

REPORT NO 833/97

## ANGUS COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE ..... 19 AUGUST

## REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK

## ANGUS PRINCESS ROYAL TRUST CENTRE FOR CARERS

**ABSTRACT**

This report advises committee of the proposed development of a carers centre for Angus. It outlines the management and funding arrangements for the centre and informs committee of the proposed aims of the centre and its staffing structure. The report seeks committee approval of the proposals for the centre and agreement to the proposed funding.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Social Work Committee

- i) notes the content of this report
- ii) approves the proposals for the establishment of a carers centre in Angus  
and
- iii) approves the financial commitments as noted in this report

**2. INTRODUCTION**

There is a commitment in the Carers Section of the Draft Joint Community Care Plan 1997-2000 to establish a carers centre to act as a focus for issues raised by or affecting carers in Angus in order to develop and co-ordinate services. The need for such a service was indicated at the Angus Carers Conference in 1996 at which Angus Carers Association was established. Previously two surveys of carers were undertaken by the steering group of Angus Carers Association which demonstrated substantial support for such a service amongst carers in Angus.

This was further underlined by the consultation and review meetings held in January 1997 to consider the Community Care Plan.

### **3 PRINCESS ROYAL TRUST FOR CARERS**

The social work department has been in negotiation with the Princess Royal Trust for Carers and Tayside Health regarding the development of a carers centre. Angus Carers Association has submitted a proposal to manage such a centre. The Princess Royal Trust has secured one third of the funding for the centre with local statutory bodies providing the remaining two-thirds. Projects are normally funded in such a way for three years. Centres normally provide information and advice, emotional support and community consultation on issues affecting carers. Other services provided can include advocacy, practical help and relief care for carers.

Each centre is an independent organisation but must meet certain requirements from the Princess Royal Trust in return for the funding and other services. Any centre would also be required to meet given conditions from the other funding partners.

### **4 ANGUS CARERS CENTRE**

Having established the need for a centre, Angus Carers Association has submitted a proposal to develop the service in Angus. This will address the particular challenges in Angus by establishing a main administrative base and five local bases covering:

- a) Forfar, Kirriemuir and the Glens
- b) Montrose
- c) Brechin
- d) Monifieth/Carnoustie and Newtyle
- e) Birkhill and the West of Angus

The service will be staffed by four members of staff ie:- a full-time Project Manager; a part-time Administrative/Information Assistant; a part-time Outreach Worker to develop and maintain the local bases, and a part-time Carers Support Co-ordinator to maintain and develop direct services such as a sitting service, and a carers support network.

The aims of the project will be to provide information on all aspects of caring; provide emotional support; provide practical support; campaign on carers issues; liaise with statutory agencies regarding planning and consultation and to collaborate with voluntary and statutory agencies to develop carers support services.

The Carers Association is in the process of finalising job outlines and advertisements for the posts. A further report will be presented to Committee when the carers service has been established.

## **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Funding for the carers service has been agreed by the funding partners, Tayside Health and the Princess Royal Trust for Carers. The social work departments contribution in the year 1997/98 is approximately £12,000 ie 7 months (full year costs £20,000) and this has been identified in the departmental budget.

## **6 CONCLUSION**

The development of a carers centre in Angus is an exciting prospect, the need for which has been identified for some time. The Councils theme of developing partnerships is clearly demonstrated in this proposal. A three year partnership agreement will be established between the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, Tayside Health and the Carers Association. It is anticipated that this service will be of considerable benefit to carers across Angus.

## **7 CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, Director of Law and Administration and Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

W B Robertson  
Director of Social Work

Note: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

