

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE –
24 SEPTEMBER 2001

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE PLANNING/DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL
WORK/DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

REPORT ON: PUBLIC HEALTH CAPACITY BUILDING

REPORT NO: 569-2001

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report recommends the establishment of a Health Improvement Officer post funded jointly by the Scottish Executive, Tayside Health Board and Dundee City Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that Personnel and Management Services Committee approves the establishment of a fixed term full-time post of Health Improvement Officer graded APV/PO1, SCP 31-35 (£24,813 - £27,686) in the Social Work Department.
- 2.2 It is recommended that the Director of Corporate Planning be instructed to make a submission to the Scottish Executive to secure Public Health Capacity Building Funding for 2001-2004.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The post will be funded on a partnership basis by the Scottish Executive, Tayside Health Board and Dundee City Council over a fixed three-year period from 2001/02 to 2003/04 as detailed in Section 7.4. Dundee City Council's contribution over the three years will be as follows:

<u>Source</u>	<u>2001/02</u>	<u>2002/03</u>	<u>2003/04</u>
Revenue Funding	1,000	3,000	3,000
Support in Kind	883	2,500	2,500
Total	1,833	5,500	5,500

- 3.2 In year one the Council's contribution will be met from an award from the Scottish Executive's Health Improvement Fund and in years two and three from Corporate Planning/Social Work revenue budgets.
- 3.3 At the end of the three year period a review of the post will be undertaken to establish whether there is a need for it to continue and to identify potential sources of further partnership based funding.

4. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Health Improvement Officer will co-ordinate the Council's response to health inequalities in Dundee many of which are caused by poverty, disability or social exclusion.

5. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report supports the Dundee 21 theme which promotes Health Services which emphasise prevention of illness as well as care for the sick.

6. BACKGROUND

- 6.1 On 22 March, Susan Deacon, Minister for Health and Community Care, announced that pump-priming funding of up to £1.5 million over three years would be made available to Local Authorities and Health Boards to encourage and further develop joint working on health improvement.
- 6.2 The importance of joint working to tackle health inequalities and actively promote the health of communities has consistently been reflected in the Scottish Executive's strategic documents on health, namely "Towards a Healthier Scotland" and "Our National Health". The latter calls for Health Boards and Local Authorities to produce and implement "joint local health improvement plans" for each local authority area within the framework of the community planning process.
- 6.3 There are already many good examples of joint working between Health Boards and Local Authorities which contribute significantly to the health gain of local populations. The Executive and COSLA have indicated their intention to work with Health Boards and Local Authorities to encourage this joint working through guidance, the sharing of good practice and by creating the capacity for Boards and Authorities to work together. As a first step, the Executive is making available up to £0.5m a year for 3 years, which it expects will be matched with £0.5 m a year of Local Authority/Health Board resources, in order to fund a health improvement post (costing in the region of £30,000 a year) in each Local Authority in Scotland.
- 6.4 This funding is intended to encourage Boards and Authorities to come forward with jointly-funded proposals to ensure further progress to embed health improvement in the whole range of relevant local authority activities and services and to ensure effective joint working of the kind which will be required within joint local health improvement plan and as part of the Community Planning process.
- 6.5 Funding allocations will be made in the light of proposals received. Dundee City Council has been invited to forward proposals for "sustainable joint funded posts".
- 6.6 The proposals are expected to contain the following information:
- the identification of the partners
 - proposed post(s) and funding that will be made available from both the Health Board and the Council - details of the actual split are required
 - job description of the post(s) including management supervision and accountability arrangements
 - arrangements for continuation of the post(s) after 3 years
 - contact name, address, e-mail address and telephone number
 - partners may specifically wish to evaluate the impact of these posts over the 3-year period but it is expected that they will be monitored and reviewed as part of an integrated approach to "Best Value".

7. DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL PROPOSAL

- 7.1 In providing these resources the Scottish Executive is signalling its view that it expects local authorities to seriously challenge poor health in association with Health Boards. Improving health is expected to be a priority under the potential duty of Community Planning which may be placed on Councils. This will inevitably be the case in Dundee which is recognised as having some of the severest and most concentrated ill-health in Scotland associated with problems such as teenage conception, drug and alcohol misuse, smoking, oral health and diet.
- 7.2 The Health Improvement Officer post will increase the capacity of the Council to respond to the public health agenda by expanding its role as a public health organisation which tackles health inequalities and works to improve the health of the people of Dundee. As well as meeting the requirements outlined in section 3.4 above, the main responsibilities of the postholder will be to:
- participate in joint planning mechanisms with NHS Tayside to develop strategic local health plans and in particular the Dundee Health Improvement Plan.
 - work with Council services to maximise the local authority's role as a public health organisation with a major contribution to the health improvement agenda
 - initiate and develop key health improvement projects and in conjunction with colleagues and representatives of partner organisations, advise them on appropriate ways of improving and implementing project plans
- 7.3 The Scottish Executive is to provide funding of up to £15,000 per annum with the expectation that Tayside Health Board and Dundee City Council will jointly match this. On Tayside Health Board's behalf, the Healthy Dundee Alliance has agreed to make a contribution of £9,500 per annum. Tayside Health Board has also agreed that some of the Council's contribution can take the form of in kind support with an indication that a balance of £3,000 revenue and £2,500 in kind support for a full year would be supported.
- 7.4 Submissions are to be made to the Scottish Executive by 31 August and a decision expected by the end of September. It is unlikely that the post will be filled before the end of 2001, so it is likely that no more than one third of the budget will be required for this financial year. The likely financial implications of this proposal are therefore as given below

Public Health Improvement Officer. Financial Implications

• Full Year Costs		£
Scottish Executive		15,000
Tayside Health Board		9,500
Dundee City Council		5,500
• Cash	£3,000	
• In Kind	2,500	
Total		30,000

- Projection Over Three Years

	2001/02 (4 months)	2002/03 (Full Year)	2003/04 (Full Year)
Scottish Executive	5,000	15,000	15,000
Tayside Health Board	3,167	9,500	9,500
Dundee City Council			
• Cash	1,000	3,000	3,000
• In Kind	833	2,500	2,500
Total	10,000	30,000	30,000

7.5 The post will be placed within the Strategic Planning and Commissioning section of the Social Work Department and matrix managed by the Policy Planning Manager, Corporate Planning in consultation with Tayside Health Board's Director of Public Health.

8. CONSULTATION

8.1 The Directors of all Departments have been consulted during the preparation of this report together with the appropriate Trades Unions.

8.2 The content of the submission to the Scottish Executive for match funding has been agreed by Tayside Health Board.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 None

Director of Corporate Planning..... Date

Director of Social Work Date

Director of Personnel
and Management Services Date