

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE : 23 MARCH 2006

JOINT INSPECTION OF LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES

Report by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Committee of arrangements for the forthcoming Joint Inspection of Learning Disability Services

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 East Ayrshire Council, the other two Ayrshire Local Authorities and NHS Ayrshire and Arran, have agreed to participate in the first pilot Joint Inspection of Learning Disability Services. A draft Inspection Information Leaflet is attached as appendix 1 to this report.
- 2.2 In Ayrshire services to people with learning disabilities and their carers are delivered through three Joint Future Partnerships based around the Local Authority (and now Community Health Partnership) areas. In East Ayrshire our partnership includes, service users, carers, Council services including Social Work, Education and Housing, together with the other statutory agencies of Health and Police. These statutory services are complimented by Independent Sector providers including Advocacy and Carers Services.
- 2.3 The previous arrangements for inspection have predominantly reported separately in respect of services, provided or purchased by Social Work, Education or Health.
- 2.4 It is increasingly being recognised that this model of inspection does not reflect the reality of close partnership working that is now becoming more evident in frontline services which provide support to people with learning disabilities and their carers.
- 2.5 As a consequence the under noted agencies will combine their efforts to pilot a joint inspection to ascertain if services help people with learning disabilities towards an improved quality of life:
- People First
 - Carers Scotland
 - Social Work Inspection Agency
 - NHS Quality Improvement Scotland
 - HM Inspectorate of Education
 - HM Inspectorate of Constabulary
 - The Care Commission

3. IMPLICATIONS FOR EAST AYRSHIRE

- 3.1 The inspection will be comprehensive in looking at services both to children and adults. It will cover people living at home, those in supported accommodation and people who are in hospital.
- 3.2 In advance discussion with the inspection team they have indicated they will be particularly interested to see how local agencies working in partnership are addressing Protection of Vulnerable adults, and services to young people in transition from school to adult life. This will include our response to the Follow Up Joint Inspection of Scottish Borders Council and NHS Borders "No fears as long as we work together". The implications of this particular report will be presented to Social Work Committee in May 2006.

4. THE INSPECTION PROCESS

- 4.1 The inspection will involve a number of key elements:-

Week Commencing	Task
20 th February 2006	Preliminary information was provided to the inspection team. This included lists of service users (anonymised), staff and services provided.
20 th March 2006	Questionnaires will be sent out to staff and family carers (about 500 across east Ayrshire).
20 th March 2006	Case files will be read to evaluate how effective our recording is of intervention with service users. The Scottish Consortium for Learning Disability in conjunction with Advocacy Services will begin to interview people with learning disabilities about their experiences of services. (About 30 people in each Partnership area).
20 th March 2006	3 Partnerships will be issued with self assessments to complete.
24 th April 2006	Partnerships will submit self assessments.
12 th -23 rd June 2006	Inspectors will be in Ayrshire and will carry out a wide range of visits and interviews. This will involve:- <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visits to services• Observed practice• Interviews with carers• Interviews with staff• Interviews with providers including advocacy and carers services• Interviews with Managers• Interviews with Elected Members / NHS Board
August 2006	Draft report sent to the 3 Partnerships.
September 2006	Final report published.

5. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None at this time.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 As this is a pilot inspection we will monitor costs incurred by the Council. We would anticipate this will predominantly be in relation to officer involvement and administrative support.

7. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Provision of high quality social work services to people with learning disabilities supports the Improving Health, Improving Opportunities and Eliminating Poverty themes of the Community Plan.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 Committee is asked to:

- (i) note the contents of the report.
- (ii) agree to receive future reports on the progress of the inspection.

John Mulgrew
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services
1 March 2006
Encs (1)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- (1) Same As You Scottish Executive Review of Services for People with Learning Disabilities 2000.
- (2) No Fears as Long as We Work Together October 2005 - Follow Up Joint Inspection of Scottish Borders Council and NHS Borders

For further information regarding this report please contact:
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IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: JACKIE DONNELLY

Pilot joint inspection of services for people with learning disabilities in Ayrshire. Information for people with learning disabilities, family carers and staff.



A team is coming to Ayrshire to check on how good services are for people with learning disabilities. Our team will include people with learning disabilities and family carers. Our team will include people from:

- **People First**
- **Carers Scotland**
- **Social Work Inspection Agency**
- **NHS Quality Improvement Scotland**
- **HM Inspectorate of Education**
- **HM Inspectorate of Constabulary**
- **The Care Commission**

We will be in Ayrshire from **12 June to 16 June 2006** and **19 June to 23 June**.



We will speak to lots of people with learning disabilities and carers.
We will also speak to staff and managers.

We will find out if people with learning disabilities and their families are getting a good service from:

- East Ayrshire Council
- North Ayrshire Council
- South Ayrshire Council
- NHS Ayrshire and Arran

We want to know if all the organisations are working together to make things better for people with learning disabilities and keep them safe.

We will find out if services help people with learning disabilities to get a good quality of life.

Before the visit



We will do a lot of work to get ready for the visit.

- We will read a lot about services for people with learning disabilities in Ayrshire.
- We will read some records for adults and children with learning disabilities.
- We will send a list of questions to some people with learning disabilities, family carers and staff to find out what they think.

We need to know what you think. You can help us by:

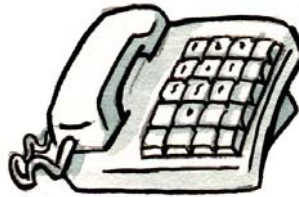
- Filling in questionnaires
- Meeting us when we are in Ayrshire

After the visit

We will publish a report after the visit. We will send our report to Ministers of the Scottish Government.

- We will say what is good about services for people with learning disabilities in Ayrshire
- We will say what could be better
- We will ask the 3 Ayrshire councils and NHS Ayrshire and Arran to write action plans that say what they will do to make our report recommendations happen.

Where to get more information



We have tried to make this leaflet short. You can get more information from:

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