

### **3 CHOOSE LIFE (AN73-2008)**

Proposals for the implementation of the Choose Life strategy were approved by the Social Work Committee on 16th February, 2004 (Report No 150-2004). The report highlighted proposals for the implementation of Choose Life in Dundee and advised that a sub group of Healthy Dundee (The Choose Life Steering Group) had been established to oversee the development and implementation of the local suicide prevention strategy. The sum of £87,000 has been allocated to support suicide prevention.

The Choose Life Steering Group has now approved continued funding for a year for continuation of the following services:

#### **WOMEN'S RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE CENTRE (WRASAC) - £30,000**

The money will be used for the continuation of a post for a self harm, self injury and suicide support worker for 24 hours per week. This post supports women at risk of suicide who have been sexually abused. Support is delivered on a one to one basis, by group, e-mail, letter telephone or via the telephone helpline.

#### **BARNARDO'S ROLLERCOASTER PROJECT - £30,000**

The money will be used to continue the Senior Practitioner post within Barnardo's Rollercoaster. This service engages with children and young people significantly affected by grief and trauma due to bereavement and provides a proactive, responsive service to support children, young people and their carers whose lives have been affected by suicide and suicidal behaviour.

#### **CHOOSE LIFE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER - £20,000 PER ANNUM WITH INITIAL EXTENSION FOR 6 MONTHS**

The Choose Life Development Officer is a temporary post shared with Angus Council who host the post and clerical support. The recommendation is that these posts are extended for a six month period, to September 2008, with a view to continuing them in an alternative format taking into account the wider issues relating to mental health and wellbeing in addition to suicide.

The Committee is asked to approve the release of funding to meet the Choose Life suicide prevention agenda for 2008/09.