

SOCIAL WORK RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 7 February 2007

Chair:

Councillor James Handibode

Councillors Present:

Jackie Burns, Tony Carlin, Maureen Devlin (Depute), Alan Dick, Allan Falconer, Ian Gray, Stan Hogarth, Anne Maggs, Michael McCann (Senior Depute), Michael McGlynn, Alex McInnes, Brian McKenna, Pat Morgan, Patricia Osborne, Brian Reilly, Gretel Ross, May Smith

Councillors' Apologies:

Mushtaq Ahmad, Archie Buchanan, Jim Daisley, Jim Docherty, Bev Gauld, Joe Lowe, James Malloy, Edward McAvoy, John McGuinness, Bill McNab, William Ross, Betty Rush, Mary Smith, Bert Thomson

Attending:

Corporate Resources

M Barr, Senior Public Relations Officer; G Cochran, Administration Assistant; J McDonald, Administration Adviser

Finance and Information Technology Resources

M Malavin, Accountant

Social Work Resources

H Stevenson, Executive Director; T Barrie, Head of Support Services; M Brackenridge, Head of Criminal Justice; B Doyle, Head of Child and Family Services; B Hutchinson, Personnel Services Manager; M McConnachie, Strategic Services Planning Manager; J Wilson, Head of Older People's Services

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Social Work Resources Committee held on 15 November 2006 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

The Committee decided: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

3 Minutes of Special Meeting

The minutes of the special meeting of the Social Work Resources Committee held on 24 January 2007 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

The Committee decided: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

4 Revenue Budget Monitoring 2006/2007 - Social Work Resources

A joint report dated 8 January 2007 by the Executive Directors (Finance and Information Technology Resources) and (Social Work Resources) was submitted comparing actual expenditure at 29 December 2006 against budgeted expenditure for 2006/2007 for Social Work Resources.

Details were provided on proposed budget virements to realign budgets.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the breakeven position on Social Work Resources' revenue budget and the forecast to 31 March 2007 of a breakeven position be noted; and
- (2) that the budget virements, as detailed in the appendix to the report, be approved.

5 Capital Budget Monitoring 2006/2007 - Social Work Resources

A joint report dated 8 January 2007 by the Executive Directors (Finance and Information Technology Resources) and (Social Work Resources) was submitted advising of progress on the Social Work Resources' capital programme for 2006/2007 and summarising the expenditure position at 29 December 2006.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

6 Social Work Resources - Workforce Monitoring - October to December 2006

A joint report dated 12 January 2007 by the Executive Directors (Corporate Resources) and (Social Work Resources) was submitted on the following employee information for Social Work Resources for the period October to December 2006:-

- ◆ attendance statistics
- ◆ occupational health statistics
- ◆ accident/incident statistics
- ◆ disciplinary hearings, grievances and Dignity at Work cases
- ◆ analysis of leavers

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

7 Rates, Grants and Charges Increases 2007/2008

A report dated 16 January 2007 by the Executive Director (Social Work Resources) was submitted on various proposals for maintenance rates, grants to voluntary organisations and charges for 2007/2008.

Those proposals covered payment of maintenance rates and grants to voluntary organisations, payment of private and voluntary nursing and residential care home rates, local authority residential charges, local authority non-residential charges and nursing and residential respite charges.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the payment of maintenance rates and grants to voluntary organisations for residential and day care establishments be reviewed and, where required, a negotiated increase of up to no more than the rate of inflation on employee costs, effective from 1 April 2007, be applied;
- (2) that the payment of the private and voluntary residential care home rates for single occupancy rooms be increased to the national fee level for 2007/2008 with effect from 9 April 2007;
- (3) that the payment of private and voluntary nursing care home rates for single occupancy rooms be increased to the national fee level for 2007/2008 with effect from 9 April 2007;
- (4) that the 2007/2008 private and voluntary residential and nursing care home rates be reduced for shared rooms in line with the lower national fee rate recommended with effect from 9 April 2007;
- (5) that the payment of the 2007/2008 private and voluntary residential and nursing care home rates be subject to the provider agreeing to the conditions of the national contract, the implementation of the payment quality model for 2007/2008 and compliance with the development of the longer term payment quality model for full implementation in 2008/2009;
- (6) that the circumstances under which the Council fixed rates above the approved rates through the supplementation system be noted;
- (7) that the charges to other local authorities for all categories of residential and non-residential services be increased by the rate of inflation with effect from 1 April 2007;
- (8) that there be no change to the current charging policy for service users for home care services, meals on wheels, day care services, lunch club charges and community alarm services; and
- (9) that the nursing and residential respite charge be increased in line with Department of Works and Pensions' pension increase with effect from 9 April 2007.

[Reference: Minutes of 8 March 2006 (Paragraph 6)]

8 Amendment to Social Work Resources' Management Structure

A joint report dated 30 January 2007 by the Executive Directors (Corporate Resources) and (Social Work Resources) was submitted on the staffing required to support the revised management structure which had been implemented to address service developments within Social Work Resources.

In order to provide the necessary support, it was proposed that the following posts be established:-

- ◆ 1 post of Commissioning and Procurement Manager graded SCP90-94 (£38,943 to £41,334)
- ◆ 1 post of Assessment and Care Manager graded SCP93-97 (£40,713 to £43,213)

The costs involved in establishing the above 2 posts would be met from the savings identified as part of the review of the management structure.

The Committee decided: that the posts, detailed above, be established to support the revised management structure within Social Work Resources.

[Reference: Minutes of Executive Committee of 16 August 2006 (Paragraph 11)]

9 Pilot Inspection of Social Work Resources by the Social Work Inspection Agency (SWIA)

A report dated 14 December 2006 by the Executive Director (Social Work Resources) was submitted on the Action Plan which had been developed to address the Social Work Inspection Agency's (SWIA) 15 recommendations following completion of their inspection of Social Work Resources.

Details were given on progress made in the last 6 months in relation to addressing the SWIA's recommendations. A further 2 day inspection follow-up visit by the SWIA was to take place in May 2007.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the progress made in implementing the Action Plan to address the recommendations made by SWIA following their inspection of Social Work Resources be noted; and
- (2) that further progress reports on the Action Plan be submitted to this Committee.

[Reference: Minutes of 28 June 2006 (Paragraph 6)]

10 Mental Health Officer Post with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

A joint report dated 12 January 2007 by the Executive Directors (Corporate Resources) and (Social Work Resources) was submitted on the staffing required to allow the implementation of the discharge of long stay hospital patients with mental health problems to the wider community.

In order to provide the necessary support, it was proposed that a post of Social Worker (Mental Health) graded SCP46-80 (£20,220 to £33,542) be established.

The total cost of £40,471 in establishing the above post would be met from Resource Transfer monies from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

The Committee decided: that a post of Social Worker (Mental Health) graded SCP 46-80 (£20,220 to £33,542) be established.

11 Introduction of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and Visor

A report dated 18 December 2006 by the Executive Director (Social Work Resources) was submitted on the introduction of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA).

MAPPA was an administrative arrangement to improve effective co-ordination of information on individuals who were of high risk to the community. As part of the arrangement, the local authority would have access to Visor which was a police database with information on violent and sexual offenders.

MAPPA would be developed on a Lanarkshire-wide basis with a multi-disciplinary team overseeing implementation. This team would then become a management team with responsibility for operational practice and any resource implications arising as part of the development of MAPPA. In order to support the work of the team, it was proposed that an additional post of Co-ordinator be established following discussion with North Lanarkshire Council and the Council's Executive Director (Corporate Resources).

The costs involved would be met from the funding being made available by the Scottish Executive.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the work being undertaken to implement MAPPA and Visor be noted; and
- (2) that the Executive Director (Social Work Resources), in consultation with the Executive Director (Corporate Resources) and the Chair of the Social Work Resources Committee, be authorised to approve the establishment of a post of Co-ordinator following discussion with North Lanarkshire Council.

12 Authorised Providers List - Social Care

A report dated 7 December 2006 by the Executive Director (Social Work Resources) was submitted on:-

- ◆ the inclusion of 3 new providers on the Authorised Providers List for Social Care
- ◆ an amendment to 3 providers on the Authorised Providers List for Social Care to include an additional service type
- ◆ the removal of 2 providers from the Authorised Providers List for Social Care
- ◆ an extension to the period for the review of the Authorised Providers List to allow this to commence in December 2008

The accreditation process had been completed for the existing providers and new providers recommended for inclusion who had all met the relevant criteria.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the organisations detailed below be included on the South Lanarkshire Council's Authorised Providers List for Social Care:-
 - (a) Organisation: Burnside Care Limited
Service Type: Care Home (Residential)
Client Group: Older People
 - (b) Organisation: Popular Care Limited
Service Type: Care Home (Residential)
Client Group: Older People
 - (c) Organisation: The National Autistic Society
Service Type: Support Service, Home Care
Client Group: Children with Special Needs (Autistic Spectrum Disorder), Adults with a Learning Disability (Autistic Spectrum Disorder)

- (2) that the entry for the organisations detailed below on the South Lanarkshire Council's Authorised Providers List for Social Care be amended to include additional service type:-
- (a) Organisation: Opal Home Care Limited
Service Type: Home Care, Housing Support
Client Group: Older People, Adults with a Physical Disability
 - (b) Organisation: Contact-Care Limited
Service Type: Home Care, Housing Support
Client Group: Older People, Adults with a Physical Disability, Adults with a Learning Disability
 - (c) Organisation: Good 4 You Care Services
Service Type: Home Care, Housing Support
Client Group: Older People, Adults with a Physical Disability
- (3) that the organisations detailed below be removed from the South Lanarkshire Council's Authorised Providers List for Social Care on the basis that they no longer provided services:-
- (a) Organisation: Langburn Care Homes Limited
Service Type: Care Home (Residential)
Client Group: Older People
 - (b) Organisation: Mr and Mrs Peacock
Service Type: Care Home (Residential)
Client Group: Older People
- (4) that the review of the South Lanarkshire Council's Authorised Providers List for Social Care be extended to commence in December 2008.

13 Extension of Social Care/Supporting People Contracts

A report dated 8 December 2006 by the Executive Director (Social Work Resources) was submitted on the review of the Joint Social Care/Supporting People contracts which had been awarded to a range of providers in line with Supporting People guidance. In terms of Standing Order No 13.2 of the Standing Orders on Contracts, the contracts detailed in the appendix to the report had been extended for a period of 2 years from 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2008.

The Committee decided: that the extension of the contracts, as detailed in the appendix to the report for a period of 2 years from 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2008, be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 15 November 2006 (Paragraph 10)]

14 Evaluation of Airdrie and Hamilton Youth Court Pilots

A report dated 8 December 2006 by the Executive Director (Social Work Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the evaluation of the Airdrie and Hamilton Youth Court Pilots.

As part of the Scottish Executive's strategy to address the issue of youth crime, a pilot Youth Court had been established in Hamilton and Airdrie Sheriff Courts. Following the conclusion of

the Pilot Youth Court in Airdrie Sheriff Court in June 2006, a full evaluation of the Youth Court process had been undertaken. This had found particular strengths in fast tracking young people and that advantage had been gained from the availability of a wider range of services to support young people to address their offending behaviour. The main outcomes of the evaluation were detailed.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 24 August 2005 (Paragraph 16)]

15 Update on Progress on Actions Arising from SWIA Inspection of Criminal Justice Service

A report dated 8 December 2006 by the Executive Director (Social Work Resources) was submitted on the progress in relation to the actions required following the Social Work Inspection Agency's (SWIA's) inspection of Criminal Justice Services.

Following SWIA's inspection, a Performance and Improvement Plan had been developed which set out the various targets and responsibilities for achieving SWIA's recommendations. Arrangements had been put in place to monitor progress and further progress reports would be submitted to this Committee.

Progress made in relation to the Performance Improvement Plan was detailed.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 28 June 2006 (Paragraph 7)]

16 Scottish Drugs Forum - Drug Treatment and Testing Orders Lanarkshire Service - Year 2 Service User Evaluation

A report dated 8 December 2006 by the Executive Director (Social Work Resources) was submitted on the year 2 service user evaluation study of the Drug Treatment and Testing Orders (DTTO) Lanarkshire Service. The Scottish Drugs Forum had undertaken a service user evaluation in 2005 of the Lanarkshire DTTO service. The report provided details on the outcome of the evaluation which had found positive improvements in relation to DTTO.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

17 Inspection of Adoption and Fostering Services by the Care Commission

A report dated 15 December 2006 by the Executive Director (Social Work Resources) was submitted on the Care Commission's findings and recommendations following completion of their inspection of Adoption and Fostering Services.

The Care Commission was responsible for registering and inspecting a range of services and had assessed the Adoption and Fostering Services against the regulations set out under the Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001 and the set of national standards.

Following the inspection, the Care Commission had produced a report on their findings and recommendations and an Action Plan detailing how the required changes would be implemented had been produced.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

18 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

19 Exclusion of Press and Public

The Committee decided: that, in terms of Section 50(A) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it was likely that there would be disclosure of exempt information in terms of Paragraph(s) 1 and 3 of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Act.

20 Social Work (Complaints Review) Sub-Committee

The minutes of the Social Work (Complaints Review) Sub-Committee held on 16 November 2006 were submitted together with:-

- ◆ a report dated 19 December 2006 by the Executive Director (Corporate Resources)
- ◆ a report dated 19 December 2006 by the Social Work (Complaints Review) Sub-Committee
- ◆ a letter dated 7 December 2006 from the complainant

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the minutes of the meeting of the Social Work (Complaints Review) Sub-Committee held on 16 November 2006 be approved; and
- (2) that the conclusions and recommendations of the Social Work (Complaints Review) Sub-Committee, as detailed in the Sub-Committee's report, be endorsed.

Chair's Closing Remarks

The Chair thanked members and officers involved with the Committee for their hard work and support over the last 4 years. He wished those members who were standing for re-election the best of luck and those standing down the very best for the future.