

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

**REPORT TO: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE - 19 November 2001
PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE - 12 November 2001**

**REPORT ON: SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT - RESTRUCTURE OF
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICE**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK AND
DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

REPORT NO: 391/2001

1.1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To establish an Occupational Therapy Service structure which will integrate with other areas of Community Care Service and will facilitate the development of joint working with the Health Service.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Social Work Committee notes and approves the restructuring of the Occupational Therapy Service.

2.2 The Personnel & Management Services Committee approves the establishment of these two posts.

2.3 one post of Manager (Occupational Therapy), graded PO3-6 (£24,741 - £26,979);

2.4 one additional post of Senior Occupational Therapist, graded PO1-4 (£23,430 - £25,476).

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost of implementing this report will be £58,000 in a full financial year. This will be met from monies allocated by the Scottish Executive for Modernising Community Care.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The proposals will further develop the local delivery of services. They will continue the commitment to maintain people independently in their own homes wherever possible.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None.

6.0 BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS

6.1 The Director of Social Work and the Director of Personnel and Management Services have undertaken a review of the Occupational Therapy Service, in order to ensure its ability to support the development of other area-based services and maintain the specialist service currently provided.

6.2 Recent reports on Modernising Community Care, the Joint Future Report and the recent Social Work Department Best Value Review, have focussed on the need to

integrate services and create a more responsive and efficient service. In order to achieve this, it is proposed that a post of Manager (Occupational Therapy) be established, who will be responsible for developing the Occupational Therapy Service and taking a lead role in strategic planning in order to support other community care services and facilitate joint working with the health service.

Key tasks will be to provide specialist support to the assessment and care management process, particularly in conjunction with the home care service. They will contribute to the development of single assessment and will lead negotiations with the NHS Trusts on occupational therapy issues. This will improve arrangements for equipment provision and hospital discharge in line with Joint Future recommendations.

6.3 In order to allow the occupational therapy service to function more effectively, it is proposed that the staffing structure be organised into three area-based teams, consistent with the arrangements in place for care management and home care services. This will improve direct service delivery to people with complex needs and will support the continuing development of a neighbourhood approach. At present, there are two posts of Senior Occupational Therapist, therefore, it is proposed that an additional post of Senior Occupational Therapist be established to allow clear reporting roles in each team.

6.4 The proposed structure aligns the occupational therapy service with the arrangements already in place for care management and home care services. The role of the Senior Occupational Therapists will be extended to include the support and supervision of assessments being carried out by social work staff outwith the occupational therapy service. Further, the Senior Occupational Therapists will arrange for professional occupational therapy advice and guidance to be available to Home Care Managers and supervisors, Care Managers, day care and residential services staff. This is consistent with departmental policy and the Joint Future recommendations to improve the quality and volume of assessments and as a significant contribution to developing a single assessment model for care provision. By aligning occupational therapy geographically with other departmental provision it is anticipated that this will support the development of locally based services.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Finance and the Trade Unions have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

9.0 SIGNATURE

Director of Social Work

Date

Director of Personnel and Management
Services

Date

25 October 2001