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Motherwell, 7 October 1997 at 11 am.

A Meeting of the SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

PRESENT

Councillor W. Martin, Convener; Councillors McElroy and Sullivan, Vice-Conveners; Councillors Beekman, Brooks, Carmichael, Chadha, Cox, Craig, Curley, Gordon, Leitch, Lunny, McCulloch, J. McGuigan, McLaughlin, Macleod, Maginnis, J. Martin, Nolan, Robertson, Russell, Scott and Shaw.

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs. Catherine Murphy, Chair of North Lanarkshire Children's Panel Advisory Committee.

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 and Principal Officer (Planning and Development); Roads and Property Construction Resources Manager (Department of Construction Services); Housing Development Officer (Department of Housing) and Senior Accountant (Department of Finance).

APOLOGIES

Councillors Coyle, McAlorum, McCabe, H. McGuigan, Murphy, S. V. Murray, Ross and Smith.

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 23 September 1997.

Decided: that the terms of the Minute be approved.

(2) SOCIAL WORK (REGISTRATION) SUB-COMMITTEE

2. There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Social Work (Registration) Sub-Committee held on 21 August 1997.

Decided: that the Minute be approved and noted.

REVENUE ESTIMATES 1997/98 - FINANCIAL MONITORING
STATEMENTS FOR THE SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT AND
SHELTERED WORKSHOPS

3. There were submitted reports dated 25 September 1997 by the Director of Finance advising of departmental spending levels of the Department of Social Work and of Sheltered Workshops for the period from 1 April to 14 September 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.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE CHILDREN'S PANEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(1) ANNUAL REPORT 1996/97

4. There were submitted a report dated 19 September 1997 by the Director of Administration and the first Annual Report by the North Lanarkshire Children's Panel Advisory Committee for 1996/97.

The Convener introduced Ms. Catherine Murphy, Chair of the North Lanarkshire Children's Panel Advisory Committee to present the Annual Report. In that connection, Ms. Murphy was heard in relation to (1) the independent status of the Children's Panel Advisory Committee (CPAC) and its statutory functions; (2) the role of Children's Panels as statutory tribunals; (3) the work which had been undertaken in 1996/97 by the CPAC and its two Sub-CPACs, in relation to the recruitment of new, and the re-appointment of existing, Panel members and to the training of those members; (4) the expenditure for 1996/97 and the budget available for this financial year to undertake the functions of the CPAC, and (5) the requirements for employers to release Panel Members to ensure the continued operation of Children's Panels as an essential element of the statutory child care system.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the Annual Report for the North Lanarkshire Children's Panel Advisory Committee for 1996/97 be noted, and
- (2) that through Ms. Catherine Murphy the CPAC and Children's Panel be congratulated.

(2) THE STRUCTURE OF THE CHILDREN'S PANEL TRAINING
ORGANISERS SYSTEM

5. There was submitted a report dated 1 October 1997 by the Director of Administration (1) advising that the Scottish Office had recently undertaken a review of the responsibilities and distribution of duties of the Children's Panel Training Organisers in light of local government reorganisation, and proposed that training services be reorganised into four units to correspond with the Reporter/Manager boundaries of the Scottish Children's Reporter administration and that North Lanarkshire, currently grouped with other local authorities in the West of Scotland, be linked to St. Andrew's University Training Unit instead of Glasgow University Training Unit; (2) intimating that the North Lanarkshire Children's Panel Advisory Committee (CPAC) had responded to the Scottish Office expressing concern about the transfer of training provision to St. Andrew's University and the other training proposals; (3) indicating that, as a result of the consultation exercise, the Scottish Office had abandoned the proposal to link North Lanarkshire to St. Andrews University and that a fundamental review of the provision of training for members and prospective members of the Children's Panel would be undertaken involving the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, and (4) further advising that the CPAC Training Sub-Committee had agreed with the University of Glasgow Training Unit a training programme, involving joint arrangements with East Dunbartonshire CPAC, for the remainder of 1997/98.

Decided:

- (1) that the action taken by North Lanarkshire Children's Advisory Committee be noted, and
- (2) that the efforts of the North Lanarkshire CPAC to remain within the West of Scotland group for the purposes of training members of the Children's Panel be supported.

PROCEDURES FOR COMPENSATION OF STAFF

6. There was submitted a report dated 30 September 1997 by the Director of Social Work proposing the adoption of procedures for the compensation of staff of the Department of Social Work for losses incurred in the course of their duties.

Decided: that the report be continued for further information.

PLANNED HOSPITAL DISCHARGE PROGRAMMES - PROGRESS REPORT AND IMPLEMENTATION

7. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting of

this

Committee held on 11 March 1997 when, inter alia, the implementation plans in respect of Hospital Discharge Programmes for people with mental health problems and learning disabilities were approved, there was submitted a report

(docketed)

dated 16 September 1997 by the Director of Social Work on the progress being made in respect of the implementation of those programmes and of the placement of people discharged from long stay hospital care to supported accommodation, and (1) advising of the need for additional accommodation for people with

learning

disabilities, and (2) intimating that, in accordance with the Standing Orders relating to Contracts for social care,

negotiations

had been entered into with preferred service providers for the provision of care packages.

Decided:

- (1) that the approach taken by the Director of Social Work in the implementation of planned Hospital Discharge Programmes, as set out in the report, be endorsed;
- (2) that the Director of Social Work prepare a detailed report on contractual arrangements with preferred service providers for submission to a future meeting of the Social Work (Planning and Administration) Sub-Committee, and
- (3) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

TRANS-NATIONAL PROJECT WITH THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

8. There was submitted a report dated 18 September 1997 by the Director of Social Work (1) regarding an application by the Council, in association with other partners, to the Ecos-

Ouverture

Programme for Funding to support the development of child care services in the Republic of Moldova, and (2) advising that the

total

project value amounted to \$545,000 and, if successful, the proposed contribution by the Council would amount to \$30,000 over a three year period, the cost of which would be met by the Social Work budget.

Decided:

- (1) that the action taken by the Director of Social Work, in conjunction with partner agencies, in submitting an application for funding from the Ecos-Ouverture Programme for the project for the development of child care services in the Republic of Moldova be endorsed;
- (2) that the Director of Social Work prepare a report on the outcome of the project submission to the Ecos-Ouverture Programme for submission to a future meeting of the Committee, and

- (3) that the report be remitted to the Policy and Resources Committee for its interest.

COMMUNITY CARE NEEDS OF FRAIL OLDER PEOPLE:
INTEGRATING PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENTS - DRAFT SCOTTISH
OFFICE GUIDANCE

9. There was submitted a report dated September 1997 by the Director of Social Work summarising and commenting on draft Guidance from the Scottish Office as to how Social Work, Health and Housing professionals could contribute more effectively to community care assessments of frail older people.

Decided:

- (1) that the publication of draft Guidance from the Scottish Office be noted, and
- (2) that the Director of Social Work prepare a detailed response on the draft Guidance for submission to the Scottish Office within the timescale for consultation, subject to a report thereon being submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

DRAFT PRIMARY CARE DIRECTION STATEMENT: DENTAL
SERVICES - CONSULTATION PAPER FROM GREATER GLASGOW
HEALTH BOARD

10. There was submitted a report dated 30 September 1997 by the Director of Social Work regarding a consultation paper by Greater Glasgow Health Board on its draft Primary Care Direction Statement on dental services provided by General Dental Practitioners and their staff and by the Community Dental Service.

Decided:

- (1) that no comments be made on the draft Direction Statement on Dental Services by Greater Glasgow Health Board, and that the Board be advised accordingly, and
- (2) that the report be remitted to the Moodiesburn (Northern Corridor) Area Committee for its interest.

REGISTRATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS: NEW REGISTRATIONS
AND/OR NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES TO THE REGISTRATION OF
INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS

11. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated September 1997 by the Director of Social Work advising that, in accordance with Section 62 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 as amended by the Registered Establishments (Scotland) Act 1987, he had approved new registrations and/or changes to registration of

establishments, details of which were appended to the report.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

CONTRACTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOCIAL CARE - UPDATE REPORT

12. With reference to paragraph 1 of the Minute of the meeting of the

the Social Work (Planning and Administration) Sub-Committee held on 6 August 1997 when, inter alia, progress in establishing social care contracting within North Lanarkshire had been noted, there was submitted a report dated September 1997 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising that no new services required a

contract

to date; (2) informing that Lanarkshire Health Board had indicated

that no new Nursing Homes required to be included within the contractual framework, and (3) intimating that there had been a requirement to secure services outwith North Lanarkshire Council for seven individuals.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

SUPPLEMENTATION RATE INCREASE IN ESTABLISHMENTS OUTWITH THE AUTHORITY

13. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of the meeting of the

Social Work (Planning and Administration) Sub-Committee held on 6 August 1997 when, inter alia, the arrangements for setting supplementation rate increases for establishments outwith this authority had been approved, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 12 September 1997 by the Director of Social Work setting out further supplementation rate increases for such establishments.

Decided: that the new supplementation increases, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report by the Director of Social Work, be noted.

THE NATIONAL GYPSY COUNCIL

14. There was submitted a report dated 30 September 1997 by the Director of Administration regarding a request from the National Gypsy Council for financial assistance for 1998/99.

Decided: that the request by the National Gypsy Council for financial assistance for 1998/99 be refused.

CONFERENCES

- (1) "PROTECTING CHILDREN - A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY" -
DRAFT GUIDANCE ON INTER-AGENCY CO-OPERATION
15. There was submitted an invitation from Children in Scotland to attend a seminar entitled "Protecting Children - A Shared Responsibility" which was held in Edinburgh on 21 August 1997.
- Decided: to note that no member of the Council had attended the seminar.
- (2) 1ST ANNUAL OPEN MEETING FOR CHILDREN IN SCOTLAND
16. There was submitted an invitation from Children in Scotland to attend the 1st Annual Open Meeting which was held in Edinburgh on 26 September 1997.
- Decided: to note that no member of the Council had attended the meeting.
- (3) "RAISING THE FAMILY: FAMILY POLICY AND THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT"
17. There was submitted an invitation from Children in Scotland to attend a conference entitled "Raising the Family: Family Policy and the Scottish Parliament" to be held in Edinburgh on 10 October 1997.
- Decided: that Councillor McLeod be authorised to attend the conference.
- (4) CHILDREN IN SCOTLAND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CONFERENCE
18. There was submitted an invitation from Children in Scotland to attend its Annual General Meeting Conference to be held in St. Andrews on 6 and 7 November 1997.
- Decided: that Councillor McElroy be authorised to attend the conference.
- (5) "PARTNERS IN LEARNING - SUPPORTING VULNERABLE CHILDREN"
19. There was submitted an invitation from Children in Scotland to attend a conference entitled "Partners in Learning - Supporting Vulnerable Children" to be held in Aberdeen on 29 November 1997.
- Decided: that no attendance at the conference be authorised.

(6) "CHILDHOOD MATTERS" - THE SCOTTISH CONFERENCE

20. There was submitted an invitation from Children 1st and the Centre for the Child and Society to attend a conference entitled "Childhood Matters" to be held in Edinburgh on 16 October 1997.

Decided: that no attendance at the conference be authorised.

(7) "BEST VALUE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT - EFFECTIVE CORPORATE AND SERVICE STRATEGIES"

21. There was submitted an invitation from Infolog Training to attend

the conference entitled "Best Value in Local Government - Effective Corporate and Service Strategies" to be held in London on 21 October 1997.

Decided: that no attendance at the conference be authorised.

(8) "INTEGRATED STRATEGIES FOR EARLY YEARS"

22. There was submitted an invitation from Infolog Training to attend

a seminar entitled "Integrated Strategies for Early Years" to be held in London on 22 October 1997.

Decided: that no attendance at the conference be authorised.

(9) "UNLOCKING THE FUTURE" - CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

23. There was submitted an invitation from the Chartered Institute of

Housing in Scotland to attend its conference and exhibition entitled "Unlocking the Future" to be held in Dundee during the period 3-6 March 1998.

Decided: that no attendance at the conference be authorised.

PROJECTED TENDER RETURN IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN COMMITTEE MEETINGS

24. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting of the

Policy and Resources Committee held on 13 May 1997 when, inter alia, approval had been given to the delegation of powers to

the Director of Administration after consultation with the Convener

to allow the acceptance of tenders between meetings, there was

submitted a report dated 23 September 1997 by the Director of Construction Services advising that tenders for alterations to the premises at 1/3 South Wardpark Place, Cumbernauld, to form a Day Care Centre, were due to be returned prior to the next meeting of the Committee.

Decided:

- the
- (1) that the projected return, prior to the next meeting of Committee, of tenders for alterations to the premises at 1/3 South Wardpark Place, Cumbernauld, to form a Day Care Centre be noted, and
 - (2) that in accordance with the decision of the Policy and Resources Committee and subject to the whole provisions thereof, approval be given for acceptance of the tender prior to the next Committee.