

REPORT

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE	Subject: IMPLEMENTATION OF BUDGET PROPOSALS 2001/2002
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK	
Date: 23 August 2001      Ref: JD/JN	

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Social Work Committee of the outcome of the Best Value Review initiated by the Chief Executive in relation to certain proposals for implementation of growth items contained in the Social Work budget for 2001/2002.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Special Social Work Committee of 18 June 2001 considered a report setting out a range of proposals for implementation of the growth items contained in the Social Work Budget for 2001/2002. At that time, the Committee agreed to a proposal by the Chief Executive for a Best Value review of certain of these proposals (see appendix) to be led by the Head of Accounting Services, and supported by Senior Officers from Personnel Services and the Chief Executive's Department. It was noted that the review was to be completed within a four week period and would:

- (a) record existing structures;
- (b) identify and confirm current pressures and problems with existing service provision;
- (c) identify and confirm as soon as possible future service demands and pressures;
- (d) identify the options available to address items (b) and (c);
- (e) evaluate alternative options against current proposals for establishment changes.

- 2.2 The review was carried out in collaboration with Senior Officers designated by the Director of Social Work.

### 2.3 Review Outcome

The report has now been concluded and its recommendations considered by the Chief Executive and the Director of Social Work. The recommendations of the review are as follows:

- Of the 29 posts considered, 24 have been supported for immediate implementation. These posts are noted in the appendix to this report;
- Arrangements are now in place for moving to establish these posts;
- The remaining 5 posts included in the review are identified in the appendix to the report. These posts will be subject to further consideration at an appropriate point.

- 2.4 The accrued revenue which has resulted as a consequence of the Best Value review in the current year will be applied in reducing the waiting list for assessed need for equipment for people with mobility problems.

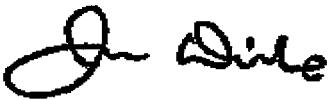
### 3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1. The outcome of the Best Value review confirms the requirement for a substantial majority of the proposed posts and the importance of them being established in order to enable delivery on the Social Work Department and the Council's obligations in critical development areas. The outstanding posts will be subject to further review based on operational experience and will be the subject of further reports after the end of this financial year.

### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1. The committee is asked to:

- (a) note the decision of the Director of Social Work and Chief Executive to implement the posts in column (B) of the appendix;
- (b) to note that the posts not supported by the Best Value review will be subject to further review based on operational experience and reported as appropriate to committee;
- (c) to remit this report to the Policy and Resources (Personnel) Sub Committee for information;
- (d) to approve the application of the revenue slippage in relation to these posts to the reduction of the waiting list for equipment.



**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**15 August 2001**

*For further information on this report please contact Jim Dickie, Director of Social Work  
TEL: (01698 332027)*

**SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT : BUDGET PROPOSALS 2001/2002 – BEST VALUE REVIEW**

**APPENDIX**

NO.	SECTOR	(A)	(B)	(C)
		POSTS PROPOSED	POSTS APPROVED	POSTS TO BE CONSIDERED FURTHER
1.	Drug Rehabilitation	Housing Support Workers : AP4 x 4	Yes	
2.	Reception Screening	Senior Admin Officer : AP5 x 1	No	Yes
3.	Regulation of Care Standards	Training Officer : PO2 x 1 Residential Workers RW12/16 x 5.85 Senior Admin Officer : AP5 x 1	Yes Yes No	Yes
4.	Information Technology Support	Admin Officers : AP3 x 6	3	3
5.	Hospital Discharge Team	Development Officers : PO2 x 2	Yes	
6.	Supported Employment Service	Regrading Manager ECHO Project : PO5 – PO8  Senior Officer Supported Employment : PO2 x 1  Job Coaches : RW16 x 2	Yes  Yes  Yes	
7.	Home Support HQ Team	Service Co-ordinator : PO5 x 1  Senior Officer Home Support : PO2 x 1  Clerical Assistants : GS1/2 x 2	Yes  Yes  Yes	