

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT MILLENNIUM CONTINGENCY PLANS UPDATE
FROM: Jim Dickie Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 25 January 2000	
REPORT AUTHOR: Alexis Jay	
REF:	

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 A report which outlined the Social Work Department's contingency plan for the millennium was approved at the November Social Work Committee.

The purpose of this report is to advise Committee on the outcome of the implementation of these plans over the millennium holiday period.

2 OUTCOMES OF ACTION TAKEN

- 2.1 A range of actions were outlined in the previous report which were intended to ensure that Social Work functions were not disrupted over the extended holiday period.
- 2.2 With respect to the audit of embedded chip equipment, there were no reported systems failures in any of the Department's offices or establishments.
- 2.3 The Department also arranged to supplement the West of Scotland Standby Service by the creation of a small team of staff working out of the Merrystone Centre at Coatbridge. This team operated from December 31 - January 4, and dealt with approximately 32 referrals, including child protection, community care assessment and a small number of destitution cases. In addition, there were a further 45 home care referrals from existing clients, which arose mainly from home care workers being absent from work due to the influenza virus.

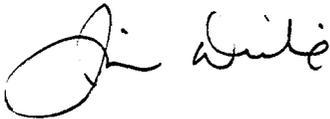
3 CONCLUSION

3.1 The Social Work Department millennium contingency plans can be seen to have been effective in practice, with no disruption to service having occurred, above the level normally experienced over the Christmas and New Year period.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Committee is asked:

- i. to note the content of the report.
- ii to ask The Convenor to thank all those staff who worked voluntarily in the Merrystone Centre over the millennium period.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
January 2000

For further information on this report please contact A Jay, Head of Social Work Services (TEL: 01698 332004)