

**REPORT TO: HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON  
31 MARCH 2010**

**SUBJECT: TELEHEALTHCARE STRATEGY**

**BY: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 This report is presented to give Committee an opportunity to review the draft Telehealthcare Strategy (**APPENDIX 1**) and approve it for wider consultation.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of the Council's Administrative Scheme in relation to the function of the Council as Social Work Authority under the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Health & Social Care Services Committee approve the Telehealthcare Strategy for public consultation.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Telehealthcare is the term used to describe the integration of telecare and telehealth.
- 3.2 The aim of telehealthcare is to utilise new technology to support a shift in health and social care services towards prevention, to facilitate discharge from hospital and assist in the prevention of either hospital admissions or admissions into long-term care.
- 3.3 The development of telecare in Moray Council began in 2006 when the Scottish Government launched a specific development grant for telecare.
- 3.4 Since 2006 there has been significant growth in use of telecare, with many successful examples of implementation:
- use of "Just Checking" devices for people with cognitive deficits.
  - A joint project with the Met Office for users with diagnosis of COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)
  - A large scale survey of community alarm users
  - Increasing number of users benefiting from enhanced telecare in their own home.
- 3.5 A Joint Improvement Team review of telecare in 2009 indicated that the focus of telecare development going forward should be:
- Strategic planning
  - Communication and training
  - Integration with mainstream operational processes

- Resourcing
- Monitoring, evaluation and performance management

3.6 The Telehealthcare Strategy identifies how each of these items will be prepared.

3.7 The document will be published for wider public consultation following approval by Committee.

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

##### **(a) Single Outcome Agreement/Service Improvement Plan**

The content of this report concurs with the overall aims in promotion of living longer, healthier lives in taking a preventative approach to health and social care. It also supports priority 3.3 of the Community Services Service Development and Improvement Plan 2009/10 – *promoting care in the community – Selfcare and Telecare.*

##### **(b) Policy and Legal**

None.

##### **(c) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, Telecare has a budget of £50,000 with additional funding available for 2010/11 of £50,000 (details of which are subject to a separate report on this committee agenda.

##### **(d) Consultations**

General Manager, Moray Community Health and Social Care Partnership; Acting Head of Community Care; Community Care Finance Officer; Charles McKerron, Service Manager; Area Operations Manager – Community Care; Integrated Learning Disability Services Manager; Integrated Mental Health Services Manager; Carers Strategy & Development Officer; Project Officer – Older Peoples Strategy; Deborah Bosworth, Principal Accountant; Senior Planning & Performance Officer.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

5.1 There has been steady development of telecare since 2006 in Moray Council. The strategy for development of telehealthcare describes how further progress will be made.

ITEM:

PAGE: 3

Author of Report: Lorna Bernard, Telehealthcare Project Manager

Background Papers:

Ref: