

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

HOUSING COMMITTEE – 23 MAY 2001

EAST AYRSHIRE JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN 2001-2004

Joint Report by the Director of Homes and Technical Services and the Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek elected members endorsement of the East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001-2004 (the Plan);
- 1.2 To seek elected members authority to submit the Plan to the Scottish Executive, as required by national guidance and Directions.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The NHS and Community Care Act (1990) places a responsibility on Local Authorities, Health Boards and Scottish Homes to prepare and publish local, three-year Community Care Plans and review these on an annual basis. The first East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan covered the period 1998-2001.
- 2.2 The second East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan outlining the agreed strategic and operational direction for 2001-2004 has been developed by East Ayrshire Council (Department of Educational and Social Services and Department of Homes and Technical Services), Ayrshire and Arran Health Board, Ayrshire and Arran Primary Health Care NHS Trust, Ayrshire and Arran Acute Health Care NHS Trust, the East Ayrshire and Carrick and Doon Valley Local Health Care Co-operatives and Scottish Homes.
- 2.3 The development of the Plan reflects the need to achieve practical implementation of national priorities in a way that addresses local needs. The principal national guidance reflected in the Plan comprises;
 - “Modernising Community Care – an Action Plan” (Scottish Office 1998);
 - The report of the Joint Future Group (Dec 2000);
 - “Our National Health – a plan for action, a plan for change “(Dec 2000);
 - “The Same as You - a Review of Services for People with Learning Disabilities” (May 2000);
 - “Strategy for Carers for Scotland” (Nov 1999);
 - Response to the Report on Long Term Care for the Elderly (October 2000);

- Supporting People (Dec 1998);
- Other Legislation, including the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Race Relations Amendment Act 2000

3 SUMMARY OF THE PLAN

3.1 The overall aim of the Plan is to contribute positively 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 with whom we work in particular service users and carers;
- (b) Enabling the people with whom we work to realise their full potential;
- (c) Enabling the people with whom we work to participate as fully as possible in their communities;
- (d) Promoting understanding of the needs and rights of the people with whom we work within the wider community;

3.2 The Plan is in three parts;

- A summary of the main developments proposed for the next three years;
- Volume One, which outlines the main areas of activity including anticipated actions for 2001-2004 in respect of the full range of Community Care client groups;
- Volume Two, which includes details of current services, information on current performance to enable readers to note progress that has been made by the Council, Health and other services, background information on the planning framework and the financial framework and an action plan giving detailed information on the purpose of the activities, proposed outcomes for service users and carers, timescales and cost of implementation.

3.3 Specific actions outlined in the plan include;

- To improve integrated working practices between health, housing and social work including developing common assessment tools;
- To modernise the Home Care service to provide cost effective and flexible support to people whenever they require it;
- To expand advocacy services available to service users and their carers;
- To develop a wider range of accommodation with support;

- To promote healthy living practices among service users and carers in East Ayrshire;
- To develop a greater range of respite provision including respite at home and investigate the need for breaks for carers;
- Increase the flexibility and range of day opportunities for older people and adults with learning disabilities to focus better on individual needs;

3.4 A copy of the full Plan is available in the elected members' lounge.

4. CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 4.1. In preparing Community Care Plans, local authorities and their planning partners are required to consult with all key stakeholders before finalising the proposals. The consultation process for the Plan has been undertaken in two stages.
- 4.2. Firstly, a number of representative groups who have a stake in the provision of community care services were consulted on the specific parts of the draft Plan which directly affect them. This was done during the process of the initial drafting of proposals. These included service user groups, carers and service providers from the independent sector.
- 4.3. Secondly, copies of the consultation draft of the plan, together with the associated Joint Community Care Accommodation Strategy 2001-2004, were sent to a range of other stakeholders for comment and agreement on the direction of the plan. These included political representatives (through the Local Committee structure of the Council), community organisations, voluntary agencies and identified members of the community in addition to representative organisations of service users and carers. Copies of the consultation draft of the plan were also posted on the East Ayrshire Council website. The consultation draft Plan and the Accommodation Strategy are attached as Appendices 1 and 2 respectively.
- 4.4. All comments submitted during the consultation process supported the strategic direction, objectives and proposed actions outlined in the plan. A number of additional helpful comments were incorporated into the final plan.

5. POLICY/LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Policy, legal and financial implications of implementing the East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001-2004 are identified in the Plan and specific issues requiring Committee approval will be subject to separate reports to Committee as required.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1. It is recommended that elected members:

- (a) endorse the East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001-2004;
- (b) authorise the Director of Educational and Social Services to submit the Plan to the Scottish Executive.

James Lavery
Director of Homes and Technical Services

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational and Social Services Department

23 May, 2001

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001-2004 – Draft Consultation Plan
2. East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Accommodation Strategy 2001-2004

For further information on this report please contact John Alexander Principal Officer (Quality and Planning) Civic Centre, John Dickie St, Kilmarnock KA1 1BY [01563-576978] and/or Joseph Cassidy, Policy Manager, Homes and Technical Services Department on 01563 576617.

Implementation Officer: John Alexander

AGENDA