

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN 2001 - 2004: CONSULTATION DRAFT
FROM: Jim Dickie, Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 24 May 2001	
REPORT AUTHOR: Karen Malone	
REF: JD/KM	

1 CONTENT AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek committee approval for the Consultation Draft of the Joint Community Care Plan 2001-2004.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The first Joint Community Care Plan for North Lanarkshire was published in 1998 and covered a three year period till 2001. The Plan is a requirement of community care legislation.

2.2 *An* annual report is published each year to monitor the progress made towards fulfilling the commitments contained within the Plan.

2.3 This is the draft of the second three year plan, covering the period 2001-2004.

3 JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN : 2001 - 2004

3.1 The Consultation Draft of the Joint Community Care Plan covers the period from 2001 - 2004. Social Work as the lead agency is responsible for co-ordinating the production of the Plan, which is a partnership effort involving the Health Boards and local **NHS** Trusts, Scottish Homes, Council Departments including Education, Housing and Community Services, the LCCF, which through its North Lanarkshire Steering Group represents people who require community care services, and a wide range of provider organisations engaged in the delivery of community care.

3.2 All elected members will receive a copy of the draft Plan.

3.3 The Plan informs members, council departments and staff, other providers of community care, voluntary organisations and the wider public of the proposed objectives over the three year period. The draft Plan reflects the framework set out in Modernising Community Care 1998.

- 3.4 For the production of this Community Care Plan, the Social Work (Planning and Administration) Committee approved a process of wide ranging consultation with service users and carers across the authority. The consultation process was led by the Lanarkshire Community Care Forum, supported by a member of staff seconded to the Department from Lanarkshire Primary Healthcare NHS Trust. The feedback from people who were consulted has been extremely positive, with a strong feeling that the Council was listening to the views of the people receiving services and their carers, and would be influenced by their views in producing the final Community Care Plan.
- 3.5 The numbers of users and carers consulted during this process has been in excess of **480 people**. This is a very significant improvement on previous consultation exercises on the Community Care Plan, and has greatly strengthened partnership working between the Council and the Lanarkshire Community Care Forum. The Department will be keen to have early discussions with the Forum to ensure that the momentum is sustained and developed for the future.
- 3.6 Consultation has also been carried out with staff and other partner agencies involved in the organisation and delivery of community care. In partnership with North Lanarkshire Social Work Department, Lanarkshire Community Care Forum have hosted 7 major and 5 smaller consultation events spread through-out the North Lanarkshire area.
- 3.7 The Consultation Draft of the Plan was submitted, for approval, to the Joint Planning Forum on the 9 May 2001. The timescale for consultation with all key stakeholders is an eight week period from May 2001 to July 2001.
- 3.8 The distribution list has been updated in an attempt to target users, carers and all the key stakeholders who have an input into community care.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Four thousand copies of the Draft Plan are being printed and distributed for consultation at a cost of £2,300. This can be met within the existing Departmental Community Care budget.

5 FEEDBACK AND RESPONSE TO DRAFT PLAN

- 5.1 A questionnaire on the form and content will accompany the draft Plan. A system will be established for recording the receipt of responses and ensuring that a considered reply is provided.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Committee is asked to:

- [a] note the Joint Planning Forum's approval to issue the draft Plan for consultation;
- [b] approve the expenditure associated with the consultation exercise as detailed in paragraph 4.1 of the report;
- [c]
 - [i] note that the outcome of the consultation will be reported in due course; and
 - [ii] a further report will be brought forward seeking the Committee's endorsement of the final plan.

K Somers

JD

Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
17 May 2001

For further information on this report please contact, K. Somers Head of Development (TEL: 01698 332010)