

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Social Work Committee - 22 August 2005

REPORT ON: A Framework for Services in Dundee for People with Learning Disabilities

REPORT BY: Director of Social Work

REPORT NO: 494-2005

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide detailed information to the Social Work Committee on a framework for services for people with a learning disability in Dundee and to seek approval to implement the recommendations within the report "A Framework for Services for People with a Learning Disability in Dundee". The document is accessible within the Elected Members' Lounge.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Social Work Committee;

2.1 adopt "A Framework for Services for People with Learning Disabilities in Dundee" for the delivery of community care services to people with a learning disability in Dundee;

2.2 instruct that financial guidance regarding a limit for care packages as outlined in paragraph 6.2.8 be developed, and;

2.3 instruct that the framework be reviewed annually by the Learning Disability Strategic Planning Group.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 As outlined in the report "A Framework for Services for People with Learning Disabilities in Dundee", there is a significant gap between the cost of providing the model of service delivery that is consistent with the current and future demand for services and resources available.

3.2 In order to move the service forward positively by increasing both the range and scale of service delivery, a number of refined priorities have been identified at a cost of £897,000 by 2007/08 (see Appendix 1). These proposals fully utilise the funding available and leave a shortfall of £428,000, once available funding has been fully utilised.

3.3 Other funding avenues will be explored to make up the shortfall in available resources. A further report will be brought to Committee if it is not possible to identify sufficient funding to proceed with all the priority developments as proposed.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The developments and services proposed within the report will facilitate people with learning disabilities to continue to have their needs met in their local community and ensure delivery of services to individuals in need as a result of their disability.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The proposals will ensure people with learning disabilities feel valued, able to contribute to the community in which they live and with support, exercise their right to lead full and active lives.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

6.1 Background

- 6.1.1 The Scottish Executive published the report, "The Same As You?", A Review of Services for People with a Learning Disability" in August 2000 to change the model of services delivered to people with a learning disability. Towards this end a number of innovative changes have been implemented in Dundee, utilising change fund money from the Scottish Executive. There remains a need, however, to continue implementation of this policy in Dundee and to make clear the priorities within which this continued development will take place.

- 6.1.2 To date, changes in service provision have evidenced considerable benefit to individuals who use re-designed services but new opportunities have only been made available to small numbers of local people. Much local provision is still based on congregate, segregated resources.

- 6.1.3 Local and national research has evidenced that there is a trend of increasing numbers of people with learning disabilities as more children with complex needs survive and people have longer life expectancies. There are also a number of factors which affect increasing demand for resources, although not as a direct result of an increase in population numbers. These factors include an increasing demand for community based service provision; families opting to maintain those with profound and multiple learning disabilities at home with a direct effect on the amount of community based service provision required; people with moderate to complex learning disabilities no longer moving into long term hospital provision and the expectation that youngsters with disabilities should achieve independent living, albeit with support.

6.2 The Framework for Services

- 6.2.1 The Framework for Services for People with a Learning Disability in Dundee describes the population trends in Dundee, the demand for services, the kind of needs that require to be met now and in the future, a model of service delivery that is consistent with the needs and the current national and local policy framework and priorities for service development and re-design that can be taken forward within the resource framework currently available. The report also identifies that it is not possible to meet all local aspirations within current financial resources available. The refined priorities are however recommended to committee on the basis that they will move the service forward positively by increasing both the range and scale of service delivery.

- 6.2.2 The identified priority groups for new or re-provisioned services are:
young people / children with profound and multiple learning disabilities;
adults with learning disabilities who live with ageing carers;
people who use traditional day care, including those with specialist needs;
people who live in large congregate Social Work Department establishments;
people who live in hospitals;
people who are inappropriately placed / have specialist needs; and
people who are entrapped in acute hospital beds (delayed discharge).

- 6.2.3 To refine these priorities all potential developments were examined. The recommended areas for development reflect a balance between meeting the most urgent and pressing needs for accommodation and increasing access to community based infrastructure that will help people remain at home and support carers.
- 6.2.4 The refined priorities for development are:
re-organisation of day services including for those with specialist needs;
specialist provision for those with complex needs (Phase 1);
specialist provision for those with complex needs (Phase 2);
respite house;
resettlement of individuals from hospital (costs will be met by the Health Board and a separate report has been prepared by Health outlining financial implications).
- 6.2.5 The revised priorities involve the development of crucial services for adults with learning disabilities and their families. The re-organisation of day services will change provision from large congregate settings to a dispersed enabling model which will assist individuals to access mainstream facilities. The development of specialist provision will offer appropriate accommodation, care and support opportunities to individuals. The development of a respite house will replace the provision at Maryfield House and will offer an opportunity to explore a flexible staffing model which can respond to individual needs effectively.
- 6.2.6 However, the current resource framework does not provide adequate resources to meet even these revised priorities. It will be necessary, therefore, to identify alternative sources of funding to meet the costs of service and to contract for new services within the consequent available resource envelope. Seeking alternative funding will involve a redistribution of Supporting People funding towards the developments identified in this report and also ring fencing a proportion of future new monies for these purposes.
- 6.2.7 For service users and their carers this will mean that the scale and pace of service development will be phased and that the service design will have to take account of economies of scale. Services will be provided that meet the needs of people and that meet standards of care, however, they might not meet every aspiration or be provided when individuals would prefer.
- 6.2.8 Care packages can range in cost between approximately £5,000 and £130,000 per annum. In order to ensure a degree of equity in resource provision and value for money it is proposed that financial guidance be developed once service modelling is complete. This would result in financial limits being set for the commissioning of most care packages and a cap on costs of services being agreed as a guideline.

7.0 CONSULTATION

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

The report has also been tabled at the Learning Disability Strategic Planning Group, and the Health & Local Authority Management Group where a range of multi-disciplinary professional and other stakeholders have been consulted.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

A Framework for Services in Dundee for People with Learning Disabilities.

Alan G Baird
Director of Social Work
Date: 9 August 2005

APPENDIX 1

Joint Commissioning Strategy (Learning Disabilities) - Refined Investment and Development Proposals

	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10
	£(000s)	£(000s)	£(000s)	£(000s)	£(000s)
Specialist provision/complex needs (phase 1) Tullideph	530	686	686	686	686
Supporting People Pipeline Funding	-139	-362	-362	-362	-362
SWD current investment (individual placements)	-170	-170	-170	-170	-170
Required Funds (05/06=part year)	221	154	154	154	154
Specialist provision/complex needs (phase 2)	0	0	686	686	686
SWD current investments + health funding	0	0	-357	-357	-357
Required Funds	0	0	329	329	329
Change to Dispersed Day Opportunities	198	170	170	170	170
Stepping Forward Development	345	287	287	287	287
Re-investment available (SF1 +Resource Transfer)	-287	-287	-287	-287	-287
Required Funds	58	0	0	0	0
Respite House (currently Maryfield beds)	244	244	244	244	244
Total Required Funds	721	568	897	897	897

Funds Available for Reinvestment	£000
Social Work Savings from Supporting People Funding	469
Total	469
Shortfall	428