

**REPORT TO: HOUSING COMMITTEE – 17 MARCH 2003  
SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE – 17 MARCH 2003**

**REPORT ON: SUPPORTING PEOPLE –  
SERVICES EXEMPT FROM CHARGING**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND  
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK**

**REPORT NO: 169-2003**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to advise Council which services the Scottish Executive have advised should be free to service users and the implications for Dundee City Council.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Council agree:

- 2.1. That the services identified in this report are considered short term.
- 2.2. These short term services should be exempt from the Council's Supporting People Charging Policy.

**3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Supporting People Grant will be paid to Local Authorities net of charging income. Services which are exempt from charging and satisfy the Scottish Executive criteria, should attract the gross cost of the service in the grant from the Scottish Executive.

**4. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

The recommendations of this report will ensure that people in need have access to the Housing Support Service they require to assist independent living.

**5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

The implementation of the Supporting People Policy and framework should improve the choice of accommodation with support available to vulnerable people. It also gives the opportunity to provide flexible housing support irrespective of where the recipient lives.

**6. BACKGROUND**

- 6.1. The Housing and Social Work Committees were advised in November of the requirement for the Council to introduce a charging process for Housing Support Services funded by the Supporting People Grant. It was agreed that the Council should adopt the existing policy for charging for non residential care which meets the requirements of Scottish Executive Supporting People Guidance.

It was noted that some short term services would be exempt from charging and it was agreed that a further report would highlight these services once guidance was received from the Scottish Executive.

Guidance has now been received to clarify what should be classed as a short term service.

## 6.2. **SHORT TERM SERVICES**

Local Authorities have to make a distinction between '*short term*' and '*long term*' services.

Short term services aim to bring about independent living within 2 years through a package of time limited housing support. It is recognised, however, that fully independent living may not be achievable.

The initial package of support would be expected to last for less than 2 years.

Services will, in general, be seen to give short term housing support where the service primarily meets needs such as:

- Domestic violence.
- Single homeless.
- Homeless families.
- Drugs/alcohol rehabilitation.
- Young vulnerable people.
- Ex-offenders.
- Refugees.

Local Authorities will receive the full cost of the Service from the Supporting People Grant, which will be passed on to the service provider.

- 6.3. The list of services, Appendix 1, are the services which currently exist which will be exempt from charges. Additional exempt services are likely to be added as Supporting People develops.

## 7. **CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, Director of Support Services and Director of Finance have been consulted on the content of this approach.

## 8. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Dundee City Council Charging for Non-Residential Care Policy.

- Housing and Social Work Committee Report 18 November 2002  
*'Charging Policy for Housing Support Services'*.
- Supporting People Consultation Paper 12, *'Charging and Financial Assessment'*.
- Supporting People Guidance, *'Short and Long Term Services'*.

**ELAINE ZWIRLEIN**  
**DIRECTOR OF HOUSING**

**ALAN BAIRD**  
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**22 JANUARY 2003**

Services Exempt from Charging

Dundee Womens Aid Collective  
Dundee Cyrenians Soapwork Lane, Jessie Devlin Close  
Dundee Cyrenians Brewery Lane  
Carolina House Trust Management Flats  
Carolina House Trust Training Flats  
East Port House  
Jericho House Alcohol Recovery Unit  
Dundee Survival Group  
NCH Dundee Families Project Core  
NCH Dundee Families Project Dispersed  
NCH Cowan Grove Dispersed  
NCH Cowan Grove Core  
NCH Cowan Grove Studios  
NCH Cowan Grove Outreach  
The Salvation Army – Clement Park  
The Salvation Army – Strathmore Lodge