

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL**  
**REPORT**

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| TO: Social Work Committee                   | Subject:<br><br>Development of Joint Community Care Planning Structures in North Lanarkshire |
| FROM: Jim Dickie<br>Director of Social Work |  |
| DATE OF COMMITTEE: 11th March 1997          |  |
| REF: DM/JD                                  |  |

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report sets out proposed refinements to existing joint community care planning structures.

**2. INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 In response to a Scottish Office circular issued prior to local government reorganisation in December 1995, the Council agreed new joint community care planning structures with Lanarkshire Health Board, Scottish Homes and South Lanarkshire Council. These arrangements placed a heavy emphasis on Health Board wide joint planning.
- 2.2 The structures agreed at that time were based on the experience of joint community care planning within Strathclyde. The experience to date in North Lanarkshire has demonstrated to them to be not as locally responsive as joint planning partners would wish.

**3. PROPOSED REFINEMENTS TO STRUCTURES**

- 3.1 It is proposed that the existing structures should be reviewed with the objectives of streamlining arrangements and placing more emphasis on co-ordinating joint planning activity at North Lanarkshire level. For the first time there is the opportunity for local authorities to deliver their lead agency responsibilities for community care within a local authority planning framework.
- 3.2 The appendix sets out proposed revisions to existing joint community care planning arrangements. At North Lanarkshire level it proposes:
- A Joint Planning Forum, with elected member representation to meet twice yearly.
  - A North Lanarkshire Joint Planning Steering Group, attended by senior officers. It is hoped to secure service user representation in this tier of joint planning.

- ♦ A Local Planning Group, attended by officers of the Council and Greater Glasgow Health Board, to consider issues relating to the former Strathkelvin District.

**3.3** Reporting to the North Lanarkshire Joint Planning Steering Group would be:

- ♦ A Housing Strategy Group, attended by officers of the Council, Scottish Homes and Lanarkshire Health Board.
- ♦ Strategy and Implementation Groups with specific task or time limited remits e.g. care group strategies or projects such as the management of hospital discharge programmes.
- ♦ Provider Liaison Meetings with NHS Trusts, social care providers and housing providers.

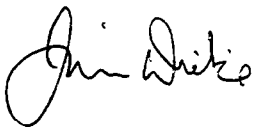
**3.4** At Lanarkshire wide level there would be:

- ♦ A Joint Planning Co-ordinating Group, attended by Directors of Social Work and Health Board General Manager (LHB)/Chief Executive (GGHB), to meet annually.
- ♦ A Funding and Resources Group, attended by senior officers which would report to the North Lanarkshire Joint Planning Steering Group and it's equivalent in South Lanarkshire.

**3.5** In addition to formal liaison arrangements, it is recognised that there is the need for Lanarkshire wide project co-ordination of hospital discharge programmes for people with learning disabilities and people with mental health problems.

**4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**4.1** Committee is asked to note the contents of this report and agree the proposed refinements to the joint community care planning structures.



**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**19th February 1997**

*For further information on this report please contact Duncan Mackay, Principal Officer (Planning & Development) (TEL: 01698 332067)*



# *Joint Planning Structures*

