

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL**

**REPORT**

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: A HOME FOR THE FUTURE: PROGRESS REPORT
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 10 MARCH 2005	Ref: JN/TJC	

**1. Purpose of Report/Introduction**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update for Committee on the future of the Council's Care Homes for Older People, part of the agenda arising from the Member/Officer report "A Home for the Future".

**2. Background**

2.1. On 15<sup>th</sup> September 2004, Social Work Committee approved the report – "A Home for the Future: Next Steps". That report contained a number of recommendations relating to the Council's ten care homes for older people.

2.2. Specifically, the report approved:

- the retention of Chilterns and Herbison House as care homes;
- the retention of Monklands and Muirpark Homes, each with capacity reduced to 30 places;
- the cessation of admissions to Lochview and Meadowside House, with a view to subsequent closure of each home; and
- the deletion of posts associated with Lochview and Meadowside House.

2.3 The report also remitted the Director of Social Work to bring forward future reports on outstanding issues in due course.

**3. Progress**

3.1. There are now no residents remaining in Lochview and therefore approval is sought from Committee to formally close the Home and cancel the registration with the Care Commission.

3.2. For those staff in Lochview who have yet to agree options for the future, arrangements have been made for their temporary redeployment. This has been done in consultation with staff and in line with accepted normal practice.

3.3 At the time of writing, 5 residents remain in Meadowside. All of the others chose to transfer to other care home settings.

3.4 Staffing in Meadowside has reduced in line with the reduced number of residents and staff transfers have been managed as described in section 3.2 for Lochview staff.

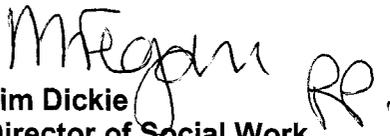
3.5 Transfer of residents to other establishments is being monitored and care-managed in order that a smooth and seamless transition of care takes place. Since Committee decided to cease admissions to both establishments on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2004, 60 residents have been assisted to transfer to placements of their choice and regular monitoring and review has assisted the process for the residents. Weekly reports on each of the residents are extremely positive and indicate that the transfers have generally been very successful.

#### 4. Outstanding Issues

- 4.1. Monklands and Muirpark Homes. The capacity of Monklands and Muirpark has been reduced to 30 in each establishment. The feasibility report on the cost of converting double rooms to single en-suite in Monklands and Muirpark will form the basis for a further report to Committee when completed.
- 4.2 Leslie House, Ochilview House and Belhaven House have all now achieved single room status, with capacity at 40, 40, and 37 places respectively. This meets the Care Commission standard for 2007 for existing homes but these establishments will continue to fall short of the standard for new homes (single rooms, en-suite) that is the Council's aspiration.
- 4.3 Burngreen Lodge in Kilsyth presents a different challenge in that conversion to single room status would render this home unviable.
- 4.4 The Director of Social Work will present further reports on each of these four homes, with firm proposals for their future, during the forthcoming financial year.

#### 5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Committee is asked to:
- (i) note the progress outlined in section 3 of this report
  - (ii) approve the closure of Lochview House with immediate effect
  - (iii) note the reduction in capacity in other care homes as outlined in sections 4.1 and 4.2 of this report
  - (iv) remit the Director of Social Work to bring forward further reports on outstanding matters outlined at Section 4 of this report; and
  - (v) otherwise note the contents of this report.

  
**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**24 February, 2005**

*For further information on this report please contact Jim Nisbet (Manager, Older People's Services) on telephone 01698-332031*