

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE : 11 SEPTEMBER 2003

HOSPITAL RETRACTION DEVELOPMENT

Report by the Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To update committee of the developments in relation to the retraction of services at Arrol Park and Strathlea Resource Centres.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The "Same As You" National Review of Services for People with a Learning Disability recommended that hospital was not an appropriate place for people to live.
- 2.2 The review stated people currently residing in hospital should return to live in the community by 2005 and the Council supported this position.
- 2.3 To date, East Ayrshire Council have helped 27 people move from a range of hospitals such as Birkwood, Kirklands and the Royal Scottish National Hospital in Larbert to return to live in their communities.
- 2.4 In doing this, people have moved to live in their own tenancies, family placements and care homes as determined by their wishes and support needs

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 Ayrshire and Arran NHS along with the three Ayrshire Local Authorities have been working together to agree how people currently resident in Strathlea and Arrol Park are supported to return to their communities.
- 3.2 NHS Ayrshire and Arran have suggested extending the deadline for hospital retention to 2006/07 to achieve this. East Ayrshire Council are able to work to the original 2005 deadline.
- 3.3 A financial framework has been agreed and plans are being drawn up as to how carers of people currently resident in hospitals will be advised of the transitions from hospital to community.
- 3.4 East Ayrshire Council have responsibility for 20 people currently resident in Arrol Park and Strathlea.
- 3.5 The Council along with health colleagues and support providers require now to work alongside these individuals and their carers to identify how and where they wish to live and what supports are required to enable this to happen.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The agreed financial framework requires Ayrshire and Arran NHS to meet the first £32,500 of the support package with the Local Authorities meeting the next £32,500. Any cost above £65,000 will be split 60% Health, 40% Local Authority in recognition that people in this funding bracket will have more complex and support needs.
- 4.2 East Ayrshire Council's anticipated financial contribution to the 20 people still be discharged will be in the region of £791,500 per annum when all have been discharged.
- 4.3 The Council have committed £598,000 to this required spend between 2003 and 2005 with work being done to identify the shortfall.
- 4.4 The plan will be to discharge people on an incremental basis based on individual needs and in conjunction with Health Board colleagues. The plan is likely to work out at 6 people being discharged during 2003/2004 – costing £237,450 followed by 7 people in 2004/2005 and 7 people in 2005/2006 costing an additional £277,025 for each year. (£237,450 + £277,025 + £277,025 = £791,500).

5. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The “Same As You” Review of Services for people affected by a Learning Disability requires local authorities and health colleagues to move people currently living in hospital back to live in their communities with required supports.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 It is recommended that Social Work Committee:
- (i) note the financial commitment of £598,000 to date which will facilitate the continuation of the discharge process between 2003 and 2005;
 - (ii) consider a further report to be submitted later regarding the balance of £193,500 to be found by 2005/6; and
 - (iii) otherwise note the contents of this report.

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational and Social Services
26 August 2003
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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. “Same As You” – Review of Services for People Affected by a Learning Disability.

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