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Motherwell, 21 January 1997 at 11 am.

A Meeting of the SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

PRESENT

Councillor W. Martin, Convener; Councillors Brooks, Carmichael, Connelly, Cox, Craig, Curley, Lunny, J. McGuigan, Maginnis, Provost Mathieson, Murphy, V. Murray, Russell and Saunders.

CHAIR

Councillor W. Martin (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Committee Services Officer, Director of Social Work, Head of Social Work Services, Head of Social Work Development, Head of Social Work Resources and Senior Accountant (Department of Finance).

APOLOGIES

Councillors Beekman, Chadha, Coyle, Gordon, Griffin, Leitch, Lucas, McElroy, McAlorum, McCulloch, H. McGuigan, McLaughlin, Macleod, J. Martin, Robertson, Ross, Shaw and Sullivan.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF SUB-COMMITTEES

(1) SOCIAL WORK (OPERATIONS AND SERVICES) SUB-COMMITTEE.

1. There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Social Work (Operations and Services) Sub-Committee held on 7 January 1997.

Decided:that the terms of the Minute be approved.

(2) SOCIAL WORK (PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION) SUB-COMMITTEE

2. There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Social Work (Planning and Administration) Sub-Committee held on 8 January 1997.

Decided:that the terms of the Minute be approved.

(3) SOCIAL WORK (PARENTAL RIGHTS) SUB-COMMITTEE

3. There were submitted Minutes of meetings of the Social Work (Parental Rights) Sub-Committee held on 26 November 1996 and 7 January 1997.

Decided:that the terms of the Minutes be noted.

REVENUE ESTIMATES 1996/97 - FINANCIAL MONITORING
STATEMENTS

4. There were submitted reports dated 10 January 1997 by the Director of Finance setting out the position of the spending level of the Department of Social Work and Sheltered Workshops in comparison to the approved departmental budgets for the period from 1 April to 8 December 1996.

Decided:that the terms of the reports be noted.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INSPECTION

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5. C With reference to paragraph 20 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 4 March 1996, when inter alia it had been agreed to establish an Advisory Committee on Inspection, the terms of reference and composition of which were to be in line with the guidance set out in Scottish Office Circular SW/9/90, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated January 1997 by the Director of Social Work (1) setting out details of nominees representing appropriate organisations which were involved in residential care who had been identified, in the light of the guidance set out in Scottish Office Circular SW/7/96 as being suitable for membership of the Advisory Committee on Inspection; (2) explaining that the Convener and Councillor G McElroy, Vice-Convener, had previously been appointed as Members of the Advisory Committee, and (3) seeking delegated powers for the Director of Social Work and Heads of Service to reimburse travelling expenses incurred by the outside representatives of the Advisory Committee, where appropriate.

Decided:

- (1) that the nominees set out in the Annex to this Minute be appointed as members of the Advisory Committee on Inspection;
- (2) that the Director of Social Work and the Heads of Service of the Department of Social Work be authorised to reimburse travelling expenses incurred by the outside representatives of the Advisory Committee on Inspection, where appropriate, and
- (3) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

LANARKSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH -
APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE

6. There was submitted a report dated 15 January 1997 by the Director of Administration advising that an invitation had been extended by the Lanarkshire Association for Mental Health for the Council to be represented on the Executive Committee of the Association with a view to supporting the work of the organisation.

Decided: that Councillor W. Martin be nominated as the Council's representative on the Executive Committee of the Lanarkshire Association for Mental Health.

RESOURCE TRANSFER FROM HEALTH BOARDS

7. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated January 1997 by the Director of Social Work (1) setting out details of the disaggregated resource transfers from Lanarkshire and Greater Glasgow Health Boards in respect of the transfer of responsibilities from long term hospital care to Social Work Services; (2) explaining that the services to be commissioned and funded through resource transfer required to be jointly agreed with the Health Boards, and (3) updating the status of negotiations to date with Lanarkshire Health Board in relation to further resource transfer for the on-going discharge of people with mental illness and learning disabilities.

Decided:

- (1) that the resource transfer disaggregated to the Council from Lanarkshire Health Board and Greater Glasgow Health Board in the sums of \$2.391 m and \$0.322 m respectively, be noted;
- (2) that the resource transfer, in the sum of \$262,000, from Lanarkshire Health Board in respect of mental health services for 1996/97 be noted;
- (3) that the Director of Social Work continue negotiations with Lanarkshire Health Board to secure resource transfer for under occupancy and unplanned discharges in relation to "continuing care" beds, as set out in paragraph 5.3 of the report;
- (4) that the Directors of Social Work and Housing should seek to review the current hospital discharge programmes with Lanarkshire Health Board and Lanarkshire Health NHS Trust and, thereafter, that a joint report be submitted to the Social Work Committee and the Housing Committee setting out a policy framework for the future implementation of hospital discharge programmes in North Lanarkshire, and
- (5) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN

8. C With reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee of 4 March 1996 when the proposals for joint planning of Community Care Services had been agreed and when it had also been agreed that a Joint Community Care Plan be produced at a Unitary Council level, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated January 1997 by the Director of Social Work which had been prepared in consultation with the Director of Housing setting out the Council's statutory responsibility to produce a Community Care Plan and proposing the action and timescale for undertaking the task.

Decided:

- (1) that the arrangements for the development of the draft Joint Community Care Plan be approved, and
- (2) that the report be remitted to the Housing Committee and the Education Committee for their interests.

"MOVING FORWARD WITH CARE" - SOCIAL WORK SERVICES
INSPECTORATE REPORT ON COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES FOR
OLDER PEOPLE IN ANGUS, DUNDEE CITY AND PERTH AND
KINROSS

9. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated January 1997 by the Director of Social Work summarising and commenting on the contents of a report entitled "Moving Forward With Care" by the Social Work Services Inspectorate in respect of Community Care Services for older people in Angus, Dundee City and Perth and Kinross which was part of a review of Community Care Services throughout Scotland carried out by the Scottish Office Social

Work

Services Inspectorate.

Decided:

- (1) that the comments by the Director of Social Work, as set out in the appendix to the report, be endorsed as the Council's formal response to the report by the Social Work Services Inspectorate, and
- (2) that the implications of the issues raised in the report by the Social Work Services Inspectorate for the Council be noted meantime, pending the submission of further reports by the Director of Social Work to the Committee thereon.

SCOTTISH FAMILY POLICY CHARTER

10. C There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 8 January 1997 by the Director of Social Work which had been prepared in consultation with the Director of Education (1) outlining the key principles and policy statements of the Scottish Family Policy Charter which had been prepared by the Scottish Trade Union Congress, in association with "One Plus" and "One Parent Families in Scotland", and (2) advising that the aim of the Charter was to

to foster policies which recognise the different forms of families,
highlight policies which would compensate for the damage that poverty causes to individuals, and to promote positive family policies which recognise the Government's duty to support families.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted;
- (2) that the Scottish Family Policy Charter be endorsed, and
- (3) that the report be remitted to the Education Committee for its interest.

SCOTTISH GYPSY/TRAVELLER ASSOCIATION - FUNDING APPLICATION

11. There was submitted a report dated January 1997 by the Director of Social Work regarding an application for funding from the Scottish Gypsy/Traveller Association.

Decided:

- (1) that the application for funding from the Scottish Gypsy/Traveller Association be refused, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

COMMUNITY CARE (DIRECT PAYMENTS) ACT 1996 - DRAFT GUIDANCE FROM THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

12. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 8 January 1997 by the Director of Social Work regarding the draft policy and guidance which had recently been issued by the Scottish Office on the Community Care (Direct Payments) Act 1996 which was due to take effect on 1 April 1997 (1) setting out observations on

the

draft policy and guidance which had been forwarded to the Scottish Office in compliance with the stipulated timescale, and

(2)

advising that the Act empowered, but did not require, local authorities to make direct cash payments to disabled people under the age of 65 in lieu of the provision of services.

Decided:

- (1) that the comments by the Director of Social Work, as set out in the report, be endorsed as the Council's formal response to the draft policy and guidance on the Community Care (Direct Payments) Act 1996;
- (2) that the action taken in responding to the Scottish Office within the stipulated timescale for responses be homologated, and

- (3) that the Director of Social Work be requested to submit a detailed report to a future meeting of the Committee regarding the powers conferred to the Council by the legislation.

CONFERENCES ETC.

- (1) ASSOCIATION OF DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL WORK/SCOTTISH DRUGS FORUM NATIONAL CONFERENCE

13. With reference to paragraph 18 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 26 November 1996, the Committee, agreed, in terms of Standing Order No. 48, to suspend Standing Order No. 29 to permit further consideration of an invitation which had been extended to the Council by the Association of Directors of Social Work to be represented at their National Conference to be held in Dunblane during the period from 28 to 30 January 1997.

Decided:that the Council be represented at the Conference by Councillors Leitch and Shaw.

- (2) "THE CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995: AN INTRODUCTION"

14. There was submitted an invitation which had been extended to the Council by Children in Scotland to be represented at a Conference entitled "The Children (Scotland) Act 1995: An Introduction" to be held in Edinburgh on 22 January 1997.

Decided:that no attendance at this Conference be authorised.

- (3) "DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIP SKILLS IN SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH AND HOUSING"

15. There was submitted an invitation which had been extended to the Council by the Institute of Local Government Studies to be represented at a Conference entitled "Developing Partnership Skills in Social Care, Health and Housing" to be held in Birmingham on 23 January 1997.

Decided:that no attendance at this Conference be authorised.

- (4) "MANAGING EFFECTIVENESS: QUALITY, EQUITY AND EQUALITY IN PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES"

16. There was submitted an invitation which had been extended to the Council by the Institute of Local Government Studies to be represented at a Conference entitled "Managing Effectiveness:

Quality, Equity and Equality in Personal Social Services" to be held in Birmingham on 24 January 1997.

Decided:that no attendance at this Conference be authorised.

- (5) "RESPONDING TO DRUGS PROBLEMS": A SEMINAR FOR THE NEW LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN SCOTLAND

17. There was submitted an invitation which had been extended to the Council by the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities to be represented at a Seminar entitled "Responding to Drugs Problems" to be held in Edinburgh on 6 and 7 February 1997.

Decided:that the Council be represented at this Conference by Councillors V. Murray and Sullivan.

- (6) "SCOTLAND'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE: MAKING A REALITY OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND TACKLING THE WRONGS"

18. There was submitted an invitation which had been extended to the Council by Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights to be represented at a Conference entitled "Scotland's Children and Young People: Making a Reality of Children's Rights and Tackling the Wrongs" to be held in Stirling on 14 February 1997.

Decided:that the Council be represented at this Conference by Councillor Macleod and Councillor V. Murray.

- (7) FORUM OF PROVIDERS OF SOCIAL WORK SERVICES TO DEAF PEOPLE (SCOTLAND)

19. There was submitted and invitation which had been extended to the Council by Tayside Association for the Deaf to be represented at the Conference entitled "Forum of Providers of Social Work Services to Deaf People (Scotland)" to be held in Glasgow on 12 March 1997.

Decided:that no attendance at this conference be authorised.

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ANNEX

MEMBERSHIP OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
INSPECTION

Local Voluntary Sector Representative

Roddy Thomson, VAMW

National Voluntary Sector Groups

Sheila Callens, Alzheimers Scotland - Action On Dementia

Sarah McConnachie, Who Cares? Scotland

Private Sector Representative

Rose Jootun

Residents Representatives

Helen Finlayson

Helen Reid

Mary Doran

Carers Representatives

Matt Sprott

Anne McConnachie

Ex Local Authority Representative

Bob Davis

Health Board Representative

Tom Lynch, Lanarkshire Health Board