

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Social Work Committee – 19 February 2007

REPORT ON: Progress Towards Service & Waiting Time Targets for Older People

REPORT BY: Director of Social Work

REPORT NO: 109 - 2007

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members of the Social Work Committee on the progress that is being made towards targets and on waiting times in accordance with recommendation 2.3 of Report No 418-2006; Older People's Services which the Social Work Committee agreed on 26 June 2006.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:-

2.1 the Social Work Committee notes the developing position on waiting times outlined in paragraphs 6.1 – 6.5 of this report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The budget for care home and supported accommodation placements and for free personal and nursing care is £16.906m for 2006/07. This includes £202,000 of resource transfer funding, which has been redirected from within the overall resource transfer budget to help address the delayed discharge issue. Based on the current monthly level of care home placements, and taking account of the elimination of the waiting time for Free Personal Care the projected spend, as at 3 January 2007, is £17.117m. This represents a potential overspend of £211k.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The recommendations in this report provide information about progress that is being made towards meeting the needs of the most vulnerable older people.

6.0 PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGETS

6.1 Targets

The performance areas that are covered in this report reflect national targets and outcomes and are not within the direct control of our local authority. In particular, the target to deal with people delayed in hospital has not been agreed with the Council, but has been determined by the Scottish Executive without sufficient finance being given to the Council either through

resource transfer from NHS Tayside or from the Scottish Executive. Ministers have been advised accordingly.

6.2 Accounts Commission, Key Performance Indicator.

Table 2 below (Total No of Home Care Hours Provided to Older People per 1000 of the Population) shows Dundee's performance against one of the key performance indicators measured by the Accounts Commission.

Table 1 – Total No of Home Care Hours Provided to Older People per 1000 of the Population

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
No of hours per 1,000 pop'n	334.0	262.6	395.7	411.1
Ranking across 32 Councils	not known	32nd	25th	19th

The progressive increase in the hours of home care per 1000 of the population has enabled Dundee to move significantly up the Scottish rankings.

6.3 People Delayed in Hospital

Table 2 (No of Patients Delayed by Month, Age, and against Quarterly Target) below shows the number of people delayed in hospital. People are delayed because their assessment is still in the process of completion or because the resources they need at home or in a residential setting are not available. The hospital waiting target for 2006/07 is to reduce by 50% for those patients delayed beyond six weeks and to reduce by 50% those patients delayed in short stay beds. Table 2 below provides an outline of the "Actual" and "Target" figures for the past three census dates. This demonstrates that following an increase in the actual figures for October there has been a subsequent decrease with an improvement in the last quarter. Within this there has been a reduction in people awaiting placement from 46 patients (Oct 06) to 31 patients (Jan 07). The current figures for short stay and beyond six weeks delay are higher than the associated targets.

Table 2 - No of Patients Delayed by Month, Age, and against Quarterly Target

	July		October		January	
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
All patients						
No delayed beyond 6 weeks	36	15	53	17	40	12
No delayed short stay	20	8	32	8	20	8
Older people						
No delayed beyond 6 weeks	27		46		31	
No delayed short stay	15		28		14	

6.4 Joint Performance Information & Assessment Framework (JPIAF)

Target 10 of the JPIAF requires that Local Improvement Targets set an objective of achieving intensive home care of at least 30% of long term care by 2008. This had improved to 22.6% in March 2006.

6.5 People Awaiting Funding for a Care Home Placement

Table 3 below (Total No of People Awaiting Funding for a Care Home Placement) shows the total number of people awaiting funding for a care home placement and Table 4 (Total Number of People Awaiting Free Personal Care for a Care Home) shows how many of the total number of people are awaiting free personal care.

Table 3 – Total No of People Awaiting Funding for a Care Home Placement

	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07
No of people	106	118	124	96	83	62

Table 4 – Total No of People Awaiting Free Personal Care for a Care Home

	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07
No of people	23	30	27	20	22	0

The total number of people awaiting funding for a care home increased month by month to October of last year, since when it has started to decline. Of the total number of people currently awaiting funding (n=62), 36 are waiting in hospital, 20 are waiting in their own homes, four are currently funded by NHS Tayside (with the funding to be taken over by the Social Work Department) and two are requiring a change of funding from residential to nursing. This reduction has been enabled by the recent increase in funding provided by Dundee City Council and by NHS Tayside.

While the Department previously had a lead in time for the payment of Free Personal and Nursing Care allowances, as of January this year, the allowances are being paid from the date of admission, or date of completion of assessment if an individual has made his/her own arrangements for admission to care.

6.6 Older People Awaiting Care At Home

Table 5 (Older People Awaiting Care at Home Service by Month & by No of People and Hours of Service) below shows the number of people waiting for care at home and the number of hours they are awaiting.

Table 5 – Older People Awaiting Care at Home Service by Month & by No of People and Hours of Service

	Aug 06	Sep 06	Oct 06	Nov 06	Dec 06	Jan 07
Care at home, no of people	146	144	153	137	179	181
Care at home, hours	1064	1047	1182	1161	1445	1364

Table 5 demonstrates that there has been an overall increase in both the number of service users requiring support and the number of assessed care hours required. It should be noted that 89% of the 181 service users awaiting care support already in receipt of a care provision. The additional staff being recruited as outlined in paragraph 7.0 (as agreed in report No. 418-2006) will enable the Social Work Department to further reduce this waiting list in the next few weeks.

7.0 SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

7.1 Progress has been made towards targets and there have been some reductions in numbers waiting against increasing demand for services. The current Best Value Review of Home Care and the allocation of one off funding from NHS Tayside has allowed the Social Work Department to start recruitment of additional staff in preparation for the additional increase of £898,000 in the next financial year as agreed by the Social Work Committee in June 2006.

8.0 CONSULTATION

8.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and the Depute Chief Executive (Finance) have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report No 418-2006, Older People Services, Social Work Committee, 26 June 2006.

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Director of Social Work

Date: 9 February 2007