

TO: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE	Subject: A Home for the Future – Implementation Plan
FROM: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK	
DATE OF COMMITTEE: 25 th October 2001	
REF: JN/HH	

1. CONTENT AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. This report updates Committee on the implementation plan regarding “A Home for the Future”. The report advises of progress in the implementation of those recommendations contained within the original report and approved by Committee in November, 2000.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Homes for the Future Working Group was established following a report to Social Work Committee in October, 1999. The report outlined a need for a major review of the Council’s own residential provision in view of forthcoming changes in registration standards, deterioration of buildings, a need for a best value perspective and the impending introduction of external scrutiny through the new Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care.

3. THE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – PROGRESS TO DATE

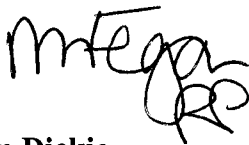
- 3.1. An updated Implementation Plan is attached to this report as an Appendix. The plan identifies separately each of the recommendations contained in the final report, indicates action taken to date and identifies further action required. The plan also identifies a lead officer for each outstanding issue and proposes a timescale for implementation of each recommendation.
- 3.2. Since the last report to Committee in May, 2001 further progress has been made in a number of areas.
- 3.2.1 Regarding the maintenance of local authority homes, a programme of work has been agreed and is being implemented in partnership with Design Services, the contractors involved and Unit Managers within the establishments. This work programme will deal with essential maintenance requirements Health and Safety imperatives and improvements identified in reports from the Inspection Unit. It is expected that expenditure on these items, included in the Capital Programme, will be around £400,000 this year.
- 3.2.2 Arrangements for review of management services within residential homes are almost completed and it is anticipated that proposals will be presented to Committee in the very near future.
- 3.2.3 The inter-departmental group, led by Housing to take forward the key issues in developing sheltered/very sheltered housing is established and is meeting regularly. Senior officers from Housing and Social Work form the membership of this group. A number of very sheltered housing development proposals are being worked on including proposals in Cumbernauld and Motherwell. A housing needs survey is also underway and a condition report on existing sheltered housing is being prepared to identify units which are feasible for conversion to very sheltered provision.

3.2.4 The Assisted Living Development at Airbles Road is completed and allocation to vulnerable older people is in progress.

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1. Committee is asked to -

- note the contents of this report.
- ask the Director of Social Work to present further reports to Committee in due course.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
September 2001

*For further information on this report please contact Jim Nisbet, Manager, Older Peoples Services
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**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT
A HOME FOR THE FUTURE - IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

DECISION	ACTION REQUIRED/TAKEN	LEAD OFFICER	TARGET DATES
1. A regular consultative forum be established between older people and Council Services/ Elected Member Representation.	a) Development of inter-departmental forum still to be concluded. b) Elected member representation to be identified. c) Older People's representatives identified.	Manager, Community Care (Older People)	a) Dec 2001 b) Oct 2001 c) Concluded
2. The Council should continue to be a major provider of residential services for older people.	Approved by Social Work Committee November 2000	N/A	Concluded
3. Local authority homes should be maintained to an acceptable standard	a) Programme of refurbishment carried out in all ten homes at cost of £200,000 b) Further programme of essential Health & Safety measures and Inspection Unit recommendations is underway.	Head of Resources/Manager Community Care Older People	a) Concluded b) Phase 1 March 2002 Phase 2 March 2003
4. Management structure in residential homes to be reviewed.	Review complete. Will report to Committee following consultation with Trade Unions.	Manager, Resources and Information	Review complete. Report to Dec Committee, subject to discussion with Trade Unions.
5. Basic grade and senior staff numbers/hours in each home should reflect the current staffing template.	Staffing in each home has been reviewed and re-modelled to fit the approved template.	Manager, Resources and Information	Concluded
6. The cost of catering in each home should be realigned with that of a nationally recognised benchmark.	Work ongoing to renegotiate service level agreement with catering services and establish a catering service based on a national benchmark, ensuring variety, choice, quality and nutrition are not compromised.	Head of Resources	End of Financial Year
7. The proportion of single to shared rooms in residential homes to be regularly reviewed.	Careful scrutiny of comparative benchmarking information from the Scottish Executive will allow a review at least annually and a comparison with other authorities and with the independent sector.	Manager, Community Care (Older People)	Ongoing and Annual.

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8. Flexible Home Care should be expanded at evenings weekends. The Director of Social Work to introduce targets	Out of Hours Home Care has increased from 1700 contracts per week to over 8000 contracts per week in the last 2-3 years. This significantly exceeds the target set in the 2000/2003 Service Plan which sought a 10% increase year on year. Further targets of 10% annual increase in out of hours home care are being implemented	Service Manager, Homecare Operational Managers	Annual Review March 2002
9. The number of service users receiving 20+ hours of home care per week should grow. Targets should be established for service growth.	A target of 10% growth per annum in 20+hours cases has been established. This is to be monitored at Area Team and Headquarters levels. At present there are 160 people receiving 20+hours home care per week. This should grow to at least 214 cases by March 2004	Service Manager, Homecare Operational Managers	Annual Review March 2002 Monitoring Ongoing
10. The Director or Social Work should establish the feasibility and cost implementations of providing community alarms on request to older people living alone, prioritising the oldest first.	Target set to provide Alarms to all people over 75 years and living alone, on request is being met on an ongoing basis	Manager, Community Care (Older People)	Ongoing. This timescale has been revised to reflect the ongoing nature of referrals.
11. Consideration should be given to the expansion of daycare services.	a) Review of Day Care concluded and Action Plan approved. b) Sir John Mann Day Centre due to open imminently. c) Stewarton House (Wishaw) increased from 5 to 6 days per week service. d) Further expansion of Centres will take place during this financial year.	Manager, Community Care (OLDER PEOPLE) Operational Managers Central and South	a) Concluded b) November 2001 c) Concluded d) March 2002

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<p>12. Significant development of very sheltered housing provision and adaptation of existing sheltered housing is essential and central to the development of services for older people. There is a need to establish a partnership forum to take forward the key issues.</p>	<p>Partnership work has begun on an Assisted Living Development in Airbles Road Motherwell. This will create 30 varying needs housing units and will augment provision presently under resourced in this area.</p>	<p>Housing Development Manager Manager Community Care (Older People)</p>	<p>Completed</p>
	<p>Further plans to convert 9 units of an existing Sheltered Housing Complex to very sheltered standards are underway. This development, managed by Kirk Care in Motherwell, will provide the type of development endorsed by the Council in "A Home for the Future".</p>	<p>Housing Development Manager Kirk Care Housing Association Senior Community Care Officer Area Manager Motherwell</p>	<p>October 2001</p>
	<p>A partnership group involving senior officers from Housing and Social Work has been to be established to take forward the key issues in developing sheltered housing provision. Developments being considered at Cumbernauld and Motherwell</p>	<p>Manager Community Care (Older People)</p>	<p>Group established June 2001</p>
	<p>Feasibility studies ongoing into conversion of sheltered housing and client need</p>	<p>Housing Development Manager</p>	<p>Report to Committee Dec 2001</p>