



THE SCOTTISH PARTNERSHIP ACCORD – HELPING THE HARDEST TO REACH INTO WORK

Julie Bilotti – Scottish Executive

Lindsay McGregor – Convention of Scottish Local
Authorities (CoSLA)

Carol Giannini – Jobcentre Plus



Today's Presentation

UK / Scottish policy background – Julie

CoSLA / local authorities position – Lindsay

Jobcentre Plus perspective and progress so far - Carol

The Background to the Accord



- What is the Partnership Accord?
- Partnership Accords in England and Wales

The Scottish Partnership Accord



- Signatories to work together to encourage local authorities and Jobcentre Plus Districts to:
 - Use local labour market intelligence to develop strategies to increase employment rates and skills levels
 - Link with CPPs and ROAs
 - Maximise employment opportunities for disadvantaged clients within LAs
 - Use innovative and flexible approaches - maximising local discretion



Scottish Executive Policies

- Closing the Opportunity Gap
- The Employability Framework
- Community Planning Partnerships



Our Ambitions

- A broader, more inclusive partnership including:
 - Health
 - Communities Scotland
 - Enterprise Networks



What Can Local Government Offer?

- Vacancies
- Improved employment rates for disadvantaged groups and areas
- Co-ordination, leadership and partnership
- Democratic Accountability



What Can Local Government Gain?

- Recruitment services of Jobcentre Plus
- Shared intelligence
- More diverse workforce
- Stronger partnership

What do Beneficiaries Gain?



- Employment
- Seamless services
- Customised services



What's in it for all of us?

- Shared experience
- Platform to raise common issues
- Improved outcomes for beneficiaries



Local Authorities - Why They Are Important

- Employment and regeneration initiatives
- Biggest local employer
- Manage Housing/Council Tax Benefit (HCTB)
- Benefit take-up campaigns
- Local Partnerships



Partnership Accord - Key Principles

- Focus on customer
- Help most disadvantaged groups/areas
- Support Neighbourhood Renewal
- Tailor local solutions
- Use Jobcentre Plus to fill vacancies
- Share good practice



Current Picture

Historic and ongoing partnership work:

- Regeneration initiatives
- Joint efforts to tackle worklessness
- New Deal partnerships
- Use of Jobcentre Plus to fill local authority vacancies



Progress To Date

- Accord Signed June 2005
- Toolkit Issued July 2005
- Working Group Set Up
- Baseline Matrix
- Draft Action Plan Issued



The Accord Tool Kit

- A practical 'how-to' guide for Jobcentre Plus and local authorities to help make the Accord a local reality.
- Actual tools for developing a joint employment strategy for your local area.
- Goals: to improve job outcomes for the most disadvantaged in the labour market, and improve the working relationship between Jobcentre Plus and local authorities.

Accord Work Programme – What Next



- Agree Action Plan
- Gain agreement of other partners
- Promote further joint working at a strategic level
- Progress commitment to make Jobcentre Plus 'recruitment partner of choice' for Public Sector
- Agree local action plans
- Ensure Accord part of Community Plans.

Scottish Partnership Accord



QUESTIONS?