

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: RESOURCES FOR COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES
FROM: Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 21 November 2000	
REPORT AUTHOR: M Fegan	
REF: MF/JM	

1 PURPOSE AND CONTENT OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Committee of the outcome of the Council's submission to the Scottish Executive in respect of additional funding for Community Care Services to help alleviate possible winter pressures on Health Services and to advise Committee of the implementation arrangements for the proposed services.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Social Work Committee of the 3rd October 2000 was advised of additional funding in this financial year to Local Authorities to help alleviate winter pressures on Health Services (*See attached*).
- 2.2 Committee was advised that North Lanarkshire's proposed share of the new funding totalled £606,163 subject to the proposals being accepted by the Scottish Executive (*See attached*).
- 2.3 The proposals submitted to the Scottish Executive were based on information that the funding was not confirmed as recurring and required to be spent by 31st March 2001. The proposals included:
- funding an additional 40 residential/nursing home placements
 - the automatic provision of community alarms to all people over 80 who live alone
 - funding to help establish "early response teams"

3 AWARD OF FUNDING

- 3.1 On 4th October 2000 the Scottish Executive advised the Director of Social Work by letter that the Council had been successful in its bid for the additional resources and is eligible to receive £606,163. The funding will be recurring for 2001-2002 and following years.

- 3.2 In view of the now recurring nature of the funding, revised proposals will require to be submitted to the Scottish Executive following consultation with key partners. The revised proposals will be the subject of a further report to Committee.
- 3.3 The current year additional funding will be included in the Department's revenue budget in line with the spending proposals approved by the Scottish Executive and the monies from next year will be dealt with as part of the 2001/02 budgetary process.

4. PROGRESS OF PROPOSALS

- 4.1 In partnership with Lanarkshire Health Board, the two Trusts and South Lanarkshire Council, officers of the Social Work Department have been progressing two major proposals these are the funding of an additional forty residential and nursing home placements and the creation of "early response teams".
- 4.2 Work is currently underway to prioritise the additional forty individuals who have been addressed in the past as requiring residential or nursing home placements and who are currently "blocking" hospital beds.
- 4.3 The releasing of acute hospital or rehabilitation beds is viewed as a priority across Lanarkshire in addressing possible winter pressures. At least two of the Acute Hospitals in Lanarkshire have been close to closing the hospital to new admissions because of bed difficulties.
- 4.4 With the availability of additional funding it is important that transfer to their proper care placement as quickly as possible at the same time freeing hospital beds. This may require some individuals to transfer to another placement, whilst awaiting their home of first choice. Social Work and Health staff will assist individuals select a home.
- 4.5 The Health Service will consider opening up some additional temporary hospital beds in long stay hospitals if required to address winter pressures.
- 4.6 Work is underway to establish two "early response teams" attached to both Law and Monklands Hospitals. The teams are multi-disciplinary in nature and will focus both on facilitating early supported discharge and avoidance of hospital admissions.

4.7 The remainder of the proposals submitted to Committee on 3rd October 2000 are being progressed.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

Committee is asked to:

- (i) note the contents of the report.
- (ii) request the Director of Social to provide a further report to Committee advising of the revised proposals to the Scottish Executive in view of the recurring nature of the funding.
- (iii) request the Director of Social Work to provide an evaluation report on the use of the monies to Committee at the end of the financial year, 31st March 2001.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
24 October 2000

*For further information on this report please contact M Fegan, Head of Social Work Services
(TEL: 01698 332001)*

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: RESOURCES FOR COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES
FROM: Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 3 October 2000	
REPORT AUTHOR: M Fegan	
REF: MF/JM	

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise committee of the availability of additional funding from the Scottish Executive to Local Authorities during this financial year, primarily to tackle problems arising from delays to the discharge of patients from hospital. The report explains the intended purpose of the additional funding, the arrangements for its distribution, and the action plan which has been developed to use the money by 31 March 2001. Local Authority proposals required to be submitted to the Scottish Executive by 15th September 2000.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Scottish Executive has identified as a priority for Health Services and Local Authorities the need to prepare for winter pressure on Health Services, in particular acute hospital beds by addressing at an early stage the problems which arise from delays to the discharge of patients from hospital.
- 2.2 To assist/address these difficulties, the Scottish Executive has provided additional funding to Health Boards and Local Authorities.
- 2.3 The amounts available to each Local Authority, on receipt of satisfactory proposals, have been determined on the basis of applying the GAE distribution formulae for Community Care (the initial allocation) and in respect of North Lanarkshire totals £606,163. At the present time, the additional financial resources which are being made available are only for the current financial year and any proposals submitted to the Scottish Executive by the Council will require to take account of this.

2.4 North Lanarkshire Action Plan.

A group comprising representatives from the Acute and Primary Care Trusts, Lanarkshire Health Board and North and South Lanarkshire Councils met to consider available information in relation to the cause of, and problems arising from delays to the discharge of patients from hospitals as well as considering recommendations to address the matter.

2.5 Five key areas were identified which would address:

- reducing the delays of discharge of patients from hospital
- facilitating the early discharge of those patients who are admitted to hospital
- avoidance of hospital admission

2.6 The areas which were agreed as requiring to be addressed in both the short term, medium term and long term included the following:

- reducing the number of people whose discharge from hospital is currently delayed
- early supported discharge
- extended rehabilitation
- intensive home support
- the avoidance of admission to hospital

2.7 The proposals for the use of the additional monies by North Lanarkshire are consistent with the recommendations of the working group. The proposals are also consistent with the Council's Joint Community Care Plan and the Scottish Executive document (Modernising Community Care An Action Plan) which was presented to an earlier Committee.

2.8 The action plan includes:

- funding an additional 40 residential/nursing home placements from a mix of acute and primary care hospital beds
- provision of community alarms for all people 80 years plus who live alone
- additional mobile warden cover for the community alarm service
- fund core social work staffing of early response teams to be allocated within the two acute hospitals settings, this will include additional home care provision, additional OT technician availability, an additional equipment budget and shared multidisciplinary assessments

2.9 As required by the offer of funding, the proposals have been agreed with the General Manager Lanarkshire Health Board and the Chief Executives of the Primary and Acute Trusts.

- 2.10 The cost of the proposals are in line with the additional funding of £606,163 which is being made available to the Council by the Scottish Executive.
- 2.11 The funding will only be made available subject to receipt of satisfactory proposals being submitted to the Scottish Executive.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Committee is asked to note the contents of the report.
- 3.2 Request the Director of Social Work to provide an evaluation report on the use of the monies at the end of the period of funding, 31st March 2001, subject to the funding being made available by the Scottish Executive.

Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
21 September 2000

*For further information on this report please contact M Fegan, Head of Social Work Services
(TEL: 01698 332001)*



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

Health Department
Directorate of Strategy and
Performance Management

Community Care Division
James Craig Walk
Edinburgh EH1 3BA

Mr Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
North Lanarkshire Council
Scott House
77 Merry Street
MOTHERWELL
ML1 1JE

Telephone: 0131-244 3748
Fax: 0131-244 5315
Neil.Hastie@scotland.gov.uk

RECEIVED BY

20 OCT 2000

DIRECTOR OF
SOCIAL WORK

Our ref: ATC/4/107/4

Date: 4 October 2000

Dear Mr Dickie

RESOURCES FOR COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES

I refer to David Bruce's letter of 14 July explaining the purpose and arrangements for the distribution of the additional £10 million being made available to local authorities this financial year, primarily to tackle problems arising from delays to the discharge of patients from hospital.

We have now considered your proposals for the use of the additional resources and I am pleased to confirm that, based on the statement received, North Lanarkshire Council is eligible to receive £606,163. I can also confirm that the £10 million additional resources will be recurring for 2001-02 and following years. If, in the light of this information, your council with its Health partners wishes to revise its intended use of the resources please provide us with a notification of any changed use of the current year's resources.

The monies will be included in the March 2000 payment as a redetermination of your Revenue Support Grant. Prior to issuing the monies we will require confirmation in mid-January that the proposal (or revise) outlined has, in fact, been successfully acted upon. Any changes made to the proposal (or notified revise) will be considered and if not found to be satisfactory there may be some adjustment to your Council's allocation.

I am copying this letter to the named health staff involved in agreeing your proposals.

Yours sincerely

NEIL MCALPINE HASTIE