

## INTRODUCTION

This is a summary of the East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001 –2004. It has been developed jointly by social work, health and housing providers working in partnership with service users, their carers and other service providers.

The aim is that the plan is a detailed strategy that fits into a wider planning context within East Ayrshire, including the overall Community Planning processes. It is also heavily influenced by National initiatives, legislation and guidance from the Scottish Executive.

In addition, information will be provided on performance in key areas of service provision to enable readers to see the progress that has been made by the various agencies contributing to community care services in East Ayrshire.

The plan is set out as follows;

- ◆ **This summary** – outlines the main areas for strategic development outlined in the plan.
- ◆ **Volume 1** – sets out the aims and objectives of community care services in the next three years, what strategic position we are now working from and what actions we intend to take to meet our aims and objectives. The plan is set out by service user group as well as cross group issues.
- ◆ **Volume 2** – Indicates the strategic and financial frameworks in which the plan operates, the current services provided, outlines our performance to date and details how each action outlined in volume 1 will be implemented.

We hope that you find the document easy to read and understand and are able to relate the plan to the wider issues affecting Community Care in East Ayrshire.

## THE AIMS OF EAST AYRSHIRE JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN

### OVERALL AIMS

- ◆ To positively contribute to promoting a socially inclusive society and encourage an "ethos" of citizenship in the wider community through
  - (a) Improving the quality of life for the people we work with, in particular service users and carers
  - (b) Enabling the people we work with to realise their full potential
  - (c) Enabling the people we work with to fully participate in the communities they live in as citizens
  - (d) Promoting understanding of the needs and rights of the people we work with within the wider community

## **WHERE DO WE NEED TO BE BY 2004**

- ◆ The balance of provision requires to continue to change from services provided in residential settings or in hospital to services delivered to people in their own home. This requires a re-focusing of existing and new resources;
- ◆ We require to improve on our ability to share with and gather from partner organisations, particularly Health staff, information which will assist in the process of providing support and care to people we work with;
- ◆ We require to improve the assessment of the individual needs of service users and carers, undertaken by Social Work, Health and Housing by working together locally to achieve better and quicker decision-making;
- ◆ We require to develop services and local planning which are co-ordinated between GP's, Community Health staff, hospital based staff, housing and social care staff and, which reflects the needs of local communities, facilitate early discharge from hospital and prevent unnecessary admissions to hospitals and residential and / or nursing homes.
- ◆ We require to adopt, along with partner agencies, a preventative approach, including participation in health promotion, social inclusion and early intervention.
- ◆ We require to effectively address the needs of carers

## **WHAT WILL WE DO WITH SERVICES**

- ◆ A common assessment tool will be developed and implemented by all agencies to enable quicker and easier access to all health and social care services;
- ◆ Further devolution of authority and budget will take place within Social Work to enable Team Leaders to purchase services based on local need;
- ◆ Intensive Care Management will be introduced across Community Care;
- ◆ Staff in all agencies will be resourced to carry out integrated working;
- ◆ Staff in all agencies will be empowered to provide welfare rights advice and support to ensure that people who use services have a clear understanding of and access to their income entitlements;
- ◆ The Home Care service will be redesigned in order to provide cost effective and flexible support to service users who need it at assessed critical periods over 7 days and 24 hours a day. This will involve changes in current work practises, the provision of wide ranging skills training for staff and increase working partnerships with independent sector providers. A full needs appraisal will also be undertaken to evaluate the most appropriate means to provide an appropriate housework and shopping service within available resources.

- ◆ Access to respite will be improved, including a formal investigation of need for the provision of breaks directly provided to carers.
- ◆ Advocacy services will be expanded to provide support to the following identified priorities; children and young people with disabilities, people with acquired brain injuries, people with sensory impairment, Older People and people with dementia, people with learning disabilities being discharged from continuing care hospital beds
- ◆ A greater range of accommodation with support will be established, where housing and care provision are separate;
- ◆ The Council will review sheltered housing applications and allocations to better meet the needs of people. This will include joint assessment, by social work and housing services, of the need for sheltered housing to ensure that those in greatest need gain access;
- ◆ There will be improved joint working between housing providers to better meet the needs of individuals with community care housing needs.
- ◆ A Care & Repair project will be set up to assist older people and people with disabilities to live independently in their own home.
- ◆ The Council will secure improvements in bus and rail travel, interchange facilities, infrastructure provision, information and accessible public transport.
- ◆ The Council will review its Social Work charging policy based on National Guidance.
- ◆ Good Health practices will be promoted, through partnership working, with a particular focus on:-
  - diet and lifestyle
  - exercise
  - eyesight
  - hearing
  - dental health
  - sexual health

## **SERVICES TO CARERS**

- ◆ Services to carers in the rural south of the authority will be enhanced by the development of an additional Carers Centre base in Cumnock.
- ◆ Longer term funding will be sought, where appropriate, for a range of initiatives (e.g. the Young Carers Group), which are currently supported through short term funding arrangements.
- ◆ Further training will be provided to improve professional awareness of the needs of carers.

- ◆ Local authority and health services will work together to identify hidden carers.
- ◆ an information pack for carers and professionals detailing services and access arrangement will be developed and disseminated.
- ◆ Relationships with specialist carers groups will be improved in conjunction with the Carers Strategy Monitoring Group.

### **SERVICES TO OLDER PEOPLE**

- ◆ Develop an Ayrshire wide strategy for older people's services across Ayrshire will be developed in early 2001 and include the key actions in the final plan.
- ◆ The need for an intermediate care facility or comprehensive rehabilitation unit within the Council area will be explored.
- ◆ Day care provision will be increased across the Council area.
- ◆ 10 very sheltered housing units in Kilmarnock and 12 amenity houses in Newmilns will be developed.
- Residential and nursing home providers will be supported to deliver a full range of social and nursing care within a single home setting and East Ayrshire Council will make recommendations as to the future of its four residential homes for older people.

### **PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA AND OLDER PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH DISABILITIES**

- ◆ an early intervention service will be developed to screen people over 75 for dementia to enable early intervention ;
- ◆ Resources will be allocated to assist older people with mental health problems in partnership between the East Ayrshire Council, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board, Ayrshire and Arran Primary Health Care NHS Trust and other appropriate agencies;
- A comprehensive information and advice service to people with dementia and their families will be commissioned.
- The operation of the Care Programme Approach (a specialist assessment and care planning process) will be expanded.

### **SERVICES TO ADULTS WITH MENTAL HEALTH DIFFICULTIES**

- ◆ Mental health awareness training will be developed, particularly for front line personnel.
- ◆ Mental health day supports will be evaluated.

- ◆ The intensive home support service will be extended throughout the whole Authority.
- ◆ Mental health discharge protocols will be evaluated.
- ◆ protocols for people in transition from Children/Adolescent Services to Adult services and from Adult services to services for older people will be agreed
- ◆ the need for a rehabilitation initiative within East Ayrshire will be determined.

## **SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES**

The Ayrshire wide Partnership in Practice Agreement will set out the broad context within which learning disability services in Ayrshire will develop. The East Ayrshire Partnership in Practice Agreement provides greater detail about local developments.

- ◆ the East Ayrshire Day Services Review will be Implemented to develop day support options for people with learning disabilities who wish to gain new skills by accessing leisure, recreation and educational opportunities in their local communities and improve centre-based day care to people with more complex learning disabilities and physical disabilities.
- ◆ A forum involving Council representatives, provider organisations and national organisations will be established to explore employment opportunities for people with learning disabilities.
- ◆ All service users leaving long stay hospital care to live in the community and other people in transition, will have a Personal Life Plan.
- ◆ Existing services will be redesigned to address the specific support needs of older people with learning disabilities including exploring options for developing supported living and day care for older people.
- ◆ Up to 10 people will be discharged from long stay hospital to supported living options in the community in 2001/2002. Detailed Assessment work will be completed on all people currently resident in Arrol Park and Strathlea and a clear discharge plan developed to identify discharges to 2005.
- ◆ Additional housing will be made available to people with learning disabilities through new-build, house purchase and re-letting.
- ◆ Opportunities for the joint commissioning of specialist services across Ayrshire e.g. for people with autistic spectrum disorders will be explored.
- ◆ Existing local authority residential provision will be restructured to achieve more individualised supported living options.

- ◆ A framework for transitional planning managing the transition between school and adult provision for young people with learning disabilities will be developed across all agencies and in partnership with young people and their families/carers. This will set out agreed inter-agency protocols and standards of practice.

## **SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES**

### **Brain Injury Service Improvements will include**

- Systems will be implemented to improve information and communication between agencies.
- Work will be undertaken to establish a local Brain Injury service.
- ◆ Awareness raising initiatives of the needs of people with acquired brain injury will be undertaken amongst front line staff.

### **Sensory Impairment Service Improvements include**

- ◆ Access to information at public access points will be improved.
- ◆ Rehabilitation services for people with visual impairment will be increased.
- ◆ Good practice adjustment in line with the “Programme for Government to improve disabled access to public buildings and promote barrier-free housing” will be continued.
- ◆ Specialist service delivery will be piloted in key areas – for example deaf / blind / interpreting, on an Ayrshire-wide basis.
- ◆ Sensory impairment awareness training to relevant service providers will be increased.
- ◆ planning of classes in Braille for parents, carers and service users;
- ◆ development of a Guide/Communicator service within the Personal Assistance Support Scheme;
- ◆ execution of an Ayrshire wide assessment of the level of need for services amongst people with dual sensory impairments

### **Physical Impairment Service Improvements include**

- ◆ Specialist forms of provision for specific aspects of assessed need will be developed.
- ◆ Formal links and shared practice arrangements between Occupational Therapists working within Social Work and the Ayrshire and Arran Acute Health Care NHS Trust will be further developed.

- ◆ There will be substantial investment in equipment and adaptations to assist people to live in their own home.
- ◆ A register of council properties that have been adapted will be developed as information becomes available in order to allow the allocation process to be more effective in identifying a match between people who need adaptations with existing adapted properties.
- ◆ Disability Awareness training will be provided for the council and service providers in partnership with representative organisations to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act;
- ◆ All licensed vehicles will be suitable for carrying disabled people by 2004.

### **SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH ADDICTION PROBLEMS AND PEOPLE WITH BLOOD BORNE VIRUSES.**

- The service improvement plan identified within the Review of the Bridge Project will be implemented along with the Review of Outreach Work. This will include;
  - The creation of Community drugs worker posts within Kilmarnock and Cumnock Bridge Projects. To focus on the needs of service users with chaotic lifestyles.
  - Strengthening the management and staffing structures to maximise effectiveness.
  - Developing capacity within services to provide additional rehabilitation and support.
- There will be further development of a corporate approach to addiction related issues.
- There will be a full review of addiction services within East Ayrshire in the light of increased funding opportunities and develop appropriate service responses in accordance with the identified gaps in provision.
- There will be a full multi agency review of substitute prescribing provision and specific action developed.
- A multi agency working party will be convened to consider 'access to services issues' to ensure that individuals receive appropriate support on presenting to agencies. The conclusions of this working party will be developed and implemented
- ◆ The provision of services including needle exchanges, substitute prescribing, ante natal HIV screening, HIV testing and information and advice to travellers will be further developed in accordance with the HIV/Blood Borne Infection strategy;
- ◆ Ayrshire and Arran Health Board will continue to fund the Gay Men's Outreach Worker to provide information and advice on sexual health and well being to gay and bisexual men in Ayrshire.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR COMMENTS ON THE  
PLAN**

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**AGENDA**