

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: PHEW (Scotland) Limited Revised Maintenance Rates
FROM: Jim Dickie Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 5 October 1999	
REPORT AUTHOR: Jim Pitman	
REF: RP/JM/REP/01	

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To set revised maintenance rates for Clifton House and Buchanan House respite units operated by PHEW (Scotland) Limited.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Parental Help for Evenings and Weekends - PHEW (Scotland) Limited is a voluntary organisation operating two respite units for people with learning disabilities in Coatbridge. Clifton House has been operational since 1990 and Buchanan House opened in October 1997.
- 2.2 Both houses are registered to provide respite for adults with a learning disability and, at separate times, to provide respite for children with special needs.
- 2.3 In April 1998 Committee approved a proposal for both units to rationalise staffing and for Clifton House to operate seven days a week instead of the previous five day operation.

3 CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 The organisation continues to work with the Department to ensure the most efficient use of the resources. A request was received from the organisation to review the budgets after the first full financial year of the reshaped service. This review has taken place and an allowance for the anticipated 3.3% national pay award from 1 April 1999 has been made.
- 3.2 Transport costs have been realigned between the two projects and a £3000 allowance has been incorporated for training and additional £7000 has been incorporated into staffing budgets to reflect the actual wage costs being incurred.

- 3.3 The occupancy rate of 94% which has been used to calculate the maintenance rate is high for this type of service. The organisation has worked hard together with the Department to achieve this level of occupancy. However, committee is asked to agree to the Department varying this during the year if circumstances change.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Resources have been set aside within the Department's budget to meet the increased costs.

- 4.2 The new rates proposed are:

	Old Rate	New Rate
Clifton House	£889.56 per week	£960.80 per week
Buchanan House	£973.93 per week	£987.20 per week

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Committee approve the revised maintenance rates set out in paragraph 4.2 of this report, with effect from 1 April 1999.
- 5.2 Committee agree to the Director varying the rate during the year to take account of any change in actual occupancy rate.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
17 September 1999

For further information on this report please contact Jim Pitman, Principal Officer (Finance & Administration) (TEL: 01698 332022)