

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: Modernising Community Care - Update Report
FROM: Jim Dickie Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 22 August 2000	
REPORT AUTHOR: Duncan Mackay	
REF: DM/AJ	

1 CONTENT AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report advises Committee of progress made towards implementing the government's agenda for Modernising Community Care. Committee is asked to note this progress as detailed in the content of the report.

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

2.3 A further report to Social Work Committee in March 2000 advised of a set of jointly agreed priorities arising from a pan Lanarkshire seminar.

3 PROGRESS

3.1 The attached table sets out the priority areas for development and progress made to date.

- 3.2 The creation of home based alternatives to institutional forms of care is critical to achieving shifts in the balance of care required by Modernising Committee Care. Joint proposals from Social Work Area Teams and Local Health Care Co-operatives were sought. Some of these service developments are being considered in the context of the joint strategy for frail older people. One specific proposal, to provide night time home and nursing care in Shotts and Harthill, can now proceed to implementation. This will require to be co-ordinated through the existing out of hours home care scheme based at Merrystone House. As previously reported the Social Work contribution to the scheme will be funded by monies transferred from Lanarkshire Health Board.
- 3.3 A multi agency officer sub group has been established to provide a framework within which individual project teams will work in the stated areas of activity. This group reports progress 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.
- 3.4 The Modernising Government bid submitted by Lanarkshire Health Board on behalf of joint planning partners has been approved by the Scottish Executive and now requires considerable further work. This brought together the priority areas agreed for Modernising Community Care into a single proposal and is likely to require a project management approach in order to succeed.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Committee is asked to:

- (i) note progress made towards implementing the Modernising Community Care agenda; and
- (ii) otherwise note the contents of the report.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
9 August 2000

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

Objective	Progress
Establish Call Centre arrangements for community care services	Bids for Modernising Government monies within the Council and jointly with Health both approved
Carry out a feasibility study of community care internet site and other means of information sharing between agencies	A project team is developing this proposal, building on the establish of internet/intranet sites within the Council and exploring links with those being developed by partners
Develop an integrated public information strategy	A project team is taking this forward; joint information is currently being prepared for individuals and carers on leaving hospital.
Develop a joint training programme across agencies and carers	North Lanarkshire Council has set aside monies for training carers; Health are exploring the possibility of funding a seconded co-ordinator post to give this added impetus.
Improve access to household equipment and home adaptations	The North Lanarkshire joint officer/member working group on equipment and adaptations is expected to report in Autumn 2000. Health are full partners in this process. A view from South Lanarkshire on the possibilities of pan-Lanarkshire co-operation has been sought.
Implement a single assessment process and care record across agencies	This approach has been adopted as part of the Intensive Home Scheme based at Merrystone and will be used to inform future development.
Create opportunities for local joint initiatives	Proposals received from Area Teams/Local Health Care Co-operatives. See para 3.2
Develop a strategy for provision of flexible respite care services	This is being addressed as part of the Carers Strategy, separately reported to Committee.
Determine arrangements for locality planning and service delivery	A starter paper has been adopted within South Lanarkshire.