

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: MEMBER/OFFICER REVIEW OF DAY OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES: PROGRESS REPORT
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 28 OCTOBER 2004	Ref: CJ/MW	

### 1 Purpose of Report / Introduction

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 Social Work Committee approved the Report of the Member/Officer Review of Day Opportunities for People with Learning Disabilities in February 2003. This report set out a clear vision for day opportunities that were based on providing support and/or care to people with learning disabilities within local communities.
- 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 existing learning disability day services.
- 2.3 The Day Opportunities Implementation Group meets on a regular basis to receive progress reports and to provide key stakeholders and partners with a strategic overview of proposed work.
- 2.4 Progress reports have been provided for each Social Work Committee since February 2003. This report seeks to provide a further update on the progress of implementation arrangements.

### 3 Proposals/Considerations

- 3.1 A range of tasks continues to be undertaken to reflect the broad change agenda that is required to implement modernisation of existing day services. Work is progressing in each of the following areas:
  - Joint work with North Lanarkshire Community Services Department has continued into a second financial year. Work is now completed in community centres in Shotts and Moodiesburn to provide accessible community facilities which meet a range of needs in relation to the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

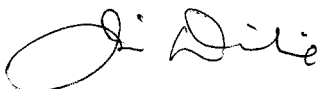
- Progress is being made towards developing a programme of work in 2004/05 to increase access in community facilities within Motherwell and Wishaw town centres. A planned upgrade and renovation of Tryst Sports Complex in Cumbernauld will also reflect the partnership approach between Social Work and Community Services. Access audits for libraries in Airdrie and Coatbridge have been undertaken with a view to working in partnership to provide better access for people with disabilities.
- Work on the auditing of community resources continues to be carried out on a locality basis. This is with specific reference to ensuring, leisure services and local facilities are able to be used by people with learning disabilities. The audit will enable staff to assist people currently using Day Centre buildings to consider the range of opportunities available to them. Locality Implementation Groups across the Authority are ensuring that a local focus is developed to the Authority wide strategic plans for services.
- Consideration is being given to the support systems currently available to staff and service users within day services to make these compatible with a newer, locality based model of support. This includes, financial structures, catering, transport and administrative support.
- Information sharing and awareness-raising with all key stakeholders continues to be a priority within the implementation agenda. An update report (attached as an appendix to this report) in an accessible format, highlighting progress to date, has been issued to all service users and their carers.

#### 4 Financial / Personnel / Legal / Policy Implications

- 4.1 In May 2004 Social Work Committee agreed the revised model of staffing required to implement the modernisation agenda. Policy and Resources (Personnel Sub) Committee subsequently approved these staffing proposals.
- 4.2 Considerable work has been undertaken to ensure that the appropriate model of staffing is in place for the implementation date for the redesigned staffing model of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2004. Matching Meetings and Competitive Matching Interviews have been held and will include staff from the two local authority learning disability residential units being modernised.
- 4.3 The work being undertaken in partnership with Community Services to provide access and facilities within buildings has resources allocated in the Social Work Capital Spend programme 2004/05 to the sum of £200,000.

#### 5 Recommendations

Committee is asked to note the contents of this report



**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**8 September 2004**

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