

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
REPORT

TO: Social Work Committee	Subject: Wishaw General Hospital - Migration Plan Update
FROM: Jim Dickie, Director of Social Work	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 24th May, 2001	
REPORT AUTHOR: Anne Marie Jeffrey, Senior Community Care Officer	
REF: JN/AMJ/HH	

1. PURPOSE AND CONTENT OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report updates Committee on plans for the opening of the new Wishaw General Hospital in May, 2001. The report also highlights the role which social work will play in ensuring that the migration plan between the new hospital and those units being replaced can be as seamless as possible.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Acute Services Strategy, published by Lanarkshire Health Board in 1995, proposed the provision of acute services within Lanarkshire through three acute hospitals and in 1998 approval was given to proceed with a major building programme to provide two new purpose built hospitals.
- 2.2 Lanarkshire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust will open two new purpose built general hospitals in 2001, the new Hairmyres Hospital and Wishaw General Hospital. The scale of the project is unique in the NHS in the UK and represents a significant improvement in hospital resources for the Trust and for the people of Lanarkshire.
- 2.3 Services commenced in March, 2001 at Hairmyres Hospital and Wishaw General Hospital becomes operational on 29 May 2001. Services will continue to be provided at Monklands Hospital.
- 2.4 A copy of key dates is attached as an appendix to this report.

3. THE MIGRATION PLAN

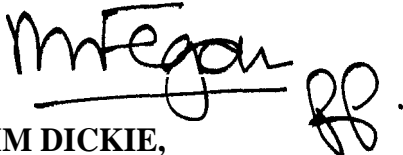
- 3.1 The primary purpose of the migration plan is to ensure the safe transfer of services to the new hospitals and the provision of care to patients during this period.

- 3.2 North Lanarkshire Council Social Work Department are working with the Acute and Primary Health Trusts to ensure that staff and resources are available during critical periods to facilitate appropriate discharge from hospital for those patients who require assistance to return to their own homes. During the period from 25th May, 2001 when Law Hospital closes and 29th May, 2001 when Wishaw General opens, social work services will be available throughout this period via Merrystone Care Base, Coatbridge and will provide assessment and access to home care services where this is required.
- 3.3 A social work team will be based within Wishaw General Hospital and will provide social work services to hospital inpatients. The team will comprise of staff currently working from both Law and Bellshill Maternity Hospitals. Arrangements for accommodating this team within the hospital are agreed and in place.
- 3.4 Law Hospital will be closed for four days, between 25 th May and 29th May to ensure that the migration process is carried out as swiftly and smoothly as possible. To ensure safe delivery of services during this period all hospital admissions will be received by Monklands and Hairmyres Hospitals.
- 3.5 The William Smellie Maternity Unit at Law will close on 19th May, 2001 and all in-patient maternity services will be provided from Bellshill Maternity until the Maternity Unit at Wishaw General opens on 4th June, 2001. Bellshill will then close on 9th June, 2001.
- 3.6 To assist the hospital to cope with the demands for service at this time, acute beds will require to be freed immediately before closure. Social work have an active role in monitoring discharge arrangements within the hospital and are providing resources to enable patients assessed as requiring alternative long term care provision to transfer to appropriate placements without unnecessary delay.
- 3.7 To assist in the process of appropriately freeing hospital beds the early supported discharge teams at the Law and Monklands Hospital catchment areas will assess and provide service to a range of mainly elderly inpatients who with assistance and support can return to their own homes earlier. The early supported discharge teams will have direct access to home care services and additional funding has been provided to ensure that appropriate occupational therapy equipment can be made available.
- 3.8 Social work staff have been engaged in joint work with Lanarkshire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust to ensure that the migration process runs smoothly. Officers from social work are involved in supporting the Trust and in addressing issues identified above.
- 3.9 A visit to the new Wishaw General Hospital was arranged recently for local members in order to acquaint members with the facilities being provided from this new health resource.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 Committee is asked to -

- note the contents of this report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Dickie', with a horizontal line underneath the name and a small flourish to the right.

**JIM DICKIE,
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK
APRIL, 2001**

(For further information contact Anne Mane Jeffrey, Senior Community Care Officer - Telephone 01698 332030)

APPENDIX

Wishaw General Hospital - Migration Plan Update

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Tuesday, 1st February, 2001	Closure of Stonehouse A & E
Monday, 14th February, 2001	Transfer of Ophthalmology from Stonehouse Hospital to Hairmyres
Thursday, 1st March, 2001 - 7 am	Closure of Hairmyres A & E Close Hairmyres Hospital to emergency admissions. All admissions to Law/Monklands.
Sunday, 4th March, 2001 - 7 am	Open New Hairmyres A & E. Open New Hairmyres Hospital to emergency admissions.
Saturday, 19th May, 2001 - 7 am	Close Wm. Smellie Maternity unit to admissions - all admissions to Bellshill Maternity.
Friday, 25th May, 2001 - 7 am	Closure of Law A & E. Close Law Hospital to emergency admissions - All admissions to Hairmyres/Monklands.
Tuesday, 29th May, 2001 - 7 am	Open Wishaw A & E. Open Wishaw General to emergency admissions.
Monday, 4th June, 2001 - 7 am	Open Wishaw Maternity to emergency admissions. Open Psychiatric Unit at Wishaw General. Close Bellshill Maternity to admissions.
Saturday, 9th June, 2001	Close Bellshill Maternity Hospital.