

ANGUS COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE
 PERSONNEL & PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE
 FINANCE & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

14 November 2000
 28 November 2000
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CO-ORDINATION OF SUPPORTED DISCHARGE FROM HOSPITAL SCHEME

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK AND DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL

ABSTRACT

This report updates members on the funding related to Community Care developments and proposes arrangements for co-ordinating the supported discharge and admission prevention programme.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Social Work Committee:

- 1 Approves the developments contained in this report

It is recommended that the Personnel and Property Services Committee:

- 1 Approves the establishment of 1 Senior Social Care Officer post (SCP 27-30); and
- 2 Approves the establishment of 4 Senior Social Care Officer posts (SCP 27-30) each for 30 hours per week.

2 INTRODUCTION

Committee report 825/00 - approved by the social work committee on 15 August 2000 – established posts for the supported hospital discharge teams, subject to funding being available from Tayside Health Board. The funding arrangements have now been confirmed and recruitment for these posts is now being undertaken.

Committee report 989/00 – approved by the social work committee on 3 October 2000 – outlined the proposals for using additional, one-off funding that the Scottish Executive had made available for community care purposes. Members will be interested to note that the Scottish Executive have approved the proposals outlined in the report. In addition, the funding has been confirmed, at a national level, as recurring for 2001-2002 and following years.

Following confirmation of these funding streams, this report proposes further developments in the supported discharge and admission prevention programme, to ensure that the service is appropriately co-ordinated.

3 PROPOSAL

It is proposed that a new post is established to undertake the following main duties:

- ❖ Undertake initial, prompt assessment of the care needs of individuals identified for supported discharge from hospital or to prevent entry to hospital;
- ❖ Prepare initial care package to meet the needs of service users;
- ❖ Liaise with Home Care Resource Managers to ensure deployment of staff from the supported discharge teams;

- ❖ Liaise with health colleagues on all matters relating to the Supported Discharge programme and on individual cases;
- ❖ Maintain appropriate monitoring arrangements to allow the programme to be evaluated.

It is proposed that this post will be established as a Senior Social Care Officer (SCP 27-30) and will report directly to one of the Community Care Service Managers for Older People. The postholder will cover the whole of Angus initially. This will be reviewed after six months of operation to ensure the adequacy of the arrangements.

It is important that the co-ordination activity is available 24-hours per day, 7 days per week to ensure that prompt responses are delivered. In addition, there are increasing numbers of staff working in community settings on a 24-hour basis, who do not have any readily available support mechanisms. In order to address these issues it is proposed to establish a co-ordination and support facility based at the Community Alarm Control room in Kirriemuir.

This role will be fulfilled by a group of Senior Social Care Officers operating on a rota basis, working at weekends, public holidays and between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. from Monday to Friday. It is envisaged that these staff will operate a "waking" service until midnight, and thereafter will "sleep-in" and provide assistance as calls are received.

In order to maintain such a rota, 4 Senior Social Care Officer posts of 30 hours per week will be required.

These staff will:

- ❖ Provide initial, emergency assessments for supported discharge or admission prevention (usually by telephone);
- ❖ Organise immediate provision of care;
- ❖ Provide advice and support to staff operating in community settings on care related issues;
- ❖ Provide advice, support and back-up to staff operating in community settings in relation to health & safety issues.

2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposals contained in this report will cost £118,400 per annum. In financial year 2001-2002, this will be funded from the additional resources for Community Care that have been confirmed as recurring. Any slippage in the implementation of proposals using the one-off funding for 2000-2001 will allow these proposals to be implemented before April 2001, which will greatly assist with addressing any winter pressures that may arise.

3 CONSULTATION

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

4 CONCLUSION

The proposals outlined in this committee report will ensure that the supported discharge programme is appropriately co-ordinated 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and therefore that people are not admitted to hospital care where this can be avoided. They will also ensure that staff working in community settings have direct access to support and advice at all times.

W B Robertson
Director of Social Work

J Torbet
Director of Personnel

07 November 2000

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 the above report.

Financial Implications

	Staff Costs £	Travel Costs £	Total Costs £
Office Hours co-ordination 1 Senior Social Care Officer @ 38 hours per week	24,000	5,000	29,000
Out of Hours co-ordination 4 Senior Social Care Officers @ 30 hours per week each Plus Sleep-in allowances 365 nights @ £25/night	84,400	5,000	89,400
TOTAL COSTS	108,400	10,000	118,400