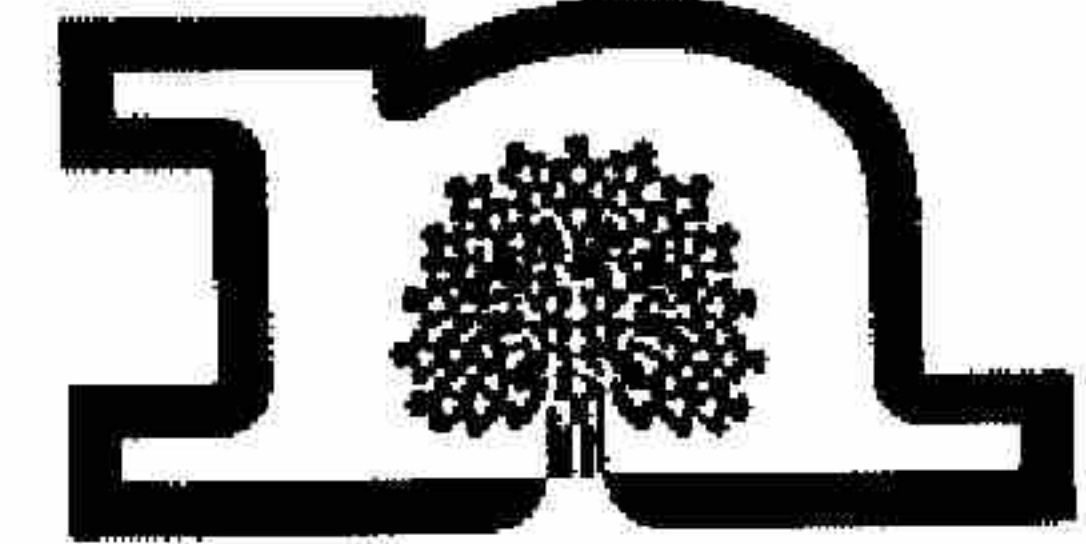


report



meeting	SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE		
date	30th December 1992	agenda item number	15

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

OPENING OF 2A SANDOWN ROAD

(1) Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this Report is to reopen the Community Home serving Ashfield District at 2a Sandown Road, and to propose a temporary staffing structure; a permanent structure will be proposed following the work of the Implementation Team which has been established to take forward the proposals in the Review of Residential Child Care Working Party.

(2) Under the reorganisation of Community Homes in 1984, West Lodge Community Home was established to serve the needs of Ashfield Area. Members were informed that staff and children moved from there to a new building at 2a Sandown Road on 23rd December 1989.

(3) Whilst West Lodge could accommodate 14 young people 2a Sandown Road can offer eight places. Planning permission for this was agreed in September 1991.

(4) The staffing establishment for West Lodge was as follows:-

- 1 x Officer in Charge
- 1 x Deputy Officer in Charge
- 3 x Team Leaders
- 8 x Residential Social Workers
- 0.5 fte Clerk
- 1.1 fte Cook
- 1.2 fte Domestic
- 0.5 fte Laundress/Seamstress
- 1 x Gardener/Handyperson

(5) Members will recall being notified that more recent difficulties within 2a Sandown Road led to the temporary closure. Care staff have been redeployed into vacancies and the domestic staff retained to service the building which has been temporarily used by the District as meeting and office space.

(6) The Report of the working group into residential care has reiterated the need for localised Community Homes and Ashfield District have confirmed their wish to have such placements available.

(7) With the reduction in child places at 2a Sandown Road, it is proposed that a temporary staffing establishment be agreed which will be reviewed during the work of the Implementation Team:-

- 1 x Manager
 - 2 x Assistant Managers
 - 7.5 x Residential Social Workers
 - 0.5 fte Clerk
 - 1.1 fte Cook
 - 0.6 fte Domestic
 - 0.5 fte Laundress/Seamstress
- (8) It is proposed that the Residential Social Work posts that are not required at 2a Sandown Road because of its smaller capacity be transferred temporarily pending the work of the Implementation Team:-
- (a) 1 fte to Hamilton Court and 1 fte to 362 St. Albans Road. These Young Persons Homes currently have 9 fte posts; the additional post would enable them to carry out their after care support task more effectively.
 - (b) 0.5 fte to 88 First Avenue which currently has a staffing establishment of 8 fte posts plus a temporary additional Team leader post from Brick House; they have the smallest number of staff among the Community Homes and the additional 0.5 post would reduce some of the pressure which they find themselves under.
- (9) The post of Gardener/Handyperson was transferred to Greenhills EPH following the temporary closure.
- (10) The County Management Services Officer has evaluated the domestic services workload for the new premises and proposes a total of 24 hours per week. This is a reduction in the current establishment of 24 hours per week. It will be the intention of the Department to seek suitable alternative employment for the staff affected.
- (11) The proposals have been discussed with the Trade Unions and to date no written comments have been received.

Equal Opportunities Implications

The Equal Opportunities dimension has been considered and there do not appear to be any implications arising from the proposals in the report.

County Treasurer's Comments

The costs of the revised staffing structure can be contained within the existing budgetary provision for West Lodge of circa £250,000 per annum.

It is

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) that approval in principle be given to the reopening of 2a Sandown Road with the above staffing structure subject to further detailed consideration by the Implementation Team.

*Max 51.
see Green*

DPA

- (b) that the temporary transfer of 2.5 Residential Social Work posts be agreed, subject to the detailed consideration of the Implementation Team.

DAVID R. WHITE
Director of Social Services.

Background Papers

None.

554/CH/AD/AR

