

## NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject:  Modernising Community Care - Update Report
FROM: Jim Dickie Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 7 March 2000	
REPORT AUTHOR: Duncan Mackay	
REF: DM/AJ	

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report advises Committee of progress made towards implementing the government's agenda for Modernising Community Care.

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 In November 1998 the Scottish Executive produced a plan to improve social work services in Scotland entitled "Modernising Community Care- An Action Plan" the contents of which were reported to Committee in the same month.
- 2.2 A subsequent report in March 1999 secured Committee approval for a range of service enhancements consistent with the stated aims of Modernising Community Care namely:
- ◆ better and quicker decision making
  - ◆ caring for people at home by shifting the balance away from institutional forms of care and towards home based alternatives
  - ◆ effective inter-agency working at local levels
  - ◆ assuring quality and effectiveness

**3 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**

- 3.1 The ability to deliver the aims of Modernising Community Care rests heavily on close partnership working, both between agencies and also between agencies and service users and carers.
- 3.2 A pan Lanarkshire seminar was held on 25 November which involved organisations representing the views of service users and carers, Social Work, Housing, Education and Health. This resulted in the following set of jointly agreed priorities to be taken forward:

- ◆ establish call centre arrangements for all community care services
- ◆ carry out a feasibility study of community care internet site and other means of information sharing between agencies
- ◆ develop an integrated public information strategy
- ◆ develop a joint training programme across agencies and carers
- ◆ improve access to household equipment and home adaptations
- ◆ implement a single assessment process and care record across agencies
- ◆ create opportunities for local joint initiatives
- ◆ develop a strategy for provision of flexible respite care services
- ◆ determine arrangements for locality planning and service delivery

3.3 A multi agency officer sub group is being established to provide a framework within which individual project teams will work in the stated areas of activity. Teams will report in the first instance to the Joint Planning Executive, consisting of Directors of Social Work in North and South Lanarkshire, General Manager of Lanarkshire Health Board and Chief Executive of Lanarkshire Primary Care NHS Trust. Progress will be advised to a future Committee.

#### 4 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Committee is asked to:

- (i) note progress made towards implementing the Modernising Community Care agenda and;
- (ii) request the Director of Social Work to bring forward a report updating progress to a future Committee and;
- (iii) otherwise note the contents of the report.



**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**18 February 2000**

*For further information on this report please contact Duncan Mackay, Principal Officer (Planning & Development) (TEL: 01698 332072)*