

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE – 21 MARCH 2001

EAST AYRSHIRE JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN 2001-2004

Report by the Director of Educational and Social Services Department

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consult Local Committee Members over the contents of the East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001 –2004 and overall strategic direction of Community Care services in the next three years.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The NHS and Community Care Act (1990) placed responsibility on Local Authorities, Health Boards and Scottish Homes to develop local, three-year Community Care Plans and review these on an annual basis.
- 2.2 In October 1998 the Scottish Office published the document “Modernising Community Care – an Action Plan”. This outlined four goals that determine the future direction of Community Care in Scotland:
- Better and quicker decision making
 - Caring for people at home wherever possible
 - A new emphasis on working better in localities
 - Assuring quality and effectiveness
- 2.3 Further national guidance has subsequently been issued focussing on practical measures for implementing “Modernising Community Care” or setting the context for developing Community Care service for specific care groups.
- 2.4 These have included; the report of the Joint Future Group, “Our National Health – a plan for action, a plan for change, ” “The Same as You - a review services for people with learning disabilities” and the “Strategy for Carers for Scotland”.

3 EAST AYRSHIRE JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN 2001-2004

- 3.1 The East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001-2004 is currently in the process of being developed by the key partners responsible for Community Care services in East Ayrshire Council. These are East Ayrshire Council Educational and Social Services Department and Homes and Technical services Department, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board, Ayrshire and Arran Primary Health Care NHS Trust, Ayrshire and Arran Acute Health Care NHS

Trust, East Ayrshire and Carrick and Doon Valley Local Health Care Co-operatives and Scottish Homes.

- 3.2 The development of the East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001-2004 reflects the need to achieve practical implementation of those national priorities in a way that addresses local needs.
- 3.3 A number of other representative groups, who have a stake in the provision of community care services, have already been consulted in specific areas of the draft plan that directly affect them. These include representatives of service users, carers as well as other representatives of service providers from the private and voluntary sectors.
- 3.4 The overall aim of the plan is;
- ♦ 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
- 3.5 Specific actions outlined in the plan include;
- To improve integrated working practices between health, housing and social work including developing common assessment tools.
 - To redesign the Home Care service to provide cost effective and flexible support to people at critical periods over 7 days and 24 hours a day.
 - To expand advocacy services to service users and their carers
 - To develop a greater range of accommodation with support
 - To promote health living practises 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 directly provided to carers
 - Increase the flexibility and range of day opportunities for older people and adults with learning disabilities to better focus on individual needs

4. CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 4.1. The consultation draft of the plan has been sent to 400 individual stakeholders for comment and agreement on the direction of the plan. A copy of the East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Accommodation strategy was also sent in tandem with the document,
- 4.2. Copies of the consultation draft of the Community Care plan and East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Accommodation strategy are also available on the East Ayrshire Council website. Forms are also included for comment to the plans.
- 4.3. A number of other public and stakeholder meetings and other forms of consultation will take place prior to the publication of the final three-year plan in mid 2001.
- 4.4. Consultation with Northern Area Local Committee is part of the wider stakeholder consultation that will take place prior to final approval of the full plan by the key stakeholders.
- 4.5. The full plan will be formally published and will form the key document for measuring the performance of Community care service providers in East Ayrshire.

5. POLICY/LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Policy, legal and financial implications of implementing the Community Care Plan will be set out in the final plan.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1. It is recommended that Northern Area Local Committee
 - (a) endorse the strategic direction of the plan as being relevant to the needs of service users and carers in the local area; and
 - (b) otherwise note the content of the report

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational and Social Services
12 March 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

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AGENDA