

Health & Social Care

Given the changes in the toleration policy around the sex industry in Edinburgh over the last year service delivery has been adapted to ensure those who continue to work on the streets have access to practical support and services. NHS Lothian has confirmed its intention to continue funding health care services for female sex workers and the City of Edinburgh Council has provided a small grant to enable the organisation to develop management of aggression training workshops for sex workers. Applications will be submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council, NHS Lothian and other statutory funders to enable SCOT-PEP to continue to respond to the changing needs of sex workers and the sex industry in Edinburgh and to consolidate health and social care services for sex workers.

Young Persons Project

The grant from Community Fund Scotland enabled SCOT-PEP to provide support to 226 sex workers aged 25 or under in 2001/2, of whom 3 were under 18. There was no contact with young people under the age of 16 working in the Edinburgh sex industry during this period. However, two 14 year old and one fifteen year old girls have been reported to be working on the streets of Leith since the loss of the 'toleration zone'. The Community Fund project ends in October 2002. Edinburgh Youth Social Inclusion Partnership has provided a small grant to explore the feasibility of a mentoring project for young people (21 or under) involved in the sex industry. Long term funding for this critical area of work has yet to be secured.

New Futures Project

The funding from Scottish Enterprise enabled 69 sex workers to explore their future options and choices in 2001/2. Each year 10% of the sex workers accessing SCOT-PEP services sought support from the New Futures Project. Funding for this work ended in March 2002 and on-going funding to enable sex workers to explore their future options has yet to be secured.

The staff team will continue to try and secure funding to enable the organisation to continue to develop and provide support and services in line with the needs expressed by sex workers in Edinburgh.

Staff Team - 2002/3

Project Manager	Ruth Morgan Thomas
Administrator	Michele Mason
Volunteer Coordinator	Gillian Rae
Project Worker	Rhoda Paul
Project Worker	Susan Stewart
Project Worker	Lesley Finch
Project Worker	Nine Davidson

SCOT - PEP Finances 1 January 2001 — 31 March 2002

The full financial operations for the financial year 1 January 2001 to 31 March 2002 of the organisation are set out in statutory form in the Annual Accounts. The purpose of this report is to highlight the main issues in the financial statements.

INCOME

Income increased from £241,658 in 2000 to £353,832 for the extended financial year in 2001/2. Thanks to the following for their financial support:

	£
NHS Lothian	160,724
Community Fund Scotland	72,954
Scottish Enterprise	83,090
Lloyds TSB Foundation Scotland	14,170

EXPENDITURE

Expenses increased from £248,313 in 2000 to £339,267 in 2001/2, due to the extended financial year.

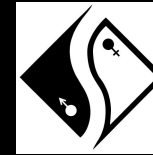
	£
Core Activities (including depreciation)	201,344
Volunteer Development Project	14,064
Counselling Project	750
Young Persons Project	48,346
New Futures Project	71,981
TAMPEP	2,782

SURPLUS/DEFICIT & RESERVES

There was a surplus for the year of £14,565. Reserves at 31 March 2002 were £71,164

FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 31 March 2002 there was £59,110 in bank and cash, however, £10,729 has already been committed over the next year.



Annual General Meeting
6pm,
Wednesday 25 September 2002



PROMOTING
HEALTH AND DIGNITY
IN PROSTITUTION

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ANNUAL REPORT 2001 - 2

The world has remained a cruel and unforgiving place, at times, and the situation of sex workers continues to leave them vulnerable to violence, abuse and exploitation. The new millennium brought dramatic changes to the lives and increased the vulnerability of women working on the streets of Leith. In April 2001 complaints from residents around Coburg Street resulted in the area designated for soliciting being significantly reduced, causing conflict and disruption amongst the women working in the area. However, this did not resolve the concerns raised and on 15 August 2001 Lothian & Borders Police established a new non-residential area of tolerance for soliciting on Salamander Street. After two weeks of intense lobbying from local residents and businesses the 'experiment' was deemed to have failed and on 1 December 2001, **World AIDS Day**, the street prostitution policy adopted for almost two decades in Edinburgh was abandoned.

The achievements of eradicating the involvement of under 16 year olds in the sex industry over the last two years, reducing violence against street sex workers and other crimes normally associated with 'red light' areas to unparalleled levels and reducing levels of sexually transmitted infections amongst sex workers to lower than that amongst the general public all stand to be lost.

The stigmatisation and further marginalisation of sex workers in Edinburgh requires society, and SCOT-PEP, to maintain it's essential purpose of delivering practical and emotional support to one of the most socially excluded communities in Scotland – **sex workers**.

Throughout this turbulent and challenging period our talented and dynamic staff and volunteer team maintained practical and emotional support to street sex workers and continued to further develop support and outreach services for indoor sex workers whilst dealing with the constantly changing and uncertain environment within which we were operating services and continuing the on-going battle to combat the social exclusion and isolation of sex workers in Edinburgh.

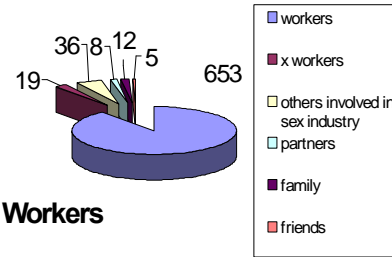
Our thanks to all who have supported us in the struggle to maintain a safe environment for all sex workers in Edinburgh and especially to those who have shared their time and experience with us.

Who did we provide support to?

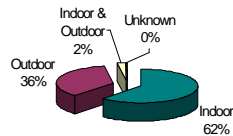
Between 1 Jan 2001 and 31 Mar 2002 SCOT-PEP worked with 733 individuals, recording 7,604 contacts.

Of our 733 service users 698 were female (647 workers) and 34 male (5 workers).

Work Status of Service Users



Work Sector of Workers



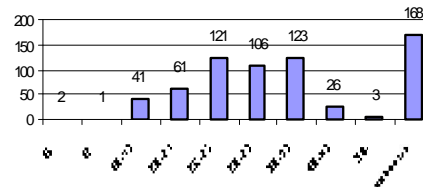
402 of our service users work exclusively in the indoor sector of the sex industry, 63% of whom were in contact with SCOT-PEP for the

first time in 2001/2. 56% of them are resident in EH postcode areas, 4% are resident of other parts of Scotland, 0.5% are resident in England and 39.5% declined to give postcode details. The increase in the number of indoor workers over this period is a result of the on-going development of establishment outreach services and should not be interpreted as an increase in the number of women working in the indoor sex industry in Edinburgh.

234 of our service users work primarily in the outdoor sector of the sex industry in Edinburgh. 50% of whom were in contact with SCOT-PEP for the first time in 2001/2. The trend of mobility amongst women working on the streets continues with 49% of them resident in EH postcode areas, 44% are resident in west of Scotland postcode areas and 7% resident in other parts of Scotland and England.

The age of sex workers accessing support and services within SCOT-PEP

Age Range of Workers



How did we provide support?

Support was provided through drop-in and outreach services

The average number of individual service users accessing the drop-in and street outreach sessions were:

day drop-in	5.01
night drop-in	12.67
street outreach	7.20

The average number of establishment outreach contacts per week was: **15.71**

Drug Harm Reduction

16,558 sets of sterile injecting equipment were distributed with 4,233 returns (service users from outside Edinburgh disposed of their returns in their own localities). 15% of our service users accessed our needle exchange, all 107 of whom were involved in street prostitution, 46% of whom accessed this service for the first time in 2001/2. These statistics reflect that 44% of street workers were involved in injecting drug use within this period. 46% were local, 46% were from the west coast and 8% from the rest of Scotland.

Medical Outreach Services

The Medical Outreach Team ran 56 clinics with 403 patient contacts in 2001/2. 150 individual service users accessed clinical services within SCOT-PEP, 47% of whom accessed our medical team for the first time.

Safe Sex Supplies

SCOT-PEP distributed 126,054 condoms in 2001/2. 100,135 condoms were sold at cost price while 25,919 condoms were distributed free through the drop-in and street outreach. The condom budget provided by NHS Lothian is not adequate to enable the project to provide free condoms all the time for all sex workers.

Counselling Service

The counselling service was accessed by 12 individuals in 2001/2. Regrettably the funding for this beneficial service has now been exhausted.

Volunteer Development

The grant from Lloyds TSB Foundation Scotland enabled SCOT-PEP to continue the development of volunteering systems ensuring appropriate recruitment, induction, support and training to volunteers without whom SCOT-PEP could not provide the quality and/or level of support offered to sex workers in Edinburgh. 43 individuals actively volunteered within SCOT-PEP in 2001/2 of whom 9 were involved in the sex industry. SCOT-PEP started 2002/3 with a vibrant team of 16 volunteers. On-going funding has been secured.