

ANGUS COUNCIL

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

15 August 2000  
29 August 2000  
29 August 2000

SUPPORTED DISCHARGE FROM HOSPITAL SCHEME

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK AND DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL

**ABSTRACT**

This report seeks approval to establish posts for the early supported discharge scheme as part of a partnership arrangement with Tayside Primary Care NHS Trust and Tayside Health Board.

**1 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Social Work Committee:-

- 1 agrees to the development of this project, subject to funding being available from Tayside Health Board.

It is recommended that, subject to funding being available from Tayside Health Board, the Personnel and Property Services Committee:

- 1 approves the establishment of 24 Social Care Officer posts for 24 hours per week; and
- 2 approves the establishment of 12 Social Care Officer posts for 19 hours per week for the night care element of the project.

It is recommended that, subject to funding being available from Tayside Health Board, the Finance and Information Technology Committee:

- 1 approves the virement needed to establish a separate revenue budget for this project.

**2 INTRODUCTION**

Committee report 556/99 "Modernising Community Care: an Action Plan" described how the social work department proposed to use the money allocated to Community Care as part of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review. Committee report 581/00 "Modernising Community Care Funding for 2000/2001" updated the position to take account of the revised funding available. One of the proposals was to introduce a discharge from hospital scheme for older people. Further discussions have taken place with colleagues from Tayside Primary Care NHS Trust, and this report outlines the current position, and seeks approval to establish posts which will enhance the supported discharge provision in Angus.

**3 PROPOSAL**

Following discharge from hospital, there is a risk that older people may be inappropriately placed in residential or nursing home care, or indeed, readmitted to hospital. In many cases this can be prevented by providing additional support when people are discharged to re-establish confidence in living independently in the community. Additionally there are cases where admission to hospital services could be appropriately avoided if additional support was provided in an individual's own home.

A joint proposal has been developed with health colleagues to provide an augmented home care and rehabilitation service for a limited period of time following discharge from hospital (or to prevent admission). The additional services would be provided for a maximum of six weeks. The joint proposal will be financed from money available from the social work budget for Modernising Community Care, from existing Primary Care resources and by new money provided to Tayside Health Board to address the utilisation of hospital beds. In order to be viable, the project requires all three elements of funding to be in place.

In order to implement the social care element of this project, there is a need to establish some dedicated Social Care Officer posts. There will be four teams in Angus - one each for Arbroath; Carnoustie/Monifieth; Forfar/Kirriemuir; Brechin/Montrose.

Each team will be composed as follows:

	Wte
<b>Social Work posts</b>	
Social Care Officers (6 posts of 24 hours /week)	4.0
Social Care Officers (Night Care) (3 posts of 19 hours /week)	1.5
<b>Health posts</b>	
Community Nursing	3.0
Physiotherapy/Occupational Therapy	2.0

It is proposed to establish the Social Care Officer posts, so that the project can be established as soon as the funding has been agreed. It should be stressed however that the posts will not be filled until funding is in place and that teams will be established on a 'minimum viability' basis with the phasing in of additional resources over several finance years.

It is proposed that this service is exempted from charges for a period of up to six weeks, or while augmented support is being provided – whichever is the shorter. Thereafter, the social care element will be charged in line with the non-residential charging policy.

#### **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The total cost to the social work department is detailed in Appendix 1, and will be contained within the funding available for Modernising Community Care.

#### **5 CONSULTATION**

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

**6 CONCLUSION**

This project will ensure that older people are supported in their own homes wherever possible, and that the process of discharge from hospital will be addressed appropriately.

W B Robertson  
Director of Social Work

J Torbet  
Director of Personnel

26 March 2001

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**

## Cost per team

	<u>2000-2001</u>	<u>Full year effect</u>
	<u>£'000</u>	<u>£'000</u>
6 Social Care Officers (SCP 16-23) for 24 hours per week	31.4	62.9
3 Social Care Officers (SCP 16-23) for 19 hours per week	16.6	33.1
Staff	48.0	96.0
Transport	5.0	10.0
Supplies & Services (including Aids & Adaptations)	12.0	18.0
Initial Set up costs (Health & safety equipment etc.)	22.0	
<b>TOTAL COST per TEAM</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>124.0</b>

**FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS**

	<u>2000-2001</u>	<u>Full year effect</u>
	<u>£'000</u>	<u>£'000</u>
Cost for 4 teams	348.0	496.0
Funding from social work budget (Modernising Community Care)	75.0	90.0
Funding from health budgets	273.0	406.0