

## **DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO: Social Work Committee - 15th November 2004**

**REPORT ON: Delayed Discharge Interim Report**

**REPORT BY: The Director of Social Work**

**REPORT NO: 756 - 2004**

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To advise members of Social Work Committee of the substantial progress that has been made towards reducing delayed discharges in Dundee.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Social Work Committee:-

- a) Note the progress that has been made towards reducing delayed discharges;
- b) Notes and endorses the actions that the Director of Social Work will take to continue to minimise delayed discharges.

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 The Social Work Department has contributed to meeting delayed discharge targets from within existing resources.

### **4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Minimising delayed discharge ensures that the most effective use is made of hospital services.

### **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Minimising delayed discharge ensures older and disabled people are not delayed in hospital and have the care and support that best meets their needs.

### **6.0 MAIN TEXT**

6.1 The local authority Social Work Department has worked in close co-operation with NHS Tayside to reduce the number of people who are unnecessarily delayed in hospital beds.

The Scottish Executive set an ambitious annual target for Tayside for 2003-2004 and quarterly targets for 2004-2005, although the April 2005 figure is provisional as it has yet to be agreed by the Tayside Joint Health & Social Partnership Forum. Dundee City Council was asked to contribute to the Tayside target by meeting a local target.

While the figures have still to be formally validated, the first set of quarterly targets for Tayside have just been reported to the Scottish Executive and as of 15 October the provisional target figure for Tayside of 120 has been met.

- 6.2 This progress is consistent with a steady improvement in the headline figure for Dundee, which has been maintained over the last 6 months. The census return date is 15 October, and the figure of 49 for Dundee compares with a figure of 104 for Dundee for the October 2003 census.
- 6.3 Exceeding the target figure represents a significant achievement in the working partnership between Dundee City Council and NHS Tayside. The following priority actions have been agreed to ensure that the partnership continues to work towards reducing unnecessary delays further. The partnership will work to:-
- a) ensure that the progress made in the acute hospital setting is consolidated;
  - b) maintain the focus on making placements in residential and nursing homes as patients waiting for placements represent the largest single group delayed beyond 6 weeks in hospital;
  - c) commit to implement any learning from the Audit Scotland Whole System Project (the partnership is involved in the pilot project with Audit Scotland to model the whole delayed discharge system and to better assess the actions which will have a long term impact on this area of operation).

## **7.0 CONSULTATION**

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

## **8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

Alan G Baird  
Director of Social Work

Date: 5th November 2004