

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: MEMBER/OFFICER REVIEW OF DAY OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES : PROGRESS REPORT
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 15 JANUARY 2004	Ref: CJ/	

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, with specific reference to Day Centres and Lifelong Learning.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Report of the Member / Officer Review of Day Opportunities for People with Learning Disabilities was approved by Social Work Committee on 27th 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, comprising of representatives from service user and carer groups, social work sections and partner organisations, meets six weekly with a range of tasks being undertaken to reflect the broad agenda required to implement modernisation in day services. Work is progressing in each of the following areas:
- Joint work with North Lanarkshire Community Services Department to create accessible community facilities is underway. Work is progressing on the planned modifications to Shotts Community Centre and Pivot Centre, Moodiesburn to ensure that these facilities are accessible to all North Lanarkshire residents including those with complex needs.

- 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 further developments. Planning is in hand to progress joint work with Community Services to create further accessible community resources in other locations.
- 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.
- Person centred locality based support arrangements are being developed and detailed work is continuing on staffing and the service delivery model.
- The auditing of community resources continues to be carried out on a locality basis. This will help staff to consider the range of opportunities available to people with learning disabilities at a local level.
- Work is progressing on the profiling of people using services and their required support needs to enable appropriate service developments.
- Information sharing and awareness raising sessions with service users and social work staff have been organised within existing Day Centres. Planning is underway to develop a series of information sessions to involve carers and other stakeholders to enable the development of a shared vision and agenda.
- A summary document outlining the outcomes of the Member/Officer Review in a user friendly format has been prepared for distribution to service user and carer groups.
- Initial discussions are planned with transport services to enable full exploration of the range of transport services that will be required to support the implementation of the modernisation of day services on a locality basis.

4. FINANCIAL / PERSONNEL / LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The cost of the work at the Community Centres, Pivot, Moodiesburn and Shotts (£100,000) and the two Day Centres, Hallcraig, Airdrie (£117,500) and Buchanan Street, Coatbridge (£22,500) are being met by capital spend monies for 2003/04.
- 4.2 It is anticipated that a future report to Committee will provide details of proposed reconfigured staffing arrangements in light of the detailed work underway on staffing in the proposed service model.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Committee is asked to:

- (i) note the contents of this report



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Director of Social Work
20 November 2003

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