

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE : 20 MARCH 2002

AYRSHIRE MENTAL HEALTH STRATEGY : PROGRESS REPORT

Report by the Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To up-date Local Committee of progress in implementing the Framework for Mental Health Services in Scotland, with particular reference to funding arrangements for local authority developments.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the Northern Local Committee of 21 March 2001, a report was presented which outlined progress in implementing the Framework for Mental Health Services via the local joint mental health strategies.
- 2.2 The framework for Mental Health Services was developed in 1997 to assist staff in social work, health and housing agencies to develop joint approaches to the planning commissioning and provision of integrated mental health services.

3. AYRSHIRE STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION : PROGRESS

- 3.1 The Scottish Executive continues to monitor the effectiveness of implementation arrangements via the Mental Health and Well Being Support Group, which visits all NHS Board areas in Scotland and reports on progress.
- 3.2 The Mental Health and Well Being Support Group visited Ayrshire on 20 November 2001, and reported on progress in implementing the Mental Health Strategies 1999 – 2004 (Adults; Older People with Mental Health Difficulties and / or Dementia and Children / Adolescents).
- 3.3 The following issues were noted by the group :-
- (i) Positive developments in providing services to older people, mentally disordered offenders and women experiencing post natal depression.
 - (ii) Positive investment in funding advocacy services.
 - (iii) Good example of service user involvement in service provision/ development.
 - (iv) The current strategy programme requires to be reviewed to show an agreed implementation, investment and time tabled action plan, based on an up-to-date assessment of local mental health needs.

4. EAST AYRSHIRE PLANNING

- 4.1 At local level, the East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001 – 2004 outlines future plans for all community groups, including Mental Health.
- 4.2 The draft East Ayrshire Mental Health Strategy 2001 – 2004 details these future plans, and was approved by the Social Work Committee on 31 January 2002 for approval. This plan will focus on : -
- (i) Improving and developing accommodation, support and health care arrangements for people with mental health difficulties.
 - (ii) Helping people to stay at home wherever possible or helping people to return to live in the community from institutional care.
 - (iii) Developing partnership approaches and joint working between agencies.
 - (iv) Creating innovative and imaginative ways of promoting positive health within the communities of East Ayrshire.
 - (v) Providing awareness raising and training events, which develop public knowledge of mental health issues.

5. KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN EAST AYRSHIRE

- 5.1 Two people who originate from East Ayrshire have been discharged from continuing care beds in Ailsa Hospital. The costs of their care have been met by Resource Transfer funding of £17,062 by Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board.
- 5.2 Additional funding of £10,000 has been made available to Morven Services in 2001/2002 by East Ayrshire Council to further develop the Community Guide Service. This service helps people to access local support facilities, through the provision of individual support staff.
- 5.3 The Council has also provided additional funding to service user led initiatives, including : -
- (i) East Ayrshire Mental Health Conference : 12 November 2001.
 - (ii) An audit of transport needs.
- 5.4 Additional funding of £12,000 has been provided in 2001/2002 to East Ayrshire Advocacy Services to create an advocacy service for older people with dementia / mental health difficulties. Plans are underway to develop this further.
- 5.5 Day Care services for older people with Dementia have been enhanced with the opening of the Rowallan Day Centre in Kilmarnock.

5.6 A Social Worker is identified to liase with each of the 2 Primary Trust Community Mental Health Teams for older people which has further developed, improved communication between Health and Social Work.

5.7 The Council also funds 1.3 Social Worker posts (plus management costs) as a contribution to the service provided by the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service in Ayrshire.

6. LEGAL / POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The contents of this report reflect current national and local policy objectives in developing services for people with mental health problems.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The development of further services will be subject to transfer of funding from health services to community based services through the closure of continuing care beds.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is recommended that Committee : -

(ii) Notes the content of the report.

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational and Social Services
31 January 2002
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

A framework for Mental Health Services in Scotland

Ayrshire and Arran Joint Mental Health Strategies (1999 – 2004)
(Adults, Older People with Mental Health Difficulties / Dementia & Children & Adolescents)

East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001 – 2004

East Ayrshire Mental Health Strategy 2001 - 2004

For further information on this report please contact Susan Taylor, Service Unit Manager, Adults, telephone: 01563 576935 or Jackie Donnelly, Principal Officer Community Care, telephone: 01563 576931, Civic Centre South, Dickie Street, Kilmarnock, KA1 1BY

AGENDA