

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 21 APRIL 2003

REPORT ON: LOCAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK

REPORT NO: 303 - 2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek the approval of the Policy and Resources Committee for the Local Partnership Agreement which will allow the further development of joint working in Community Care Services between Dundee City Council and NHS Tayside. A copy of the full Local Partnership Agreement has been passed to each of the group secretaries and a copy is available for inspection in the members' lounge.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Policy and Resources Committee:-

2.1 agree the Local Partnership Agreement and authorise the Chief Executive and leader of the Council to sign it on the Council's behalf;

2.2 instructs the Director of Social Work and Personnel and Management Services to make arrangements to implement the Local Partnership Agreement in co-operation with other Chief Officers of the departments affected;

2.3 instruct the Director of Social Work to report to the Policy and Resources Committee any proposed changes or amendment to the Local Partnership Agreement.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The total joint resources covered in the local partnership agreement are contained in the Local Partnership Agreement.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The principle behind the contents of this report is that the process should be used to bring about improvements in the delivery and provision of care for older people.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The principle behind the contents of this report is that the process should be used to bring about improvements in the delivery and provision of care for older people.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

6.1 Background

In November 2000, the Joint Future Group set up by the then Minister for Community Care issued their report *Community Care: A Joint Future*.

There were 19 recommendations made in the report which fell into five main groups:

- to rebalance care for older people; (chapter 3)
- to improve joint working; (chapter 4)
- to support joint working and re-balancing of care through new planning, financial and service arrangements locally and nationally; (chapter 5)
- to reduce inconsistencies for home care and to provide free home care in certain circumstances; (chapter 7) and
- to improve the sharing of good practice. (chapter 8)

6.2 In January 2001 the Scottish Executive accepted either fully or in principle all the recommendations of the Joint Future Group except the one which related to the provision of free personal care. This matter was referred to the Development Group on Long Term Care which reported in October 2001 with 'Fair Care for Older People: A report of the Development Group on Long Term Care'. The Development Group has recently issued draft guidance on the implementation of free personal care.

6.3 Guidance on Joint Resourcing and Joint Management was issued in September 2001. (Scottish Executive circular CCD7/2001): The guidance advises agencies involved in the development of joint management and joint resourcing to focus on six key action steps, namely:

- agreement on joint management arrangements;
- agreement on the resources (including staff, money, equipment and property) to be brought under joint management arrangements;
- agreement on outline joint development priorities and the associated organisational and people development plan and targets for the next 3 - 5 years;
- agreement on the joint governance and accountability arrangements;
- agreement on the joint performance management framework; and
- the development of a local partnership agreement.

6.4 Primary legislation was required to enable certain aspects of this change to be implemented lawfully. Members have been advised about the content of the legislation in report number 230-2002 on the Community Care and Health (Scotland) Act which went to Social Work Committee in March 2002.

This formed the basis of the report 318/2002 submitted and agreed by Policy and Resources on 13th May 2002.

The Scottish Executive issued a letter on 3/01/02 implementing the Joint Future Agenda - The Bottom Line - which sets out what Ministers want agencies to achieve by April 2002 in developing joint resourcing and joint management of services.

7.0 MAIN REPORT

In May 2002, Dundee submitted their initial Partnership agreement to the Scottish Executive. The responses both to the agreement and the mid year report have been positive and favourable.

7.1 The Joint Future Co-ordinating Group, chaired by the Director of Social Work, has continued to meet on a fortnightly basis. This frequency of meetings has ensured that progress has continued in a number of key areas.

Appendix 8 of the agreement sets out the achievements in joint working in 2002/2003 and importantly the key actions for 2002/2004. Progress includes:

- the establishing of a Joint Staff Forum;
- production of a staff communication protocol;
- establishing the Health and Community Care Forum in November 2002 and the Health and Local Authority Management Group in January 2003;
- the development of and agreement of an information sharing protocol;
- 300 staff across the local authority and health completed training on Single Shared Assessment which was implemented from 1 April this year;
- establishment of a Joint Development Team to develop Day Services;
- development of services and systems to reduce the number of delayed discharges in Dundee.

7.2 In addition to the continuing progress on these areas and many others, there is considerable work being joint undertaken to plan the longer term needs of older people in Dundee.

Developments over the next twelve months will also include services other than older people including:

- identifying and agreeing resources which could come within joint resourcing and joint management arrangements within Drugs and Alcohol Services;
- implementing the second phase of resettlement of long stay patients from Liff Hospital;
- within Learning Disability Services we are continuing to develop the redesign of day opportunities leading to a more socially inclusive service.

8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 Dundee City Council in partnership with NHS Tayside have made considerable progress in the implementation of the Joint Futures agenda. This view is supported by the Scottish Executive. However, as the Local Partnership Agreement outlines there is much still to be done to provide more efficient and effective services. The action plans set out will be the focus of our work over the next twelve months and beyond.

9.0 CONSULTATION

9.1 The Director of Support Services and the Director of Finance have been consulted on this report.

10.00 BACKGROUND PAPERS

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.

Alan G Baird
Director of Social Work

Date: 11th April 2003

Alex Stephen
Chief Executive

Date: 11th April 2003

