

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: Service Plan Monitoring Report
FROM: Jim Dickie Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 24th November 1998	
REPORT AUTHOR: Stephen Rankin	
REF: JD/SR	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

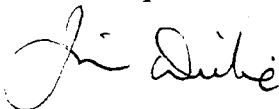
- 1.1 This report advises members on the progress on the implementation of the Departmental Service Plan for 1998-2001.

2. PROGRESS KEY DEVELOPMENT TASKS

- 2.1 The Social Work Departmental Service Plan 1998-2001 identified ten key strategic development tasks. Progress in implementing the ten key development tasks is described in the appendix to this report.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Committee is requested to note the action the action reported in the schedule to this report.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work

17th November 1998

APPENDIX

KEY DEVELOPMENT TASKS	Progress Achieved
<p>1. Develop information systems to support needs assessment & quality assurance/monitoring initiatives</p>	<p>Progressive development of Information Technology system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Millennium compliance of Social Work Information System completed. • Referral and Case Management Tool implemented September 1998. • Fully costed Care Management module for all care groups to be implemented by 1/4/99. Pilot to begin January 1999. • Roll-out of E-mail pilot to area teams to be completed by 1/1/99. • Complaints module to be implemented in by December 1998. • Personnel system implementation underway in all Area Teams. • Pilot of graphical (Windows) version of Social Work Information System in Motherwell Area Team underway.

2. Develop new systems for quality assurance and monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work ongoing. Benchmarking systems for children's services under development in conjunction with other local authority Social Work Departments.
3. Monitor a care management pilot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care management pilot introduced at Chryston office in November 1997. • Monitoring report completed in April 1998.
4. Consult on, implement and review Joint Community Care Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Plan published, consultation exercise complete and final Plan published and distributed. • Review due June 1999.
5. Develop community alternatives to prevent inappropriate admission of young people to residential care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day care services established in Cumbernauld and Kilsyth for 6 places. • Service improvements introduced in August 1998 at 7 Day Centre, Wishaw. • Expanded area of operation of Parents for Change support group. Training to be complete by February 1999. • Befriending scheme to be introduced by 1/1/99. • New permanent foster carers approved. Campaign to recruit more foster carers underway.

<p>6. Develop new small scale residential units in the community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New small scale (8 spaces) home opened in September 1998 in Motherwell. • Airdrie home (Mitchell Street) to reduce size to 12 spaces in December 1998.
<p>7. Develop youth housing and support strategies with Housing, Education and voluntary organisations, with priority for young people leaving care and other vulnerable groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy approved by Social Work Committee October on 6th October 1998.
<p>8. Consult on, implement and review Children's Services Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Plan published and consultation exercise complete. • Final Plan in production. Issue date December 1998.
<p>9. Extend provision of public information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community care services information leaflets launched in October 1998. • Benefits quick guides/posters produced and widely distributed. Update due April 1999.
<p>10. Deliver co-ordinated programmes of benefits take up campaigns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Tax, carers discount, disability reduction campaign approved by Committee. Implementation underway.