

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: MEMBER / OFFICER REVIEW OF DAY OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES: PROGRESS REPORT
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 5 th June, 2003	Ref: ST/LMcK	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. To advise Committee of progress in implementing the recommendations of the Member / Officer Review of Day Opportunities for People with Learning Disabilities.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. In May 2001, Committee approved the establishment of a Member / Officer Review of Day Opportunities for People with Learning Disabilities. The reasons for the review reflected the following:

- An increasing recognition that traditional day centres are not flexible in meeting individual needs and are not designed to support people with high support needs.
- Dissatisfaction expressed by people with learning disabilities and their carers about the quality and design of existing services.
- Increased expectations of younger families / carers about how young people should be supported on leaving school.
- A national policy shift that encourages more inclusive and flexible ways of supporting people with learning disabilities, through for example, Supported Employment.

- 2.2 On 27th February 2003, Committee approved the recommendations of the Member / Officer Review Group. A vision for the future of day opportunities, and specific action plans were developed in respect of:

- Supported Employment
- Accommodation with support
- Transition planning for young people with disabilities
- Day Centres (both local authority and independent sector)
- Health Care
- Lifelong Learning

3. PROPOSALS / CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 Implementation Arrangements

3.1.1. A range of mechanisms are currently in place to progress the implementation of the recommendations specific to supported employment (the Supported Employment Partnership Group), accommodation with support and health care (the North Lanarkshire Learning Disability Strategy Implementation Group).

3.1.2. In respect of recommendations specific to day centres and further education, the implementation arrangements consist of :

- **An authority wide implementation group:**

This group will oversee the implementation of the Member / Officer Review Group recommendations in a consistent way. It will address a wide range of issues including human resources and will establish a performance framework. The group will comprise of representation from Service Users, Carers, Social Work, Community Services, Personnel, Trade Unions, Health and Further Education.

- **Local Implementation Groups:**

These groups will be established in five local areas and have responsibility for the implementation of the review at a local, operational level. Membership will consist of Service Users, Carers, Social Work, Health and other agencies as required.


3.2. Progress

Since the approval of the Member / Officer Review Report in February 2003, the following progress has been made:

- The review report has been circulated widely.
- Arrangements are currently underway to make the report available in an accessible format.
- Briefings and presentations have taken place with Service Users, Carers, Staff and other agencies.
- Meetings have taken place with Locality Managers (Day Opportunities) to ensure their involvement in the change process.
- Invitations have been extended to individuals / organisations to seek their participation in the authority-wide implementation group.
- Work is taking place with staff from Community Services to audit existing mainstream physical resources, with a view to maximising use of community facilities and promote social inclusion.
- Initial preparatory work is underway in identifying the nature of tasks and roles / responsibilities in developing Person Centred Support arrangements.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1. Committee is asked to:

 (i) note the contents of this report

Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
30th April 2003

For further information on this report please contact Susan Taylor, Manager, Community Care, Adult Services, TEL: (01698 332177)

Member-Officer Review of Day Opps for People with LD(Progress Report)(