

REPORT

TO: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE	Subject: A HOME FOR THE FUTURE - IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
FROM: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK	
DATE: 20 TH DECEMBER 2001 REF: JN/TJC	

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 October, 2001 further progress has been made in a number of areas.
- 3.2.1. Work continues apace in local authority homes for older people through an agreed maintenance and refurbishment programme. Tenders are in progress for essential roofworks, mechanical and electrical works in a number of homes. This meets the Action Plan target of maintaining all homes to an acceptable standard.
- 3.2.2. In relation to housing for older people, the joint Housing/Social Work Group meets regularly and is progressing a range of issues. One important area of development is work on a common assessment tool to more effectively target sheltered and very sheltered housing to those most in need.
- 3.2.3. The Kerr Grieve Court Assisted Living Development will be formally opened on 21st November, providing an additional 30 housing with support places for frail and vulnerable older people.
- 3.2.4. Work to convert 9 sheltered housing units to "very sheltered" standard in Kirk Care's Camp Court development is almost completed with a planned implementation date of January 2002.
- 3.2.5. A report, seeking to purchase an additional 1250 Community Alarms, is being presented to this Committee cycle. This will increase the Community Alarms capacity to over 7000, doubling the capacity of the service from this time last year and making Community Alarms available to all those aged 75 and over on request.

3.2.6. The review of the management structure in residential homes for older people has now been concluded. Arrangements are now in hand for a period of consultation with the Trade Unions. Following this, a report will be presented to Committee seeking approval to implement the review.

3.2.7. With the opening of Sir John Mann Day Centre imminent, all six of the larger townships in North Lanarkshire now have access to Council run day care provision for older people. Progress is now being made to expand service availability in all of these centres to allow seven days per week and some evening opening.

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
November, 2001

*For further information on this report please contact Jim Nisbet, Manager, Older Peoples Services
(TEL: 01698 332031)*

**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 represented 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 concluded and proposals are now subject to discussion 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.

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT
A HOME FOR THE FUTURE - IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

DECISION	ACTION REQUIRED/TAKEN	LEAD OFFICER	TARGET DATES
<p>8. Flexible Home Care should be expanded at evenings weekends. The Director of Social Work to introduce targets</p>	<p>Out of Hours Home Care has increased from 1700 contacts 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</p>	<p>Service Manager, Homecare Operational Managers</p>	<p>Annual Review March 2002</p>
<p>9. The number of service users receiving 20+ hours of home care per week should grow. Targets should be established for service growth.</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Service Manager, Homecare Operational Managers</p>	<p>Annual Review March 2002 Monitoring</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Target set to provide Alarms to all people over 75 years and living alone, on request is being met on an ongoing basis.</p>	<p>Manager, Community Care (Older People)</p>	<p>This timescale has been revised to reflect the ongoing nature of referrals.</p>
<p>11. Consideration should be given to the expansion of daycare services.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Manager, Community Care (OLDER PEOPLE) Operational Managers Central and South</p>	<p>a) Concluded b) November 2001 c) Concluded d) March 2002</p>

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT
A HOME FOR THE FUTURE - IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

DECISION	ACTION REQUIRED/TAKEN	LEAD OFFICER	TARGET DATES
<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>