

**Combatting Violence against Sex Workers**

The City of Edinburgh Council provided a small grant which enabled the production of 'Protect Yourself' - a personal safety handbook for sex workers.

**Working with Young People**

The Community Fund Scotland grant for the Young Persons Project ended in Oct 2002, it enabled SCOT-PEP to provide support to 87 sex workers aged 25 or under (49 aged 21 or under). Opening Doors - a report of the six years of the Young Persons Project is available on request.

Edinburgh Youth SIP provided a small grant between Nov 2002 and Mar 2003 to explore the feasibility of a Mentoring Project for young people involved in prostitution (aged 21 or under) which enabled us to provide support to 39 sex workers aged 21 or under. The results of the feasibility study alongside an independent needs assessment undertaken in Jan 2003 showed that the immediate needs of young people were far more basic and required resources to be targeted at establishing and maintaining contact with young people to respond to their emergency needs before they would be in a position to benefit from mentoring. Edinburgh Youth SIP have provided funding for 2003/4 to enable outreach to young people aged 21 or under involved in prostitution to be further developed. Long term funding for this critical area of work has yet to be secured. Although SCOT-PEP had no contact with young people under the age of 16 working in the Edinburgh sex industry during this period. two 14 year old and one 15 year old girls have been reported by other agencies to be involved in street prostitution. Since the loss of the 'toleration zone' it has become more difficult to establish and maintain contact with young people involved in street prostitution, particularly those just entering prostitution, as a result of the dispersal of street based sex workers across North Leith.

**New Futures Project**

Funding for this work ended in March 2002 and regrettably funding has still to be secured to enable sex workers in Edinburgh to explore their future options and choices.

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

**Staff Team - 2003/4**

Project Manager	Ruth Morgan Thomas
Administrator	vacant
Volunteer Coordinator	Gillian Rae
Project Worker	Marri Crook
Project Worker	Lesley Finch
Project Worker	Nine Davidson

SCOT - PEP Finances | April 2002 — 31 March 2003

The full financial operations for the financial year 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003 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 decreased from £353,832 in 2001/2 (15 month financial period) to £235,234 in 2002/3.

Thanks to the following for their financial support:

NHS Lothian	£ 147,299
Community Fund Scotland	32,435
Edinburgh Youth Sip	10,000
Lloyds TSB Foundation Scotland	14,464
City of Edinburgh Council	5,000
Femmigration	2,688

**EXPENDITURE**

Expenses decreased from £339,267 in 2001/2 (15 month financial period) to £239,791 in 2002/3.

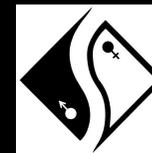
Core Activities (including depreciation)	£ 167,358
Volunteer Development Project	15,755
Counselling Project	439
Young Persons Project	
Community Fund Scotland	37,225
Edinburgh Youth SIP	10,000
TAMPEP	740
New Futures Project	586
Managing Aggression Project	5,000
Femmigration	2,688

**SURPLUS/DEFICIT & RESERVES**

There was a deficit for the year of £4,557 . Reserves at 31 March 2003 were £66,607.

**FINANCIAL POSITION**

As at 31 March 2003 there was £45,621 in bank and cash, however, £17,601 has already been committed over the next year.



## ANNUAL REPORT 2002 - 3

**Annual General Meeting**  
6pm  
Wednesday 22 October 2003

Followed by  
**Benefit Evening**  
at  
**The Stand Comedy Club**  
(doors open 7.30pm)



**PROMOTING  
HEALTH AND DIGNITY  
IN PROSTITUTION**

70 Newhaven Road  
Edinburgh  
EH6 5QG

Tel: 0131 622 7550  
Fax: 0131 622 7551  
email: [voice@scot-pep.org.uk](mailto:voice@scot-pep.org.uk)

The world has remained a cruel and unforgiving place for sex workers. SCOT-PEP service provision to both indoor and street based sex workers had to be reduced with the loss of the New Futures Project funding in March 2002.

The situation of street based sex workers since the loss of the designated area for street prostitution has deteriorated and many of the benefits of Edinburgh's pragmatic approach have been lost. Street based sex workers vulnerability to violence, abuse and exploitation has increased phenomenally. The trend of violence against street based sex workers has continued to increase this year with 40 Ugly Mug incidents being reported—a 400% increase in attacks. The eradication of the involvement of under 16 year olds in the sex industry has been lost with 3 under 16 year olds reported to be involved in street prostitution in the last year, while other crimes normally associated with street prostitution which had also been eradicated, such as drug use and dealing and protection racketeering have increased significantly impacting on the community and sex workers safety and well-being.

The new millennium has not heralded the social inclusion of sex workers. The on-going 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 vulnerable and socially excluded communities in Scotland – **sex workers**.

Throughout this turbulent and challenging period our talented and dynamic staff and volunteer team adapted to the new working environment and 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.

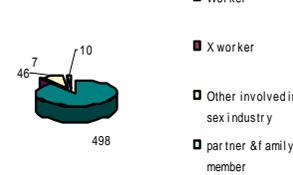
**Our thanks to all who have supported us in the struggle to maintain a safe environment for all sex workers in Edinburgh and especially to those who have shared their time and experience with us.**

Who did we provide support to?

**Between 1 Apr 2002 and 31 Mar 2003 SCOT-PEP worked with 561 individuals, recording 3,641 contacts.**

Of our 561 service users 521 were female (493 workers), 34 male (5 workers) and 2 transgender (1 worker).

**Work Status of Service Users**



**Work Sector of Workers**



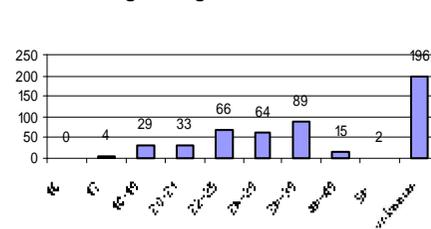
358 of our service users were indoor based sex workers, 61% of whom were in contact with SCOT-PEP for the first time in 2002/3. 39% of them are resident in EH postcode areas, 6% are

resident of other parts of Scotland, 2% are resident in England and 53% declined to give postcode details. During the year contact was maintained with workers in 32 establishments and establishment outreach undertaken in 28 establishments. Towards the end of the year SCOT-PEP began developing information and support services for sex workers advertising on the internet.

126 of our service users were street based sex workers, a dramatic decrease from the previous year, although the number of local women involved has remained constant. 80% are resident in EH postcode areas, 10% are resident in west of Scotland postcode areas and 10% resident in other parts of Scotland and England. 49% of whom were in contact with SCOT-PEP for the first time in 2002/3.

The age of sex workers accessing support and services within SCOT-PEP ranged from 17 to 55.

**Age Range of Workers**



How did we provide support?

**Support was provided through office based services, mobile unit and outreach services**

The average number of individual service users accessing daytime office support and nighttime mobile unit and street outreach sessions were:

office support	4.92
nighttime mobile unit	9.06
nighttime street outreach	4.98

The average number of establishment outreach contacts per week was: **11.48**

**Drug Harm Reduction**

9,642 sets of sterile injecting equipment were distributed with 3,104 returns. 48 individuals accessed our needle exchange, all of whom were involved in street prostitution, 44% of whom accessed this service for the first time in 2002/3. These statistics reflect that 38% of street workers were involved in injecting drug use within this period. 69% were local, 10% were from the west coast and 21% from the rest of Scotland.

**Medical Outreach Services**

The Medical Outreach Team ran 32 clinics with 176 patient contacts in 2002/3. 77 individual service users accessed clinical services within SCOT-PEP, 47% of whom accessed our medical team for the first time. The medical outreach service was suspended in May and June 2002 due to relocation and finally suspended at the end of January 2003 after on-going medical staffing shortages which had resulted in an inconsistent service.

**Safe Sex Supplies**

SCOT-PEP distributed 95,307 condoms in 2002/3. 77,521 condoms were sold at cost price while 17,786 condoms were distributed free. The condom budget provided by NHS Lothian is not adequate to enable us to provide free condoms all the time for all sex workers.

**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. 22 individuals actively volunteered within SCOT-PEP in 2002/3 of whom only 4 were involved in the sex industry. Funding to support the on-going development of volunteering and peer support is being sought.