

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE : 20 MAY 2004

DEVELOPMENT OF RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

Report by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update members of the development of services for people with learning disabilities currently living in local authority residential resources, namely Carrick View, Auchinleck, and Kerrmuir, Hurlford.
- 1.2 To seek approval to progress plans for modernisation of services.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 East Ayrshire Council currently operates two residential units for adults with learning disabilities. Carrick View in Auchinleck is home to ten adults while nine people live in Kerrmuir in Hurlford.
- 2.2 The "Same As You" review of services for people with learning disabilities identified the need for more person centred practices to be employed which would enable people to choose to live the way they wished as full members of the community.
- 2.3 Over recent years, outline plans have been made to potentially move people living in the existing residential units to individual tenancies in the community. Those plans were not actioned due to a range of issues including the need to further consider the views of residents, carers and families.

3. THE CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 The implementation of the Disability Discrimination Act in October 2004 and the Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001 pose considerable challenges to both units given their physical layout and facilities available. An initial appraisal has been undertaken which identifies significant levels of work required if the current buildings are to be brought up to standard.
- 3.2 In recognition of the need to be more person centred staff, in both establishments have been working with residents to identify where and how they would wish to live. To date a small number of people have indicated a desire to move from group living arrangements to individual tenancy based accommodation.
- 3.3 The introduction of 'SMART' technology has enabled residents to become more independent within the units and facilitates more individualised response.
- 3.4 The existing staffing establishment has Depute Unit Manager posts in both units which have been vacant for some time. This has enabled the temporary appointment of social care workers to work directly with residents and support their

access to the community and more individualised activities rather than being restricted to group activities.

- 3.5 Carers and service users have been fully involved in all discussions relating to potential service adjustments.

4. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS

- 4.1 As a large number of existing residents have stated they wish to continue living as a group a bid was submitted to the Social Work Capital Programme 2004/2005 seeking funding to upgrade or replace the existing facilities. This bid was successful and Table 1 below highlights the allocation.

TABLE 1 : Capital Allocation Breakdown

ITEM	2004/05	2005/6	2006/7
Care Homes - Adults	£0.200m	£0.200m	£0.200m

In the interim, funding was identified to upgrade Carrick View, Auchinleck due to immediate issues with the external windows and general maintenance of the building. It is therefore proposed that in partnership with service users and carers we explore alternative residential resources within the locality of the existing units i.e. Hurlford and Auchinleck.

- 4.2 The people who want to move from the residential units to individual tenancies will be supported to do so, meeting all identified needs and ensuring risks are addressed.
- 4.3 The existing staffing complement is incorporated within the proposals.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The current staffing budget covers the costs of providing social care workers in place of Depute Unit Managers, see table 2 below:

TABLE 2 :

POST	NUMBER	GRADE	MIDPOINT & EMPLOYERS COSTS AT 22.9%	TOTAL
DEPUTE UNIT MANAGER	2	RW 29-30	£30,712	£61,424
SOCIAL CARE WORKER	3	RW 12-16	£19,587	£58,761

- 5.2 Funding for the proposed developments has been identified within the Social Work Capital Programme 2004-05.
- 5.3 Funding of support packages for those individuals wishing to move to individual tenancies will be secured through Independent Living Fund, the benefits system and resources identified for care packages in the community.

6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The two Depute Unit Managers posts will be deleted from the establishment.
- 6.2 Three full time equivalent Social Care Worker posts will be added to the establishment across the units which will include working night shift in Kerrmuir specifically to meet Care Commission registration requirements.
- 6.3 The relevant trade unions have been consulted on these proposals and are supportive.

7. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 These developments will contribute towards the Council meeting its obligations under
 - (i) "The Same As You" review of services for people with a Learning Disabilities
 - (ii) The Disability Discrimination Act (October 2004)
 - (iii) The Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 It is recommended that Social Work Committee:-
 - (i) agree the proposed developments in Section 4;
 - (ii) refer staffing implications to the Corporate Governance Committee for consideration as appropriate; and
 - (iii) otherwise note the content of this report.

John Mulgrew
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services
20th May 2004
Enc (0)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. The Same As You – Review of services for people with Learning Disabilities
2. The Disability Discrimination Act 2004
3. The Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001

For further information regarding this report please contact:
Eddie Fraser, Community Care Manager, telephone: 01563 554825

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: JACKIE DONNELLY