

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: ENABLE SCOTLAND SERVICES IN NORTH LANARKSHIRE
From: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK		
Date: 24 AUGUST 2006	Ref: MD/CQ	

## 1. Purpose of Report / Introduction

The purpose of this report is to advise Committee of progress made in developing the services of Enable Scotland and Enable Homes Cumbernauld in North Lanarkshire; and to seek approval to improve transport arrangements in the provision of day support.

## 2. Background

- 2.1. Enable Scotland is a national voluntary organisation from whom the department purchases support through the day and, more recently, supported living services. The supports through the day are co-ordinated and, for some people, provided from their base of Carisbrooke in Airdrie. Carisbrooke provides person centred supports to 20 adults with challenging and complex needs. All service users have a learning disability with additional needs including significant physical care and health care needs, such as tube feeding, the need for specialist wheelchairs and side lying equipment, little or no speech and behaviours that challenge.
- 2.2 Enable Scotland became a provider of supported living services in 2002 and are now successfully supporting 15 people with complex learning disability in the community. As with all the supported living providers, people supported live in their own home in the community and come from a variety of backgrounds including people who have lived in long term hospital care, school leavers, and people moving out of the family home.
- 2.3 In addition to the above Enable Scotland have been working with Enable Homes Cumbernauld to assist in a shift of service from residential care to supported living. Enable Homes Cumbernauld support 35 people with learning disabilities living within three residential establishments in the Cumbernauld Area. They are the last major service provider in North Lanarkshire yet to change this approach but are now moving to do so in line with the Council's strategy.

## 3. Proposals / Considerations

- 3.1. Work is underway to establish a common funding structure across all three areas of service. As the focus of all three elements of service provided currently strive to be person centred and flexible to individual needs, the benefit of ensuring seamless opportunities is significant, both in the practice of person centred approaches as well as the administration and management of such supports. This work will be concluded within the next few weeks and will be the subject to a future report to Committee.

3.2. In relation to the provision of support through the day at Carisbrooke a more pressing issue has arisen concerning the provision of appropriate transport arrangements. The current accommodation within the grounds of Airdrie Academy is not ideally suited to the provision of service. A shift to increasingly community based support ensures the service can offer far greater levels of satisfaction, choice and control for people using the service and increased flexibility for families who enjoy the respite provided by a service offering blocks of support in a day.

3.3 To this end the organisation have specified their requirements as three people carriers. The difference between the sum allocated for transport and the cost of purchase is £38,475. It is proposed to fund this non-recurring payment from within existing resources.

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

4.1. That a one off payment of £38,475 be made to Enable Scotland from existing resources.

#### **5. Recommendations**

5.1. Committee is asked to:

- i) Approve the one off payment of £38,475 to Enable Scotland for transport in respect of support through the day
- ii) Note that a further report will be made to a future committee on wider redesign work and;
- iii) Otherwise note the content of this report.



**Jim Dickie**  
**Director of Social Work**  
**31<sup>st</sup> July 2006**

*For further information on this report please contact Morag Dendy, Development Co-ordinator Tel: (01698 332075 )*