



ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2006



A group of students receiving their certificates for the CACHE NVQ3 in Early Years Care and Education in September 2006. New Era has been approved by CACHE (Council for Awards in Children's Care and Education) to deliver this and other Childcare Awards

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INTRODUCTION

When New Era was established 21½ years ago we called ourselves a 'Community Co-op'. Indeed the company was established because the founding members shared a commitment to the co-operative ideals and an interest in Community Businesses and the way in which they empowered residents to improve their own economic circumstances and those of the communities in which they lived. In 1985 these ideals were far from the mainstream of thinking in economic development.

In 2006 we found ourselves increasingly more 'fashionable'. We are firmly situated within that sector of the economy, now being called the 'Third' Sector, as a 'Social Enterprise' - valued by government because we combine the best of business practices with social objectives and value-driven ways of operating.

Concerns in the voluntary and community sector over the last eighteen months or so have focused on the impact of the changes to, and in the case of SRB the ending of, a number of public funding regimes which have sustained activity at a local level for many years.

New Era is not yet benefiting from government procurement policies which encourage longer contracts and less red tape but we move into 2007 with, although not more, at least not less security than we have experienced over the last few years. We have contracts with JobcentrePlus and the Learning and Skills Council both of whom increasingly recognise that they are getting high quality work which is good value for money and we continue to contract with a number of locally based organisations.

During 2006 the portfolio of training courses which we offer through New Era Training and Assessment Centre has increased substantially. There has been a great deal of learning – not just by our clients but by the members of New Era too!

Training, both accredited and non-accredited, is provided from entry level to level 3 and we are particularly proud of the 14 people who achieved Cache NVQ3 in Early Years Childcare and Education during the year and proud too of the staff who helped them towards this achievement. It is satisfying to work with clients who are prepared to put so much effort into achieving a vocational qualification like this.

But we work also with lots of people who experience lots of difficulties and for whom the achievement of a single unit at level 1 is substantial and requires a very high level of support from staff. The level of need amongst the communities in which we live and work seems never to abate and we have dealt, this year, with some very desperate people in very difficult circumstances.

It is good to see New Era staff grow – grow in their commitment to improving their own professional competence, in their commitment to our clients and in their commitment to the company to which they contribute so much.

This competence and dedication was once again recognised in 2006 by the achievement of the Matrix standard. Lots of time and lots of effort by *all* staff but most noticeably by Kath Rowley, our administration key worker, was needed to achieve this significant recognition of excellence. The Matrix standards are comprehensive and meeting them attests to the quality of the Information, Advice and Guidance provided to clients and to staff.

External accreditation process like the Matrix assessment, which was a rigorous examination over three days, are, of course, tools to help us to improve and New Era will use the process further to improve the services we provide. We are committed, in 2007, to undertaking the Pqasso self-assessment as a further step towards full social accounting.

May I record my personal thanks to all officers, Board members, and on their behalf, express our sincere appreciation to all who have been involved in the work of New Era during the past twelve months.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Greenwood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'B' and 'G'.

Bill Greenwood
Chairman

NEW ERA'S PURPOSE AND AIMS

New Era Enterprises (E. Lancs) Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and trading as a single organisation without subsidiary or parent organisation. It is a community business that promotes a wide range of community-based regeneration and economic development, primarily in and around East Lancashire.

Although constituted as a business, its ethos is much more about improving the lives of local people than making money for itself.

Its aim is to provide a service which supports the growth of skills and networks so that people are able to initiate and participate in their own and their community's development. This is achieved by working at a neighbourhood level within a vision of equal opportunity and sustainability.

These aims are illustrated in the following extracts from the memorandum of association of the company:-

- (a) To improve the lives of local people, primarily within communities which are economically and socially disadvantaged, through economic development, regeneration, community capacity building and personal development activities.*
- (b) To create employment opportunities and develop the workforce, encourage industrial and commercial activity, support co-operative and social enterprise; to provide advice, information and support services, education and training, consultancy and professional services; to carry out research; and to pursue any other activity in support of these objects.*
- (c) To promote mutual self-help within communities through local initiatives which empower people to meet their own personal and collective needs and participate more fully in their community; in the process, to develop the skills, self-confidence and employability of individuals, and the capacity of voluntary and community organisations.*

New Era fulfils its aims by developing and running varied community development, training and employment projects, and more significantly, enables local residents successfully to develop and manage their own. These projects are generally funded through a mix of public sector funding and grant funding regimes – projects managed through 2006 are described below in pages 5 – 12, and New Era's funders for the year 2006 are acknowledged on the back cover of this report.

New Era continues to apply for funding to enable it to provide this support to individuals and community and voluntary organisations. In addition New Era also works for organisations which have themselves secured the funding and have elected to employ New Era to undertake work of a specialist nature. Work under this category is carried out under the "NESOS" (New Era Selling Out Services) umbrella and is varied, and detailed on page 14 of this report.

NEW ERA PROJECTS MANAGED DURING 2006

Building Communities : Publicity for Community Groups

The Publicity for Community Groups project continued through 2006, supporting small community groups in the Urban 2 area of Burnley in promoting themselves more effectively. The project is funded by Urban 2 funding with partnership and match funding from Burnley Community Network.

Kath supported the work and produced Network News quarterly throughout the year; Cath took on most of the project work; Tess and then Ann Marie were key workers for the project.

Cath was on the committee working towards the development of a restricted licence community radio broadcast for which residents will be trained to make and broadcast programmes. The first broadcast will take place between 10th and 16th March 2007.

In September 15 groups attended an event at the Voluntary Sector Resource Centre where several groups showcased their organisations and showed off the promotional material and skills which they had developed through the project.



Some of the community group representatives enjoying the presentations at the showcasing event in September 2006

Groups continued to be encouraged to send in information and 58 groups now publicise their activities through the New Era website.

As the project drew towards its expected end groups continued to be encouraged to produce publicity plans, to look at their progress in the period during which they had been supported by this project, and to plan for their future.

Extra money secured from Urban 2 and matched by Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS and Burnley Community Network will help to pay for Radio Regen to train local community members to produce and present programmes for Burnley Community Radio during the week of broadcast in March. It will also enable New Era to produce three more editions of Network News and provide support to a small number of groups.

Developing Childcare in Burnley Pendle and Rossendale

Childminder Network Services

The NCMA approved Childminder Network has been re-approved from November 2005 to November 2008. Funding for this stand alone part of the project is now being sought to ensure its continuation. Over the last 12 months the Childminder Network Services Project has gone from strength to strength. The Project encourages Registered Childminders to apply to join the National Childminding Association Children Come First Network and this is full at present.

The project's Network Co-ordinator assesses and regularly monitors the practice of all the network childminders to ensure that they meet nationally approved standards set out in the National Childminding Association Quality Childminding Charter. This ensures that the childminders receive appropriate training to develop their skills. It operates a toy library and equipment library.

The Network is accredited as an NCMA Children Come First (Early Years Education) network and at present has 2 childminders with an NVQ 3 or equivalent qualification in childcare who are thus able to access funding to educate 3 to 4 year-old children. A further 3 childminders are working towards accreditation.

The project was funded for 4 years to March 2006 by the European Regional Development Fund to support individuals from the Priority 2 wards of Burnley to become self-employed through the creation of Childminding Businesses. It achieved the following:-

| | Target | Achieved | Variance |
|--|--------|----------|---------------------------|
| Residents given self-employment support | 97 | 99 | +2 |
| Results | | | |
| Residents securing employment/self-employment | 27 | 26.7 | -0.3 |
| Impacts | | | |
| People in employment / self-employment 2 years after support has ended | 13 | 9 | On track, not all yet due |
| Cross-Cutters | | | |
| Women given self-employment support | 96 | 98 | +2 |

Incorporated into both of these strands is the on-going Childminding Placement Service which helps parents, carers, Sure Starts and Social Services find suitable childcare through Registered Childminders. This ensures that childminder vacancies are filled appropriately. During the course of the year, contact has been maintained with all the beneficiaries through the quarterly Newsletter, twice-yearly events and regular visits and phone calls.

The Play Centre

As part of this project New Era has taken up the management of The Play Centre at the Central Methodist Church. This facility is for children age 2 to 5 years where parents leave the child for a session of 2.5 hours. The Centre is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9.15 to 11.45 am. The Play Centre is Ofsted Registered and run by qualified staff. In the future it is envisaged that this facility will become self-sufficient.

Childcare Work and Training Opportunities for Women

This 3 year project ended in December 2006 and supported women into employment/self-employment and training in childcare through support, advice and guidance. Women developed professional childcare skills through a range of flexible, accessible training opportunities, including CACHE Early Years Care and Education NVQ Level 3 and Certificate in Childminding Practice, a qualification that is not currently offered within Lancashire.

Improving the skill and effectiveness of the “children’s workforce” and removing barriers such as lack of childcare, helped women to stay in work and in turn supported local employment needs.



Some of the beneficiaries and their children celebrating at a Project dissemination event in November 2006

Due to the high performance of the project, it was re-profiled in August 2006. The outputs and outcomes for the three years were as follows:-

| Contracted to achieve | Actual achievements |
|--|----------------------------|
| 253 women supported, | 268 |
| of which 88 women into employment/self-employment, | 89 |
| of which 37 women into work with children under 5, | |
| six months after the end of ESF support | 37 |
| 130 women to enter training, of which | 137 |
| 17 women commencing pre-foundation training | 17 |
| 90 women total to achieve Level 1 equivalent and Level 3 | 98 |

The breakdown for the training achievements were as follows:-

| Women commencing training | Achieved |
|--|-----------------|
| Target | |
| 17 Pre-foundation | 17 |
| 55 Business skills | 50 |
| 41 Introduction to Childcare Practice | 34 |
| 24 Cache NVQ3 in Early Years Childcare and Education. | 14 |
| <i>(a photo of these 14 students is on the front cover of this report)</i> | |

239 beneficiaries, which is 89% of the total, fit one or more of the following classifications:-

- Unemployed, [104 women]
- Self-employed, {micro enterprises} [77]
- Part-time employment, [47]
- Managers,[6]
- Seeking the transition from part-time to full time work,[13]
- Returners requiring dependent care, [62]
- Lone parents, [29]

Through this project New Era has become a training centre with Council for Awards in Children's Care and Education (CACHE) and since the external verifiers last visit in January 2006 has been graded "excellent".

Enterprising Childcare

During 2006 funding was secured through Job Centre Plus ESF Co-finance from January 2007 to March 2008

This project will help individuals to overcome the barriers and enter self-employment in childcare by providing a tailored scheme incorporating advice, guidance, individual action plans, mentors, business planning, networking, peer and practical support. It will support 120 individuals of which 15 will become self-employed registered childminders, providing 45 childcare places.

Family Support Services

The work of this project continued throughout this year.

- Practical Parenting in the Home provided intensive support for families with multiple difficulties.
- The New Beginnings strand of the Family Support Services project has focused, this year, on the drop in at St. Catherine's Church Hall and on work with homeless or those at risk of becoming homeless. Since the summer of 2006 we have noticed a significant increase in the number of people presenting themselves for help to New Era who have been living on the streets.
- Through the development of case studies and the analysis of issues which have been faced by New Beginnings and Practical Parenting, workers commenced to draw up an evaluation report.
- Burnley Care – the database of healthcare services in Burnley which is accessed from New Era's website has been improved and kept up to date throughout the year and its use promoted.

LCC Grandparent Carers

- The Grandparent Carers Project (for grandparents who are the primary carers of their grandchildren) was extended into Rossendale during the year. Several group meetings/advice sessions were held culminating in a splendid Christmas Party which was also attended by clients from our other Family Support Services strands.



Pictured here are some of grandparents and their grandchildren with other Family Support Services clients at the Christmas Party in December 2006

- A workshop by Community Fire & Safety Officers on Fire and Safety prevention proved extremely useful as two sets of grandparents had similar relevant issues. Both had been threatened and one subjected to arson attacks from their daughters' ex partners.
- On another occasion Education Welfare Officers described strategies for tackling bullying.
- Along side the monthly meetings Grandparent Carers held two very successful information days in Bacup and Rawtenstall. This was extremely useful for networking and good links were made with LCC Children's and Young People's Services throughout Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale.
- We are in the process of producing a publication of "Grandparents own stories".
- Funding for the project ends in July and further funding will be sought from the Big Lottery.
- Links have been made with Grandparents Plus who produces a regular newsletter in which our logo is displayed.
- All sessions are held at the Central Methodist Church. This enables grandparents with children under 5 to access the Play Centre.

A New Era for You, July 2006 – December 2007

This Learning and Skills Council funded project offers training accredited by NCFE (Preparation for Life and Work courses), OCR (Literacy and Numeracy) and CACHE (Childcare courses).

This project draws people in innovative ways into working towards qualifications. It offers a programme of learning support to help people to achieve a qualification at a level suitable to each participant, so they are better equipped to move into employment or further study. The qualifications offered through the project - Entry level, 1, 2 and 3 – are selected and delivered in ways that maximise student retention through enjoyment and confidence gained through achievement. 130 beneficiaries will include people who lack basic or key skills at level 2 or below, single parents and parents with dependent children, and non-learners.

The Literacy and Numeracy courses are delivered by our partner Lisa Rumsey (LR Education & Training Services).

A New Era for 50+, July 2006 – December 2007

This project has funding from the same source and offers the same courses as A New Era for You, with the same partner. The project engages with people aged 50 – 65, employed, unemployed and economically inactive, particularly those at risk of redundancy, in Burnley, Pendle, Rossendale and Hyndburn, to support them in increasing or diversifying their skills by working towards a qualification. It assists participants in gaining qualifications at a level suitable to each person so they are better equipped to move into employment or further study.

A New Era for Women – the Women’s Project

A New Era for Women, funded through the Learning & Skills Council, started early in 2005 and continued until late 2006. Tess was Key Worker throughout. Cath and Shirley provided a service that was highly regarded by the women who joined the project, with Fiona and Fe contributing support in the final stages. Kim gave invaluable support to the project.

The project, run in partnership with Access Point, helped women develop a personal plan to progress to jobs and training. Often women had been out of the job market, sometimes bringing up young children, and needed to up-skill and increase their confidence to re-enter the job market.

During the project and at the end we asked women on the project:

“What was the most useful part of our service?”

“Being able to talk easily to the project workers.”

“Good listening - understanding – encouragement.”

“When you found information on what I want to do when I leave college.”

“Convenient time was available.”

Feedback from some New Era beneficiaries:-

“It’s a really good idea; anything that encourages women’s aspirations is great!”

“It’s great – I didn’t realise there were people who could help me.”

“Opened a door I know I need to travel through...”

“I can’t get this help anywhere else – it’s great.”

Over the whole project: 154 women enrolled. Of these: 141 wrote Personal Development Plans, 132 completed Training Needs Analysis, 66 moved on to training or employment and 4 moved on to self employment.

On 2nd November the progress made by every woman was celebrated at Burnley Town Hall, with food, discussion, presentation of certificates and a prize draw for those who returned their progress questionnaire.



Celebration Event at Burnley Town Hall on 2nd November 2006

Steps Project

New Era were employed to deliver part of the Steps (Futures) project on behalf of Vedas Recruitment and Training Ltd who were the Managing Agents. Our contract with Vedas came to an end in August 2006. The project was funded through SRB 6 and ERDF Urban 2.

New Era employed the following staff on the project:
Jackie Ringer (Key Worker), Andy Toynton, Emma Horsfall, Fe Duncan & Fiona Muir (Project Workers)

The project workers worked closely with beneficiaries and made a significant contribution to the evaluation report.

Extracts from the report:

1. What do you feel you and your beneficiaries gained from participating in the project?

All beneficiaries gained from participating on the project but all had unique experiences and as such benefited in unique ways.

A significant number of beneficiaries on the project were given the opportunity to secure permanent employment as a consequence of being on the Steps project. The project acted as a platform for beneficiaries to move forward with their lives in a positive way by securing employment. Furthermore it enabled many beneficiaries to access training opportunities.

Project workers observed that the project contributed towards increasing both beneficiaries' confidence and self-esteem. All beneficiaries benefited from one-to-one support with a project worker. This is a unique experience in the field of job search.

Whilst there are Personal Advisors at Jobcentre Plus and some accessed support from K2 and Vedas, they have never benefited from the holistic approach taken by Steps Project Workers. Working within the remit of the project's parameters, the service delivered was clearly client led. For example, Project Workers would focus, not only on the presenting issue (economic inactivity), but also on the secondary, underlying reasons for a client's unemployment. Moreover, project workers were able to tailor sessions around clients' own feelings about their economic activity.

A good example is of how a history of offending behaviour not only impacts on a person's employment opportunities but of how society's attitudes to offenders impact on that person's self esteem, motivation and confidence.

Clients benefited not only from being given opportunities to access work/training but from one to one sessions enabling them to explore, discuss and identify mechanisms for coping with their unique issues.

2. What do you feel your beneficiaries and the wider community have gained from the project?

The project not only impacted positively upon beneficiaries' lives but also on the wider community. It developed beneficiaries' awareness of how they fit into society and that they have a valuable contribution to make. People with issues which have traditionally been viewed as barriers to work have been actively encouraged and supported into employment. This has not only benefited them but the wider community, as some beneficiaries who might normally be committing crime (as an example) are now otherwise engaged in employment. The project demonstrated a willingness to engage by some of the hardest to reach members of the community. Participation was voluntary and there was a real commitment from the majority of clients to engage with the project.

Businesses which participated also benefited. The Steps project enabled some small, local businesses to investigate opportunities for expansion which they would not otherwise have been able to due to financial limitations. From a client centered approach beneficiaries and the wider community gained in that clients without direction or who were engaging in offending/anti social/drug using behaviour were encouraged to (and in many cases did) re-evaluate their lives and live offence/drug free – again benefiting their local community.

Outputs/Outcomes

New Era worked with 139 clients on this project and secured work placements for 77% of these, (107). 34.5% of clients (48) remained in employment after their placement and wage subsidy had ended. Some were retained by the employers who had taken them on initially with subsidised wages. Others gained employment elsewhere.

Achieve Your Goal

During 2006 funding was secured through Job Centre Plus ESF Co-finance to deliver the above named project from January 2007 to March 2008. This project will provide Lone Parents, ex-offenders and clients recovering from addiction the skills needed to meet employers' needs. It will reduce disaffection, provide needs-based training and improve confidence, self-reliance and pride in achievement. The emphasis will be on making the transition from benefits to work a genuine, achievable goal.

New Era Childcare

From 2002, New Era Childcare has been operating as a steady business for New Era, supplying qualified crèche workers to organisations at various venues in East Lancashire and beyond.

Crèche workers hold qualifications ranging from a Foundation Degree in Early Years to NVQ level 2 in Childcare & Education – the minimum required qualification. All current workers have or are in the process of holding recent enhanced disclosures through CRB (Criminal Records Bureau).

New Era Childcare supplied a worker on a short term contract to Rosegrove Nursery (after school club) for 34 hours total from week commencing 30/01/06 until 27/02/06.

A contract with NCH Sure Start South West Burnley commenced January 2006, the equivalent of 2 full time workers (74 hours) for 25 weeks until the end of June 2006.

A contract with Sure Start Brierfield & Walverden also commenced in January for 12 weeks until March for 30 hours per week. Further contracts have been agreed with this organisation and from September 2006 we have been supplying 2 full time workers (67.5 hours)

From 1st April 2006, we entered into a Service Level Agreement with Lancashire County Council on behalf of Sure Start Bradley and Whitefield, Nelson. This was a continuation of the SLA we had in place 2004 – 2005, albeit the hours and number of workers were reduced. The hours required fluctuated somewhat over 2006 but from April 2006 until the end of December 2006, we supplied an average of 74 crèche worker hours to Sure Start Bradley and Whitefield on a weekly basis. The Service Level Agreement ends 31st March 2007.

We had a request for a Special Support Assistant from Sure Start Bradley & Whitefield who had secured a grant to be used over the summer holidays for individual one to one work with children aged 2 – 4 years. We successfully provided them with a worker for an 8 week period over the summer holidays until 4th September for 24 hours per week. This worker was able, on a one to one basis, to provide extra input to those children who had been identified with delayed development, language problems and lacking concentration skills.

We secured work from Sure Start South West Burnley from September 2006 for 10 hours per week for 16 weeks and from Burnley College 20 hours per week for 30 weeks.

Sixteen new workers registered during 2006. Throughout the year, we had around 39 workers registered with varying availability. 27 organisations used the Childcare Agency services in 2006.

The Childcare Agency continues to develop and build on the links we already have with the public, private and voluntary sector organisations who continue to use our service.



New Era Childcare provides Crèche staff at community venues, and also manages The Play Centre at the Central Methodist Church, Hargreaves Street, Burnley (pictured here) open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for the 2 – 5 year olds.

New Era Enterprises Training and Assessment Centre

New Era has been approved to deliver CACHE (Council for Awards in Children's Care and Education) accredited awards since 2001.

In April 2006 New Era successfully applied to become an NCFE Approved Centre, in order to deliver accredited courses, especially in the ncf field of Preparation for Life and Work. The courses developed reflect work already being done at New Era, such as confidence building and employment skills, but give the possibility of accreditation for beneficiaries.

The first course delivered was Employment Skills Level 1, through the New Beginnings Project. This has been followed by courses delivered through two projects starting in 2006, A New Era for You and A New Era for 50+ starting with Employment Skills Level 1 and Assertiveness at Work Level 2.



New Era Support Services (NESOS)

In the past New Era's Support work for community and voluntary sector groups has been carried out by New Era gaining public funding to run projects to provide this support. However more and more work is being carried out for organisations which have themselves secured the funding and have elected to employ New Era to undertake work of a specialist nature. The work New Era has skilled and experienced staff to carry out includes:-

- organising community events, meetings, conferences etc;
- recruitment support and training in recruitment support;
- financial and accounting support ;
- bidding for funding;
- setting up systems for returns for funders, and processing returns to funders;
- a payroll service;
- setting up database systems for project output monitoring, and completing project output monitoring returns;
- survey work – questionnaires and analysis of results;
- administrative support.

During 2006 this kind of work included:-

Payroll Bureau

Since 2002 New Era has offered payroll administration services, taken up so far by two organisations employing 1 - 6 employees.

Administrative, Project Monitoring and Financial Support for community organisations

New Era provides project monitoring, financial and accounting support to community organisations and during the course of 2006 has provided this support for 3 community organisations. This support is ongoing as and when needed by these organisations.

Some small community organisations apply for funding to carry out work in the community and although they have skill and experience in the work they are carrying out, they do not have the skill, time (or, in fact the inclination – they want to get on with their project!) to keep up with the financial and output monitoring that funders require. New Era is being asked increasingly to work with such organisations to help them to manage these functions effectively.

ChangeUp Programme Management.

New Era's contract with Government Office North West was extended until mid September 2006. New Era provided support for the management and co-ordination of the £6.5m ChangeUp programme in the North West. This involves supporting five sub-regional consortia to manage their individual programmes, managing contracts for ten regional projects and liaising with the Home Office's Active Communities Unit on the management of the current programme and to facilitate transition to the next phase which is managed by a new National Agency called Capacity Builders.

Criminal Records Bureau (CRB)

New Era is registered with the CRB as an umbrella organisation for processing CRB disclosure and as such continued to undertake disclosure applications during the year at a commercial rate. We were, unfortunately unable to secure funding to continue to provide the service free for volunteers in Pendle.

During the year the CRB announced that it was planning to de-register organisations which were processing only small numbers of disclosures per year. It is likely that New Era will fall into this category soon. This is a pity as it is efficient and cost efficient for us to be able to process disclosures for our own staff. We have agreed that CRB checks for staff will be renewed at least every three years and we have established a process for ensuring that this happens.

NETWORKS AND AFFILIATIONS

New Era is a member of and has been active in the following networks during the course of 2006:-

Burnley Childminding Network

Burnley Community Network

East Lancashire Together

Burnley Action Partnership Economy and Housing Theme Group.

Burnley Regeneration Programme Management Group.

Burnley's Social Inclusion and Employment Network

European funding Priority 2 and Urban 2 Working Parties and Appraisal Committee.

Lancashire County Childminding Association

Lancashire Learning and Skills Forum

Lancashire Social Enterprise Partnership – managing the Social Enterprise Development programme for Lancashire.

North West Co-operative and Mutual Council

Out of School Clubs Association (OSCA)

Pendle Community Network.

SELNET, the network for Social Enterprises in Lancashire.

Burnley and Padiham Children's Centres:-

Duke Bar/Burnley Wood Children's Centre

South West Burnley Children's Centre

The Chai Children's Centre,

Whitegate Children's Centre, Padiham

New Era is affiliated to the following bodies:-

Co-operatives UK

Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion

National Childminding Association – NCMA

New Economics Foundation

North West Network

North West Co-operative and Mutual Council

NCVO – National Council for Voluntary Organisations

SELNET .

The Social Enterprise Coalition

Urban Forum

Voluntary Sector North West

STAFF WELCOME AND GOODBYES

Sarah Bailey, our accounts worker, went on maternity leave in January 2007 (congratulations to her on the birth of her second son), and...

Barbara Sanders, a New Era member with many years of accounting experience, has been recruited to cover Sarah's maternity leave.

Jo Haworth joined the Admin Team as full time Administration Worker in June 2006.

Shirley Thompson joined the Women's project early in 2005. She brought new insights and skills into the team. Shirley's contract ended in March 2006.

Mark Dempsey, a New Beginnings Volunteer, has provided invaluable support to Andy during the year. Our thanks go to him for all his contribution to the success of this project.



Some staff and members at the New Era AGM in March 2007

Staffing – The full complement

Kay Ashcroft is the Network Co-ordinator on the Childminder Network Project, and Assessor for New Era for You/50+.

Sarah Bailey is part – time Finance Worker, on Maternity Leave from January '07

Kim Bannister is part time Administration Worker. In January 2007 she was also recruited as part time Project Worker on the “Achieve Your Goal” Project.

Fiona Duncan is part time Project Worker on the Family Support Services Practical Parenting and is responsible for the LCC Grandparent Carers Projects. She is also a part-time Project Worker on the “Achieve Your Goal” Project.

Jo Haworth is full time Administration Worker

Emma Horsfall is part time Project Worker on The Childcare Agency, part time Project Worker on the “Achieve Your Goal” Project”, and she is a Tutor and Assessor for courses on A New Era For You and A New Era for 50+.

Cath Howley is part-time Project Worker on the Building Communities Project. In October 2006 Cath suffered serious injury in a road accident which has kept her from work.

Jan Hubbard is part time Project Worker on “Developing Childcare in Burnley Pendle and Rossendale”, Enterprising Childcare.

Tess McMahon is Key Worker for “A New Era For You” and “A New Era for 50+” Projects, and is responsible for the NCFE part of New Era Enterprises Training and Assessment Centre, including Internal Moderation.

Fiona Muir is part time Project Worker on the Family Support Services Practical Parenting and Grandparent Carers Projects and part-time Project Worker on the “Achieve Your Goal” Projects.

Pauline Page is part-time Administration Worker.

Karen Pashley is Key Worker – finance, working on the company accounts, and funding bids, and involved in NESOS work. She works with Ann Marie and other key workers as the “Development Group”.

Sue Rae is Key Worker on the “Developing Childcare in Burnley Pendle and Rossendale” and the “Childminder Network” Projects. She is Co-ordinator of New Era Enterprises Training and Assessment Centre (NEETAC) and the CACHE accredited courses of NEETAC.

Jackie Ringer is Key Worker on the “Achieve Your Goal” Project and The Childcare Agency.

Kath Rowley is Administration Key Worker. She is responsible for co-ordinating the admin support to the company and projects, and is involved in NESOS work.

Barbara Sanders is part-time Accounts Worker, on maternity cover from December 2006.

Elaine Sharples is part-time Project Worker on the Developing Childcare projects, Enterprising Childcare, and The Childminder Network, and Assessor on the New Era For You/50+

Andy Toynton is part-time Project Worker on the Family Support Services New Beginnings Project, part-time Project Worker on the “Achieve Your Goal” Project, and he is a Tutor and Assessor for courses on A New Era For You and A New Era for 50+.

Wendy Woodfine is part time Project Worker on the Developing Childcare Project Childminder Network.

Ann Marie Wrigley is Key Worker on the Family Support Services Project and works on possible new projects. She took over responsibility for the Publicity for Community Groups Building Communities project during 2006. She works with Karen and other key workers as the “Development Group” and during 2005/6 worked under contract to Government Office for the North West as co-ordinator of the Home Office’s ChangeUp programme in the North West.

Peter Wrigley is part time IT Specialist, supporting New Era with its IT needs, Website development and staff IT training.

Vanessa Sutton is the cleaner.

Crèche Staff – New Era employs qualified crèche workers on a casual basis to fill crèches in various venues in East Lancashire.

During the Year 2006 New Era undertook activities under contract to the following:-

Burnley Borough Council SRB6 – Single Regeneration Budget

Burnley Futures

ERDF – European Regional Development Fund Priority 2

Government Office for the North West Home Office VCS Unit.

Job Centre Plus

Lancashire Learning and Skills Council – Co-financed ESF – European Social Fund

Lancashire County Council Social Services

Neighbourhood Renewal Unit – Community Empowerment Fund and

Community Programme Grants

South West Burnley Children's Centre

Duke Bar/Burnley Wood Children's Centre

The Chai Children's Centre

Whitegate Children's Centre, Padiham



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