

## WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

### Report by the Acting Director of Social Work Services and the West Dunbartonshire Community Health Partnership Director

Health Improvement and Social Justice Partnership: 22nd November 2006

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#### **Subject: Response to the Scottish Executive Draft Framework for Rehabilitation**

#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Partnership about the response submitted to the Scottish Executive draft Framework for Rehabilitation, on the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2006.
- 1.2 The response was developed by collating comments from officers, practitioners and clinicians from the Community Health Partnership, the local Acute Sector, and Social Work. Collective inputs were also received from care sector planning groups.
- 1.3 The response has been submitted in draft form to accommodate any additional comment that members of the Partnership may wish to make.
- 1.4 The draft response was submitted on 31<sup>st</sup> October because that was the deadline set by the Scottish Executive.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 The draft Framework aims to shape the future delivery of rehabilitation services, and focuses on three main categories of need. These are Older People; people with long-term conditions, and people returning from work absence and aiming to stay in employment.
- 2.2 The underpinning ethos of the framework is that agencies should work together to provide a collaborative approach to rehabilitation, where all inputs are linked and each participator understands his or her role in the overall rehabilitation goals relating to the individual who receives the services.
- 2.3 The Framework recognises and attempts to build upon the advances in joint working that have come about over the past few years during the implementation of the Joint Future agenda. It proposes that these gains can be further advanced in line with "Delivering for Health" and "Changing Lives", and that such advancement will be best achieved through the delivery of an action plan derived from the finalised framework

### **3. Main Issues**

- 3.1** The framework attempts to bring together a number of key national policy strands, to provide a future direction in line with what has already been agreed. However, in developing the response there was a strong sense from staff that the framework relies too heavily on a medicalised model of rehabilitation. The response therefore proposes that an inclusive approach that takes account of all potential inputs (both medical and social) has a greater likelihood of resulting in a framework that addresses the longer-term rehabilitation needs of individuals. A more inclusive approach is also more likely to take proper account of the role and needs of carers and the responsibility of the person requiring rehabilitation services.
- 3.2** Our response has aimed to recognise the positive work that has gone into developing the framework, and to offer some insight as to how the framework can be further developed based on local experience of service delivery.

### **4. Personnel Issues**

- 4.1** There are no personnel issues.

### **5. Finance Implications**

- 5.1** There are no financial implications at this stage.

### **6. Conclusions**

- 6.1** Further development of the draft framework is required, and our Partnership is equipped to contribute positively to that process.
- 6.2** Key strand of activity in West Dunbartonshire will include the implementation of the care management training framework and continued close joint working between health and social work colleagues.
- 6.3** Our Welfare Rights Service will also have an important role, particularly in the management of rehabilitation services for the three key target groups identified by the framework..

### **7. Recommendations**

- 7.1** The Partnership is asked to note the content of the report and subsequent response. The consultation document attached is Appendix 1 and West Dunbartonshire's draft response is Appendix 2.

**7.2** The Partnership is asked to make comments as necessary to the Acting Director of Social Work Services.

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**Appendices:**

- 1) Moving From Care to Enablement: Framework for Rehabilitation, Scottish Executive August 2006.
- 2) West Dunbartonshire Joint Future Response, October 2006.

**Background Papers:** Delivering for Health  
Changing Lives

**Wards Affected:** All council Wards.