NATIONAL FEDERATION OF EIGHTEEN PLUS GROUPS

BUSINESS PLAN 2004/2005

Mission Statement of the Federation

18+ is an organisation for people who want to enjoy a good social life and who want to take part in a wide range of activities.

Purpose of the Federation

- To provide an environment to help people make friends.
- To enable or undertake the provision of quality social events and activities.
- To assist with the personal development of members.

Key Targets 2004/2005 for the Federation

- To lower operating costs.
- To re-establish an identity for the Federation with the aid of good, effective publicity.
- To restructure the organisation to produce a more cost effective and less bureaucratic organisation.
- To improve communication.
- To provide one more quality national event.
- To ensure that the Federation is open to as wide an audience as is possible.

Risks

- Members not accepting the NEC's recommendations at the ANC.
- NEC not agreeing the details of the restructure.
- The restructure may not work.
- The membership decline continues.
- Finances do not improve.
- Insufficient members prepared to undertake national positions.
- Unforeseen financial liability.

Who Does the Federation Serve?

- All of its members.
- The community as a membership organisation.
- The employed staff.

SWOT Analysis

This is detailed below -

SWOT ANALYSIS

Strengths	Opportunities			
 Fun organisation Hard working, volunteering members Democratic structure Friendly members and ethos Produces good events Good personal development Committed staff 	 Create different, more effective structure Produce more good events Alternative funding options Develop internet usage 			
Weaknesses	Threats			
 Too much time fire-fighting Too democratic Membership fee too low to allow structured development Some poor events Poor communications Little known identity No sense of direction Confusion over age range Apathetic members Too many tiers within the organisation Poor publicity Do we make the most of our staff? Lack of day to day revenue 	 Competition Lack of succession planning Personnel issues Overheads 			

Objectives of the Federation for 2004/2005 -

Strategic Objective	What we want to see at the end of 5 years?	Where will we be at the end of 3 years?	Target at the end of the First Year		
The Federation will be sound and cost effective with a consistently increasing membership.	A healthy and growing membership led organisation.	An arrest has been made in the decline in membership and the year will end with a small but positive membership increase. A balanced budget is produced and met.	Operating costs of the Federation are lowered. An identity for the Federation is re-established with the aid of good, effective publicity. The organisation of the Federation is restructured to produce a more cost effective and less bureaucratic organisation. Communication is improved throughout the Federation.		

The Federation will produce regular quality national events which are well supported.	A good number of quality national events are taking place annually and are well supported.	A further national event has been planned and taken place. All national events are well supported.	One more quality national event agreed and planned for 2005.
The Federation will continue to be an activities organisation that is well known throughout the country.	The Federation is widely known and has an increasing membership.	The Federation has an increased membership. Awareness of the Federation is increased.	A member is appointed to proactively publicise the Federation. The Federation's website is relaunched in line with the new image.

The Federation will keep all of its members well informed.	All members are kept well informed about the Federation and its activities.	All members receive regular publicity on what is happening within the Federation. Attendance at events is improved. All members have a fuller knowledge of what the Federation is doing.	A regular appearance of a Federation news publication is established which is available to all members. The feasibility of direct mailing of all publicity to members is investigated. The feasibility of issuing all publicity by e-mail in addition to other methods is investigated.
The re-establishment of a permanent but affordable headquarters has been considered in depth.	If a decision has been made to re-establish a headquarters building they are in full use.	If a decision has been made to re-establish a headquarters building detailed plans are in place.	A review of the need to re- establish a new headquarters building is undertaken during the restructuring process.

Action Plan

The Action Plan detailed below identifies those actions required -

Strategic Objective	Year One Target	What Actions are Needed to Deliver this Target?	Timescale	Who by?	Measure Progress	How Often Should Reports on the Actions be Made?
	Operating costs of the Federation are lowered.	A bottom up budget build with a rigorous examination and justification of each item of expenditure.	By March 2005	National Finance Officer/National Executive Committee	2004/2005 Year end budget forecast shows reduced deficit.	Monthly to NEC members/Quarterly to members
The Federation will be sound and cost effective with a consistently	An identity for the Federation is re- established with the aid of good, effective publicity.	A proactive publicity team is established under the leadership of a member experienced in effective publicity.	By March 2005	National Executive Committee/Public Relations Officer	The decline in membership is halted.	Monthly to NEC members
the Federation restructured produce a micost effective a less bureaucra organisation. Communication improved	produce a more cost effective and less bureaucratic	 The National Executive Committee agree the format of a restructure The restructure is commenced 	By October 2004 National Executive Committee Meeting	National Executive Committee	Costs are saved without a negative effect/members consider the Federation to be less top heavy.	Quarterly at NEC Meetings/Quarterly to members
	improved throughout the	An effective communication plan is prepared and actioned.	With immediate effect and then ongoing	National Executive Committee/Area Chairmen/Group Chairmen	Members agree that they know what is happening throughout the Federation	Quarterly at NEC Meetings

Strategic Objective	Year One Target	What Actions are Needed to Deliver this Target?	Timescale	Who by?	How Can We Measure Progress on These Actions?	How Often Should Reports on the Actions be Made?
The Federation will produce regular quality national events which are well supported.	One more quality national event agreed and planned for 2005.	 New national event identified and approved New national event booked and publicised 	By October 2004 National Executive Committee Meeting	National Executive Committee/Nation al Activities Officer	New national event identified	Quarterly at NEC Meetings/Quarterly to members
The Federation will continue to be an activities organisation that is well known throughout the country.	A member is appointed to proactively publicise the Federation.	 Member identified Appointment made 	By July 2004 National Executive Committee Meeting	National Executive Committee/ANC	Appointment made	Quarterly at NEC Meetings/Quarterly to members
	The Federation's website is reviewed in line with the new image.	 Webmaster identified Website reviewed and any changes approved Website launched 	By October 2004 National Executive Committee Meeting	National Executive Committee	Website review taken place	Quarterly at NEC Meetings

Strategic Objective	Year One Target	What Actions are Needed to Deliver this Target?	Timescale		Measure	How Often Should Reports on the Actions be Made?
	A regular appearance of a Federation news publication is established which is available to all members.	 Type of publication identified Responsibilities identified 	By October 2004 National Executive Committee Meeting	National Executive Committee	News publication is identified	Quarterly at NEC Meetings/Quarterly to members
The Federation will keep all of its members well informed.	The feasibility of direct mailing of all publicity to members is investigated.	 Investigation takes place Proposals made 	By January 2005 National Executive Committee Meeting	National Executive Committee	Investigation completed	Quarterly at NEC Meetings/Quarterly to members
	The feasibility of issuing all publicity by e-mail in addition to other methods is investigated.	 Investigation takes place Proposals made 	By January 2005 National Executive Committee Meeting	National Executive Committee	Investigation completed	Quarterly at NEC Meetings/Quarterly to members
The re-establishment of a permanent but affordable headquarters has been considered in depth.	A review of the need to re-establish a new headquarters building is undertaken during the restructuring process.	 Research undertaken Review undertaken 	By January 2005 National Executive Committee Meeting	National Executive Committee/proper ty specialists	Research completed	Quarterly at NEC Meetings/Quarterly to members