

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE: 8 NOVEMBER 2001

CARE DEVELOPMENT GROUP REPORT “FAIR CARE FOR OLDER PEOPLE”

Report by the Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To advise committee of the recommendations contained within the Care Development Groups Report “Fair Care for Older People” which details proposed changes to the current funding arrangement for the care of older people.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Royal Commission Report on Long Term Care for Older People (often referred to as the Sutherland Report) recommended that older people should receive free personal and free nursing care.
- 2.2 The Minister for Health and Community Care was asked to establish the Care Development Group to bring forward proposals to ensure older people in Scotland had access to quality and responsive long term care in an appropriate setting on a fair and equitable basis. These proposals had to include implementation of free personal care. This Group Chaired by Malcolm Chisholm, Depute Minister for Health and Community Care, consisted of representatives from Local Authorities, Health Boards and Academics.

3. CARE DEVELOPMENT GROUP REPORT

- 3.1 The Group carried out extensive research to determine the current and future demands on service provision for older people.
- 3.2 At present there are 790,000 people aged 65 or over in Scotland. It is expected that by 2002 there will be nearly 1 million people aged over 65 representing a rise of 21%. In particular those over 85 are forecast to grow by 44% and it is this group which is likely to require the most service, and therefore this factor was critical in their calculations.
- 3.1 The Group also considered the increased demand likely to emerge as individuals who currently receive care from a relative, or who purchase their own service, may expect Councils to provide the service as it would be free. They called this a shift from informal to formal care and defined it as unmet need.

4. MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The following are the main recommendations from the Care Development Group.

- a) Personal care should be free to all individuals currently in a care setting and who fund their own care.
- b) Personal care should also be free to individuals in the Community and therefore there should not be a charge made by the Local Authority for this. This would include the Personal Care element of Home Care and Day Care support. (See definition of Personal Care at Appendix 1).
- c) For those currently paying for their own care in a Care home a payment of £65 per week for nursing care and up to £90 per week for personal care should be paid to care providers by the local Authority from 1st April 2002.
- d) That Local Authorities should be the agency which continues to contract and pay for care in independent sector care homes.
- e) People will be required to continue to pay for their own living and accommodation costs whether they are at home or in a care home.
- f) Where practical and possible older people should be supported to stay in their own home.
- g) A single shared assessment should be in place by April 2002 to streamline the assessment process and avoid duplication.
- h) That all new resources, must be used for the purpose intended and that new money for older peoples care should be ring fenced.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Whilst the Care Development Group has made a number of recommendations, the final financial implications are not yet known. Consequently, a further report will be presented to Committee in due course.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 If the recommendations are endorsed at national level policy changes will be required by the 1st April 2002. The existing contracts the Council have with care homes will apply to all individuals to be funded, and these contractual arrangements include the timeous payments of care fees.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The report recognises the increased demands associated with implementation for Councils. A further report will be presented to Committee once the resources accompanying the recommendations are clear.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is recommended that Committee:

- (i) require the Director of Educational and Social Services to return to a future Committee to present the costs associated with the proposals and East Ayrshire's allocation;
- (ii) require the Director of Educational and Social Services to advise Committee of the full implications for Policy, Personnel and Finance once the Executive has published it's response.

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational and Social Services
17 October 2001
Enc (1)

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Fair Care for Older People – Care Development Group September 2001

A copy of the full report and summary is available in the Members Information Point.

For further information on this report please contact Martin Clark, Service Unit Manager, Older Peoples Services, telephone: 01563 576927 or Jackie Donnelly, telephone: 01563 576931, Principal Officer Community Care, Civic Centre South, Dickie Street, Kilmarnock, KA1 1BY

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: MARTIN CLARK

DEFINITION OF PERSONAL CARE

The Care Development Group recommended:

? **Personal Hygiene**

Bathing, showering, hair washing, shaving, oral hygiene, nail care.

? **Continence Management**

Toileting, catheter/stoma care, skin care, incontinence laundry, bed changing.

? **Food and Diet**

Assistance with eating and assistance with special diets. Assistance to manage different types of meals services. Assistance with preparation of food.

? **Problems of immobility**

Dealing with the consequences of not being able to move.

? **Counselling and support**

Behaviour management, psychological support, reminding devices and safety devices.

? **Simple treatments**

Assistance with medication (including eye drops), application of creams and lotions, simple dressings, oxygen therapy.

? **Personal Assistance**

Assistance with dressing, surgical appliances, prostheses, mechanical and manual aids. Assistance to get up and to go to bed. Transfers including use of a hoist.

AGENDA