Round 2**

<b>Total Eligible costs</b>	<b>1,387,653</b>
<b>Total ESF Award</b>	<b>2,775,306</b>