

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE	Subject: SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS	
From: JIM DICKIE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 22 AUGUST 2002	Ref: RP/AB	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 To advise members on the background to the Service Development Reports being presented to Committee in the current cycle. (reports 14 (a) – 14(i))

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Members will recollect that the Department received £10,286,000 additional resources for the current year for Service Improvements.

These resources were to develop, expand and fund services in response to National Agendas such as Free Personal and Nursing Care, Supporting People and Shifting the Balance of Care etc.

In addition to the above resources provided as part of the budget setting process the Council has subsequently secured resources from the Scottish Executive amounting to £1,747,000 from the Changing Children's Services Fund and the Department has secured additional resources from NHS Lanarkshire to deal with Winter Pressures and bed blocking.

3. PROPOSALS / CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Department is actively engaged in developing services in response to the above agendas and the following reports bring forward proposals covering the areas outlined below:

Report 14 a) Service Development Proposals – Home Support Service

The Home Support Service in the current year will have doubled in size compared to the service inherited at local government re-organisation. The proposals contained in the report seek to redress deficiencies in the home support infrastructure to ensure a safe and efficient service is provided.

Report 14 b) Home Support Services Infrastructure and Management Support – Trip Mechanism

The scale of the home care service is rapidly expanding in response to changing patterns of service and additional resources available. It is important that the management of the service expands in parallel with increases in the level of service being provided and this report seeks approval for a trip mechanism which would identify when the number of Home Support Managers requires to be increased.

Report 14 c) Service Developments – Changing Children’s Services Fund

The Scottish Executive has established a Changing Children’s Services Fund to act as a catalyst for change. The aim of the fund is to support integrated services and new approaches targeted towards the most vulnerable children and young people.

The report outlines the proposals contained within the successful bid made to the Scottish Executive.

Report 14 d) Service Developments for People with Physical Disabilities

North Lanarkshire is an area with high levels of limiting long term illness within the population.

Occupational Therapy Services have for many years been under pressure to meet the needs of the population and the proposals in the report seek to augment the current level of service.

Report 14 e) Implementation of Social Work Priorities 2002 – Delayed Discharge Action Plans

Additional resources have been provided by NHS Lanarkshire to create posts specifically to address the problem of bed blocking in hospitals.

Report 14 f) Social Work Development – Infrastructure for Resources

The Department has reviewed the infrastructure in the Personnel, Finance, Training and Administration functions and the report proposes additional posts necessary to meet the demands of the growth in services within the Department.

Report 14 g) Older Peoples Services: Post of Senior Officer Older People

The report recognises the increasing numbers of people within the community suffering from Dementia and creates a post for someone to specialise in this area.

Report 14 h) Community Connections for People with Disabilities

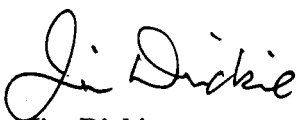
The report seeks approval to create part-time temporary posts as part of a successful bid to the Better neighbourhood Services Fund. The aim is to promote social inclusion for people with learning disabilities in North Airdrie and South Wishaw.

Report 14 i) Service Development: Reconfiguration and Restructure of Children and Families Throughcare Services

This report advises of the new duties for the Council coming from the Regulation of Care Act 2001 and to seek approval for the subsequent reconfiguration and restructure of the Social Work Children and Families Throughcare Service.

4. RECOMMENDATION

Committee is invited to note the scope of the Development agenda and to consider the detailed reports 14 a) – 14 i).



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
14 August 2002

For further information on this report please contact R Paul, Head of Social Work Resources, TEL: (01698 332023)

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