

## **DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Social Work Committee - 16 May 2005

**REPORT ON:** Delayed Discharge Report - Annual Census

**REPORT BY:** Director of Social Work

**REPORT NO:** 315 - 2005

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

- 1.1 To advise members of Social Work Committee of progress in achieving targets for reduction of delayed discharges.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Social Work Committee:-

- a) Note that Dundee has achieved the targets set by the Scottish Executive for the reduction in delayed discharges.
- b) Notes and endorses the actions of the Director of Social Work 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 Dundee City Council has continued to work in partnership with NHS Tayside to achieve targets set by the Scottish Executive. The target set for 2004-2005 was a reduction of 20% in the number of patients deemed to be delayed discharge.

For Tayside the target to be achieved by 15 April 2005 was 107 patients with attention being given to patients delayed beyond six weeks and beyond one year.

- 6.2 Dundee's target was 51 patients. There were 47 patients delayed at the census on 15 April.

- 6.3 The Scottish Executive are seeking urgent action on patients delayed beyond one year. There are no patients in Dundee delayed beyond one year.
- 6.4 There are currently 24 patients delayed beyond six weeks. This is an improvement of 15 patients over the previous twelve-month period when 39 patients were delayed beyond six weeks.
- 6.5 The progress towards achieving the Scottish Executive target has been achieved by ongoing partnership between Dundee City Council and NHS Tayside. The efforts have focused on improving assessment performance times, joint prioritisation of placement activity, and case by case attention to those patients likely to become extended delays.
- 6.6 The success of this strategy is a significant achievement both in terms of reaching delayed discharge numbers and in establishing an infrastructure to sustain effective patient discharge.
- 6.7 The ongoing objectives are to further reduce the number of patients deemed to be delayed discharges, and to reduce the length of delay to a minimum having regard to available resources.
- 6.8 The agenda for the next year will be influenced by
- the National Tripartite Working Group on Delayed Discharge which has recently completed its work.
  - the Audit Scotland Whole System Project. The initial report has just been presented for consideration by the Tayside Partnership

## **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: 6 May 2005