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## **PROJECT BACKGROUND**

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION – STOPOVER**

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Quarriers' Stopover is a partnership Project involving three agencies: Quarriers, which manages the Project; West of Scotland Housing Association, which owns the property; Glasgow City Council's Social Work Department, who in the main, fund the Project.

Stopover is a short stay accommodation for 14 young people, male and female, Who are experiencing homelessness and other challenges within their lives.

The Project began running in February 1995. Stopover provides a safe and secure environment from where more than 100 young people every year can address their housing needs, access support services for individual issues, as well as access to employment and education opportunities.

Stopover supports young people to achieve successful moves to Suitable and more permanent, sustainable accommodation.

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### **PREMISES**

Stopover is located on the south side of Glasgow. The area has good public transport links. The project is housed in new purpose built premises which have been designed to meet the needs of the young people. The service provides barrier free accommodation.

Each young person has his or her own bed-sit. There is also a communal lounge, dining room and kitchen, where young people can sit down each day with staff to have breakfast. Young people also have access to additional facilities: an IT suite and a group work room.

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### **STAFFING**

The staff team comprises of the Project Manager, Transition Mentors, and 2 Senior Project Workers, full time Senior Administrator and full time Housekeeper/Domestic. There is also a bank of sessional Workers who have been recruited to provide flexible cover for when full time staff are on holiday, attending training, or on sick leave.

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## **RESIDENTS**

The project accepts referrals from across the city and is a resource for Glasgow's young people. Residents of Stopover represent some of the most vulnerable young people in Glasgow, and it is the Project's intention to provide these young people with high levels of support in order to address their homelessness. A 'key-worker' system is employed to provide one to one support, and multi-agency involvement is evident throughout each support plan.

The Admissions Policy is flexible, reflecting the difficulties, which some of the client group face. This involves ensuring that those with complex needs such as substance addiction, prostitution, or criminal involvement, have services tailored to their needs with appropriate supports in place.

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## **CONCLUSION**

Quarriers' Stopover is a relatively high profile Project, which focuses on real people, real issues and real needs. By supporting young people to address these, strong and sustainable networks can be introduced to support positive change to meet short, and long-term, realistic goals.

Already, Stopover has received widespread recognition throughout Glasgow for the commitment and skill of it's' staff team, who provide genuine, and unique support services for extremely vulnerable young people. This is done in an environment, which at times can be very challenging, but also very rewarding.