

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: CLOSURE OF LENNOX CASTLE HOSPITAL
FROM: Jim Dickie Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 2 March 1999	
REPORT AUTHOR: Sandra Mackay	
REF:	

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Committee that the request from Greater Glasgow Health Board to close Lennox Castle Hospital has been approved by the Secretary of State for Scotland.

2 BACKGROUND

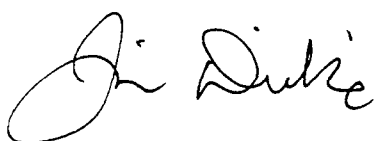
- 2.1 North Lanarkshire Council has responsibility for delivering a small share of the Lennox Castle Hospital discharge programme (1.8% of the total).
- 2.2 North Lanarkshire Council Social Work Department receives an agreed level of resource transfer for a proportion of the discharge programme which is used to pay for the direct care of people leaving hospital and the development of community based services designed to prevent future hospital admissions.
- 2.3 No hospital bed reductions take place without the following conditions being put in place:
- ◆ no individual will be discharged without a full assessment of their needs;
 - ◆ individuals will be offered a better quality of life than that available to them in hospital;
 - ◆ community services must be in place before hospital beds are closed;
 - ◆ resources released from hospitals must be invested in replacement health and social care services and
 - ◆ a sufficient level of good quality long stay NHS hospital care must be maintained to meet the needs of those who require this form of care.
- 2.4 On 6 January 1998 Committee approved a response giving qualified support to the proposals.

3 CONFIRMATION OF CLOSURE OF LENNOX CASTLE HOSPITAL

- 3.1 On 30 November 1998 the Secretary of State confirmed his approval in writing to the Chief Executive, Greater Glasgow Health Board, with regard to the closure of Lennox Castle Hospital in line with the Board's future Strategy for Learning Disability.
- 3.2 Subsequently on 1 December 1998 the Director of Commissioning notified all of the surrounding local authorities accordingly.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Committee is asked to:
- i) Note the content of this report and
 - ii) that officers will have continued input into the closure programme on the basis of the conditions outlined in Paragraph 2.3.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
1 February 1999

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