

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: MEMBER/OFFICER REVIEW OF DAY OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES: PROGRESS REPORT
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2003	Ref: CJ/	

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT / INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. To update Committee of progress in implementing the recommendations of the Member/Officer Review of Day Opportunities for People with Learning Disabilities with specific reference to Day Centres and Lifelong Learning.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Report and recommendations of the Member / Officer Review of Day Opportunities for People with Learning Disabilities were approved by Social Work Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2003.
- 2.2. Implementation arrangements in respect of Day Centres and Lifelong Learning were remitted to an authority wide Day Opportunities Implementation Group to provide strategic direction to the modernisation programme for learning disability day services.
- 2.3. Progress reports have been provided for each Social Work Committee since February 2003 and this report seeks to provide a further update on the progress of implementation arrangements.

## 3. PROPOSALS / CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1. The Day Opportunities Implementation Group meets six weekly and a range of tasks is being progressed to reflect the broad agenda of change in modernising day services. Tasks include:
  - Joint work with North Lanarkshire Council Community Services Department to create accessible community facilities. Work has commenced on the planning of modifications to two Community Centres; Pivot, Moodiesburn and Shotts. The planned work will ensure that people with a range of complex needs can use these local Community Centres.
  - It is envisaged that the design and specification of the work being carried out in these buildings will go beyond the minimum requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 thus providing a template for quality accessible community resources for future developments.

- Work has commenced on the upgrading and modernisation of two of the existing Day Centre buildings, Hallcraig Centre, Airdrie and Buchanan Street, Coatbridge. These resources will be developed into community bases with future multiple use/occupancy which will increase their value to the community, and decrease isolation for people with learning disabilities.
- The Implementation Group has considered several proposed options for a future model of service delivery. The model of person centred locality based support is considered the most appropriate to meet the needs of North Lanarkshire service users and carers. Further detailed work around this model is now being carried out.
- The auditing of community resources accessed by people with learning disabilities continues to be carried out in a locality basis. The information collated will enable existing services to progress community capacity building.
- Work is progressing on the profiling of people using services and their required support needs to enable appropriate service developments.

3.2 The planning and development of an appropriate model for Locality Groups is currently underway. The Locality Model recognises the unique characteristics of local communities whilst delivering services within a strategic framework. Discussions seeking agreement on membership, remit and responsibilities for the Locality Groups are progressing with key stakeholders.

#### **4. FINANCIAL / PERSONNEL / LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1. The work for the two Community Centres, Pivot, Moodiesburn and Shotts and the two Day Centres, Hallcraig, Airdrie and Buchanan Street, Coatbridge has costs set against capital spend monies for 2003/04 as previously agreed under the Modernisation of Day Services agenda.
- 4.2 It is anticipated that a future report to Committee will provide details of proposed reconfigured staffing arrangements.

#### **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

5.1. Committee is asked to:

- (i) note the contents of this report



**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**17<sup>th</sup> September 2003**

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