LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES - DAY SERVICES

1 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present and agree the service specification for day services for people with learning disabilities, and proposals for implementation which will lead to the reprovision of Kerse Road Day Centre over a 5 year period.

1.2 The Specification is attached as Annex 1 to this report which sets out not only service details but a full revenue and capital cost appraisal within a five year programme.

2 SUMMARY

2.1 The “Family of Plans” which was agreed by Care Committee on 20 November 1997 outlined a commitment to review day services and develop a replacement service for Kerse Road Day Centre.

2.2 Reprovision of services for people with learning disabilities was identified as a key priority within the plans.

2.3 Changes in regulation for registration of services are anticipated in the relatively near future. These will require significant changes in the way future services are provided.

2.4 Within Forth Valley, a joint local learning disability strategy is currently being developed in partnership between the three local authorities, Forth Valley Health Board, and the Primary Care Trust. The strategy is still being developed but will focus on integrated local community based services.

2.5 Care Needs Assessment indicates that the service required should be broadly provided in two distinct areas which differentiate the level of need and degree of individual support required. Whilst one aspect of the service will seek to maximise service users independence, acting as a support base and drop in, for those with more profound needs there remains a requirement to provide environment where a higher degree of direct care, respite and health care is possible.
2.6 The smaller of the two service areas “Next Step” is broadly in line with feasibility work and plans which have been developed for the Forrest Road site in Riverside in partnership with the local community.

2.7 The main service area “The Support Unit” will require a closer relationship with health services, and the potential for joint development should be explored.

3 RECOMMENDATION(S)

3.1 It is recommended that Committee:

3.2 Notes and agrees the service specification as the basis for future development of day services.

3.3 Agrees to the phasing of this development via

   • Proceed to immediate reprovision of “Next Step” on the Forrest Road site.
   • Commission a formal approach to health joint provision of the service for people with profound and severe disabilities.

3.4 Note and agree the capital and revenue implications and agree submission for approval by the Resources Committee, Capital Strategy Working Group and for consideration within the next budget round for 2000/01.

3.5 Agree the process for consultation which will include the participation of the local community, service users and carers and a broad range of related services and agencies.

3.6 Agree the proposed reporting back schedule.

4 CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 Kerse Road Day Centre was built in 1977 as an occupational/industrial unit for adults with disabilities. Provision of day services was a subsequent development, but for a number of years the building has been unsuitable for the purpose for which it has been used. Despite this, a large number of individuals have received very high quality services over the years at Kerse Road and in particular the “Geared Up” supported employment service has achieved some notable successes.

4.2 Changes will be introduced in the registration requirements for day services as a result of the proposals contained within “Aiming for Excellence”. These will introduce a number of standards of service which our current services would not meet, significantly in the area of staffing levels.

4.3 In order to produce the specification for the new service, the current service has been reviewed, and a new specification produced based on a projected assessment of future need, new registration requirements, and current thinking and good practice in the provision of these services.

4.4 The above has highlighted the following key issues.
4.4.1 Any new service must be based on a “person centred planning” approach i.e. services must be planned and delivered in response to the assessed needs of individual service users.

4.4.2 Services must be focused on accessing the broadest range of community services possible, and encouraging the “sharing of ordinary places” by people with learning disabilities.

4.4.3 Numbers of service users are projected to rise by a small number each year, with fewer people leaving or retiring from using these services in the short to medium term.

4.4.4 Over the longer term the larger group of service users will be those with the more profound or complex levels of disability. In particular the service will require to meet the needs of around 20 individual currently in the Royal Scottish National Hospital which is scheduled for retraction over the next three years.

4.4.5 In the short to medium term respecifying these services will attract people who currently choose not to use services.

4.4.6 Services need to be flexible enough to adapt to meet future changing needs.

4.5 As a consequence of the above the service specification identifies two core areas of activity for service.

4.5.1 The first and largest of the two will ensure support and care for those adults with more profound or complex needs and those whose skills and confidence require more intensive encouragement or assessment. This would include those currently attending 3 groups; Social Care, Skills Development and profound and Multiple Disability.

4.5.2 The second area of activity centres upon those with less intensive support needs and would therefore operate from a resource base at a separate location, operating within a more independent and integrated philosophy and will include those attending Next Step and most of those currently attending Community Integration. It would also coordinate the work of Geared Up.

4.5.3 The service delivered to the Pre-retiral group which operates from Kerse Road will provisionally operate alongside the first mentioned service area though it is our intention to align this service with mainstream services for older people. The longer term proposal is to operate a more streamlined preparation for retirement group.

4.5.4 Services to all current and potential users from the rural area will be developed on an outreach basis resourced from the urban staff base initially whilst working toward a dedicated rural service in the medium to longer term.
4.5.5 Annex 1 details for each area of service the following:

- aims/objectives
- detail of service activities
- priority/eligibility criteria
- profile of current service users
- future needs

4.5.6 Spacial and indicative staffing requirements are extrapolated for each service area.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The proposals outlined in this report are consistent with the agreed policy objectives contained within the “Family of Plans”, in particular the prioritisation of the development of community based services for individuals with learning disabilities.

5.2 The key strategic aim of the council which is progressed by these proposals is that of social inclusion. Adults with learning disability have in the past not enjoyed access to the range of community based services which others enjoy. The principles contained within the service specification make reference to a Framework for accomplishment” set out by John O’Brien, which focuses on:

- sharing ordinary places
- making choices
- developing abilities
- growing in relationships
- and having a valued social role"

5.3 These opportunities give effect to the aim of Social Inclusion for a group which has historically suffered from exclusion more than most.

6 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 As we have reviewed the current service provided at Kerse Road, and considered future development, there has been a continuous dialogue with current service users and carers, and specific consultation about the future direction of services.

6.2 Consultation with the local community in Riverside has taken place within a dialogue facilitated by the Councils’ Technical Services.

6.3 Development of these proposals have taken place in consultation with a number of interested parties including Civic, Community and Education Services.
6.4 A range of further consultations on the specific proposals will be required, primarily targeted at service users and cares, but including a broad range of agencies and organisations.

6.5 It is proposed that this process should be subject to a reporting back to Care Committee on a half yearly basis.

7 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Capital

7.1.1 The current financial year will involve design work and consultations over the Riverside proposal and the purchase of a vehicle for Next Step, involving £70,000 of capital.

7.1.2 During 2000/01 the Service will require £500,000 to complete building in Riverside and begin design work for the main service area The Support Unit.

7.1.3 Capital expenditure will peak in 2001/02 at £800,000 for main building work and completion at Riverside. 2002/03 will see completion of the main site requiring £400,000.

7.1.4 Development activity will conclude with a need for £100,000 in 2003/04 although vacating Kerse Road that year should net a capital receipt to the Council of around £1m.

7.2 Revenue

7.2.1 The revenue implications are summarised below;

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Recurring £</th>
<th>Non-recurring £</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase in funding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000/01</td>
<td>210,570</td>
<td>4,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001/02</td>
<td>85,340</td>
<td>4,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002/03</td>
<td>25,200</td>
<td>4,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>321,110</td>
<td>13,500</td>
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7.2.2 The majority of these costs relate to staffing implications. Increased staffing will need to be incurred even if the centre remains at Kerse Road, due to anticipated new registration standards. The increased revenue costs are shown in more detail within the service specification.

7.2.3 At this stage it has not been possible to fully calculate the revenue implications for service area 1 apart from staff costs. This will be subject to detailed discussion with relevant parties in the immediate future.

7.2.4 The revenue implications will have to be fully identified and the shortfall will require to be approved by Resources Committee. The budget strategy for 2001/01 2001/02 has still to be agreed and the level of GAE in respect of Community Care has not been determined. It may therefore prove difficult to commit resources for future years at this stage.
8  BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 Family of Plans Care Committee Report - 20 November 1997
8.2 Report to Special Executive - 27 April 1999
8.3 John O’Brien Framework
8.4 Aiming for Excellence and Report to Care Committee 15 June 1999
8.5 Modernising Community Care
8.6 National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990
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