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Motherwell, 11 March 1997 at 11 am.

A Meeting of the SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

PRESENT

Councillor W. Martin, Convener; Councillors McElroy and Sullivan, Vice-Convener; Councillors Beekman, Carmichael, Chadha, Coyle, Craig, Curley, Gordon, Leitch, Lucas, Lunny, McAlorum, McCulloch, McKendrick, Maginnis, J. Martin, Provost Mathieson, Murphy, V. Murray, Nolan, Robertson, Saunders, Scott and Shaw.

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 Resources, Head of Housing Strategy and Resources and Senior Accountant (Department of Finance).

APOLOGIES

Councillors Connelly, Cox, J McGuigan, McLaughlin, MacLeod and Ross.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF SUB-COMMITTEE

(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 18 February 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 19 February 1997.

Decided: that the terms of the Minute be approved.

REVENUE ESTIMATES 1996/97 - FINANCIAL MONITORING STATEMENTS

3. There were submitted reports dated 21 February 1997 by the Director of Finance advising of departmental spending levels of

the

Department of Social Work and Sheltered Workshops for the period from 1 April 1996 to 2 February 1997 and providing a comparison with the approved budget excluding loan charges, central administration recharges and the central repairs account.

Decided: that the terms of the reports be noted.

#### JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN - DEVELOPMENT OF PLANNING STRUCTURES

4. C With reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 4 March 1996 when inter alia, the proposals for the joint planning of Community Care Services with Lanarkshire Health Board, Scottish Homes and South Lanarkshire Council and separately with the Greater Glasgow Health Board had been agreed, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 19 February 1997 by the Director of Social Work (1) proposing modifications to the joint planning structures whereby the

Council

would now be able to act as lead agency responsible for community care within a planning framework for North Lanarkshire, and (2) detailing the revised planning structures

which

would consist of a Joint Planning Forum with elected member representation, a North Lanarkshire Steering Group, a Local Planning Group for that part of North Lanarkshire in the Greater Glasgow Health Board Area to consider issues relating to that area, and a Lanarkshire wide Joint Planning Co-ordinating Group.

Decided:

- (1) that the modifications to the existing joint planning structures for community care, as detailed in the report
- by
- the Director of Social Work, be approved, and
- (2) that the report be remitted to the Housing Committee for its interest.

#### CHARGING FOR ADULT NON-RESIDENTIAL SECTOR CARE

5. There was submitted a report dated 19 February 1997 by the Director of Social Work summarising the contents of Scottish Office Circular SWS/G1/97 which set out guidance on 'Charging for Adult Non-Residential Sector Care' (1) advising that local authorities would have discretionary power to charge for adult

non-

residential care taking account of an individual's ability to

pay; (2)

intimating that future levels of Scottish Office funding would

be

made on the assumption that local authorities were generating certain levels of income through charging; (3) indicating that charges should be seen to be reasonable and consistent, and (4)

outlining that a review of the Council's charging policies was required in order that a rational and equitable approach could be adopted across North Lanarkshire.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted, and
- (2) that the Director of Social Work submit a report to a future meeting on charging policies.

'THE OBLIGATIONS OF CARE' - CONSULTATION PAPER BY  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

6. There was submitted a report (docketed) by the Director of Social Work in respect of a Consultation Paper which had been received from the Department of Health on the setting of conduct and practice standards for Social Work staff (1) summarising the contents of the Consultation Paper, and (2) setting out comments on the Consultation Paper by the General Social Services Council Implementation Group of the National Institute for Social Work as an Appendix to the report.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted;
- (2) that the comments set out in the Executive Summary of the Commentary Paper by the General Social Services Council Implementation Group of the National Institute for Social Work be endorsed as the Council's formal response to the Consultation Paper, and
- (3) that the action taken to forward the comments to the Department of Health within the requested timescale be homologated.

HOSPITAL DISCHARGE PROGRAMMES IN NORTH LANARKSHIRE

7. There was submitted a joint report (docketed) dated 19 February 1997 by the Director of Social Work and the Director of Housing setting out the background, principles and management arrangements for the planned Hospital Discharge Programmes in North Lanarkshire; (1) detailing Hospital Discharge Programmes currently being implemented; (2) outlining proposals for the development and implementation of planned Discharge Programmes and the anticipated resource transfer therefrom, and (3) advising of the commissioning plans for both Mental Health and Learning Disability hospital discharges.

Decided:

- the
- (1) that the joint report by the Director of Social Work and Director of Housing be noted, and
  - (2) that the Committee approve the implementation plans and programmes as proposed in the report.

WISHAW AREA TEAM - OFFICE ACCOMMODATION AT  
KING STREET, WISHAW

8. office
- With reference to paragraph 14 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 6 August 1996 when, it had been agreed, in principle, to lease the premises of the Cambusnethan Confectionery Company at King Street, Wishaw, and to authorise the Director of Construction Services to undertake a feasibility study on the suitability of the premises for conversion to accommodation, there was submitted a report dated 21 February 1997 by the Director of Social Work updating the position and advising that the Wishaw Area Team could be accommodated therein.

Decided:

- (1) that the proposal to relocate the Wishaw Area Team to the premises at King Street, Wishaw be approved, and
- (2) that the negotiation of the lease of the premises be remitted to the Planning and Development (Buildings and Property) Sub-Committee.

APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES - CRUSE BEREAVEMENT CARE

- 9.
- There was submitted a report dated 5 March 1997 by the Director of Administration following an invitation from the Lanarkshire Branch of Cruse Bereavement Care to the Council to be represented on that organisation's Management Committee.

Decided: that the invitation from Cruse Bereavement Care for the Council to be represented on that organisation's Management Committee be not accepted.

CONFERENCES ETC

- (1) FINANCING THE FUTURE: COMMUNITY CARE FUNDING - THE NEXT FEW YEARS

- 10.
- There was submitted an invitation from Capita Training to the Council to be represented at a seminar entitled "Financing the Future : Community Care Funding - The Next Few Years" which had been held in London on 17 February 1997.

Decided: that no action be taken.

(2) GLASGOW DEAF YOUTH SERVICES - YOUTH INFORMATION DAY

11. There was submitted an invitation from the Glasgow and West of Scotland Society for the Deaf to the Council to be represented at a Youth Information Day which had been held in Glasgow on 22 February 1997.

Decided: that no action be taken.

(3) "THE PATIENTS' AGENDA" : A GUIDE TO GOOD PRACTICE

12. There was submitted an invitation from Neil Stewart Associates to the Council to be represented at a National Conference entitled "The Patients' Agenda" : A Guide to Good Practice which was held in London on 25 February 1997.

Decided: that no action be taken.

(4) URBAN DIVISIONS AND URBAN SOLUTIONS - TACKLING POVERTY AND EXCLUSION IN URBAN AREAS

13. There was submitted an invitation from Neil Stewart Associates to the Council to be represented at a conference entitled "Urban Divisions and Urban Solutions" which had been held in London on 26 February 1997.

Decided: that no action be taken.

(5) A DIVERSIONARY APPROACH TO YOUTH CRIME

14. There was submitted an invitation from Infolog Training to the Council to be represented at a seminar entitled "A Diversionary Approach to Youth Crime" which had been held in London on 6 March 1997.

Decided: that no action be taken.

(6) ARE YOUR SERVICES SAFEGUARDING AND PROMOTING EFFECTIVELY THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES?

15. There was submitted an invitation from Infolog Training to the Council to be represented at a conference entitled "Are your Services Safeguarding and Promoting Effectively the Welfare of Children and Families?" to be held in London on 13 March 1997.

Decided: that no attendance at this conference be authorised.

(7) SIXTH ANNUAL RACE AND HOUSING CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

16. There was submitted an invitation from Positive Action in Housing Race Limited to the Council to be represented at the Sixth Annual Race and Housing Conference and Exhibition to be held in Edinburgh on 24 March 1997.

Decided: that no attendance at this conference be authorised.

(8) ON THE MARGINS: SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND SOCIAL WORK

17. There was submitted an invitation from the Social Work Research Centre of the University of Stirling to the Council to be represented at an International Conference entitled "On the Margins: Social Exclusion and Social Work" to be held in Stirling for the period from 7 to 10 September 1997.

Decided: that the Council be represented at this conference by Councillor W. Martin, Convener.