

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: SOCIAL WORK ESTABLISHMENT - RENAL UNIT AT MONKLANDS GENERAL HOSPITAL
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 30 OCTOBER 2003	Ref: MF/AB	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to seek approval for the creation of a part time post of Social Worker at the Renal Unit, Monklands General Hospital.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Lanarkshire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust manages the operation of Monklands District General Hospital.
- 2.2. Social Work Services within the Hospital are provided by North Lanarkshire Council with administrative support provided by the Acute Hospitals NHS Trust.
- 2.3. Since the early 1990's, the renal unit at Monklands Hospital has developed and expanded almost threefold. The renal unit at Monklands Hospital now provides a service for the whole of Lanarkshire, with an estimated catchment population of 570,000.

3. PROPOSALS / CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1. The demand for social work support to patients and their families who suffer from acute renal failure or chronic renal failure has increased, to the extent that existing arrangements are considered insufficient.
- 3.2. To meet the increasing demand for social work support, the Lanarkshire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust has agreed to fund the appointment of a 17.5 hours part time post of Social Worker, Grade QSW to support patients and their families.
- 3.3. The post will be part of the hospital social work team in terms of line management and ongoing professional development.
- 3.4. Funding of the additional post by the Acute Trust recognises the important contribution made by social work to individuals and their families who experience life changing / threatening illnesses.

4. FINANCIAL / PERSONNEL / LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS

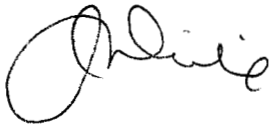
- 4.1. The establishment of the part time Social Worker post (17.5 hours) will be added to the Social Work establishment.

- 4.2. The full costs of the post will be met by the Lanarkshire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust.
- 4.3. The creation of the post will enable the Council and the Acute Trust achieve both Council and Executive Policy Objectives.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Committee is asked to:

- (i) Approve the establishment of a part time social worker post (17.5 hours), Grade QSW within the social work establishment at Monklands General Hospital.
- (ii) Remit this report to Policy and Resources (Personnel) Sub Committee for consideration.



Jim Dickie
Director of Social Work
7 October 2003

For further information on this report please contact M Fegan, Head of Social Work Services TEL:(01698 332001)