

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
REPORT**

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: Maternity Services Strategy
FROM: Jim Dickie Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 5 October 1999	
REPORT AUTHOR: George McNally	
REF: JD/GMCI/SG/JMCF	

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To advise the Social Work Committee of a review being undertaken by Greater Glasgow Health Board of the Maternity Services Strategy.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 In 1996 Greater Glasgow Health Board (GGHB) Acute Strategy, 'Purchasing Acute Services to 2001' was approved by the Scottish Office.

2.2 The Strategy saw the closure of the Rutherglen Maternity Hospital and the rebuilding of the Glasgow Royal Maternity Hospital on the site of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

2.3 Since the publication of that Strategy:

- ◆ The rebuilding of the Glasgow Royal Maternity is underway, with an anticipated opening date of 2000 or early 2001
- ◆ The Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists and the Royal Colleges of Midwives have published a detailed report, "Towards Safer Childbirth" on minimum standards for the organisation of labour wards.

2.4 The 1999 - 2004 Health Improvement Programme (HIP) committed Greater Glasgow Health Board to complete a review of its Maternity Services Strategy.

2.5 The Health Improvement Programme proposed that the review should be fully inclusive and comprehensive and focus on the reducing numbers of births, the potential to develop midwifery managed care and community based services.

2.6 Earlier this year Greater Glasgow Health Board established a multi disciplinary group to lead a review of the Maternity Services Strategy.

2.7 The review produced a consultation paper which has been received by North Lanarkshire Council.

3 SUMMARY OF REVIEW

- 3.1 The review group arrived at a number of conclusions on key issues most of which require further consultation and comments particularly with service users. The proposed extension of consultation on maternity services is to be welcomed.
- 3.2 There are implications for the provision of maternity services for residents in the part of North Lanarkshire Council which is covered by Greater Glasgow Health Board and for other residents in North Lanarkshire who use Greater Glasgow's Maternity Services. Cross boundary usage has been predicted to increase as a result of the withdrawal of maternity services from Bellshill.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

- i) The Committee is asked to note this position.
- ii) Although no comments are being proposed at this time, as this work is progressed North Lanarkshire Council would wish to be kept appraised.

5 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 5.1 A copy of the paper is available in the Members library.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
9 September 1999

For further information on this report please contact , Principal Officer (George McNally) (TEL: 01698 332063)