

Care at Home/Home Care Support Guidance

City of Edinburgh Council

18 December 2008

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To submit recommendations, in terms of Standing Order 53, following consideration of a motion by the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee on the Care at Home/Home Care Support Guidance.

2 Background

- 2.1 On 9 December 2008, the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee considered the following motion by Councillor Hinds on the Care at Home/Home Care Support Guidance, submitted in terms of Standing Order 28:

“Following the implementation of this guidance in September 2007 and their circulation to home care assessors, clients and staff have voiced concern that there is continually not sufficient time to carry out the essential tasks within the allocated time. In addition there is frequently no time allocated for travelling between clients’ homes. The Committee agrees to establish a review of the Care at Home/Home Care Support Guidance.”

3 Deputation

- 3.1 The Committee heard a deputation from UNISON. The deputation said they had been concerned when guidance had been issued a year ago on time to be allocated for home care, particularly the introduction of 30 minute time slots. Their worst fears had now been confirmed. They gave examples of how these time slots impinged on their work and asked the Committee to reconsider this guidance and to support the motion by Councillor Hinds.

4 Division

4.1 Motion

To approve the motion.

- moved by Councillor Hinds, seconded by Councillor Ewan Aitken.

4.2 Amendment 1

- (a) To agree that the Committee was content with the current arrangements for the application of this Guidance noting that:
 - (i) Care plans for individual clients were prepared following an assessment of need.
 - (ii) The purpose of the Guidance was to assist staff and flexibility could be applied by the chairs of multidisciplinary Sector Care Panels.
 - (iii) Home care staff were able to speak to their line manager regarding the feasibility of undertaking the range of tasks required.
- (b) Further to note that Home Care Organisers were in the process of moving from the centralised Home Care Direct service to locality-based teams. This change would improve scheduling and was being introduced following comments from frontline staff.
- (c) In light of the above, to take no action on the terms of the motion to establish a review of the current guidance for staff.

- moved by Councillor Edie, seconded by Councillor Work.

4.3 Amendment 2

- (a) To note concerns had been raised regarding changes to Care at Home, particularly regarding times allocated.
- (b) To note that Health and Social Care was moving to a local based system and to ask for a report in two cycles detailing any issues and how these had been addressed.

- moved by Councillor Kate MacKenzie, seconded by Councillor Elaine Aitken.

5 Voting

5.1 The mover of amendment 1, with the consent of his seconder and the mover and seconder of amendment 2, accepted amendment 2 as an addendum to amendment 1.

5.2 The voting was as follows:

For the motion	-	5 votes
For the composite of amendments 1 and 2	-	13 votes

6 Decision

6.1 To approve the composite of amendments 1 and 2 by Councillors Edie and Kate MacKenzie.

6.2 **In terms of Standing Order 53, the requisite number of members required that the decision be referred to the Council as a recommendation.**



John Sturt
Council Secretary
10.12.08

Appendix	None.
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Wards affected	City wide
Background Papers	Minute of Health, Social Care and Housing Committee 9 December 2008