

**SOCIAL WORK (OPERATIONS AND SERVICES) SUB - 12 November 1997**

---

Motherwell, 12 November 1997 at 11 am.

A Meeting of the **SOCIAL WORK (OPERATIONS AND SERVICES) SUB-COMMITTEE**

**PRESENT**

Councillor McElroy, Convener; Councillors Connelly, Maginnis, J. Martin, W. Martin, S.V. Murray, Nolan, Russell and Scott.

**CHAIR**

Councillor McElroy (Convener) presided.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

The Committee Services Officer, Head of Social Work Services, Principal Officer, Child Care, Principal Officer, Criminal Justice, Project Leader (Throughcare) and Education Officer.

**APOLOGIES**

Councillors McAlorum, H. McGuigan, Macleod, Ross and Shaw.

**THROUGH-CARE AND AFTERCARE SERVICES**

1. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 30 October 1997 by the Director of Social Work regarding the services provided by the Throughcare teams within the Council's Social Work Department (1) outlining the background to the Throughcare and Aftercare Services which were aimed primarily at young people who were or had been looked after by the Council in terms of Sections 29 and 30 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995; (2) detailing the structure and functions of the teams and services; (3) intimating the category of young persons affected, and (4) advising that the Throughcare Teams provided a comprehensive service which would continue to address the throughcare and aftercare needs of young people within North Lanarkshire.

Thereon, the Sub-Committee heard two young people who had benefitted from Throughcare Services provide a brief presentation on their experiences and responded to Members' question.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted, and
- (2) that the two young people be congratulated on their presentation.

**1997 FOSTER CARERS CAMPAIGN**

2. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 30 October 1997 by the Director of Social Work regarding the outcome of the Foster Care Campaign undertaken in June 1997 (1) outlining the background to and the aims and objectives of the Campaign; (2) detailing the organisational structure of the area teams who recruit, prepare, assess and support foster carers; (3) describing the Campaign publicity and the positive response from the press and public; (4) indicating the

## SOCIAL WORK (OPERATIONS AND SERVICES) SUB - 12 November 1997

---

current rates of payment agreed by COSLA for carers, and (5) advising that the Campaign had been very successful and the combination of advertising and features used in local papers would be adopted in future campaigns.

**Decided:** that the terms of the report be noted.

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND CHILD CARE SERVICES - STRUCTURE FOR RISK ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION WITH THOSE WHO POSE A RISK TO OTHERS

3. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 30 October 1997 by the Director of Social Work regarding the developments in relation to the assessment of and intervention with people who pose a risk to others in terms of Criminal Justice and Child Care Services (1) outlining the background to and the need for risk assessment, and (2) indicating that arrangements had now been put in place to ensure that a consistent, focused, and systematic approach to risk assessment was adopted.

**Decided:** that the arrangements contained within the report which would make a significant contribution to the protection of others within North Lanarkshire be noted.

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES: GROUPWORK SUPPORT PROGRAMME

4. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 30 October 1997 by the Director of Social Work in respect of developments in the organisation of the Groupwork Support Programme for offenders, subject to Probation Orders (1) outlining the background to and the need for the Groupwork Support Programme; (2) indicating that a revised structure for the delivery of Groupwork Services would become operational in February 1998; (3) detailing the support programme which consisted of the Drink Related Offences Programme (DROP), the Induction Programme (Level 1), the General Programme (Level 2) and Offence/Behaviour Specific Programmes (Level 3), and (4) intimating the expected number of offenders who would be dealt with throughout the Groupwork Programme in 1998/99.

**Decided:** that the arrangements being made to ensure the development of services which tackle the offending behaviour of those dealt with by Criminal Justice Service be noted.

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES: THE DRINK RELATED OFFENCES PROGRAMME (DROP)

5. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 30 October 1997 by the Director of Social Work in respect of the work undertaken by Criminal Justice Services in relation to the Drink Related Offenders Programme (DROP) (1) outlining the background to and need for the programme which served the area of the jurisdiction of the Airdrie Sheriff Court; (2) providing details on the programme and the effectiveness of it; (3) intimating that a bid for funding to extend the programme to the area of jurisdiction of Hamilton Sheriff Court had been made to Turning Point, the national voluntary organisation dealing with addictions, and (4) indicating that Turning Point had been invited to comment on the Programme, as part of their review of addiction services within North Lanarkshire.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the work undertaken in relation to the Drink Related Offences Programme be noted, and
- (2) that the Director of Social Work arrange for the Sub-Committee to visit the Drink Related Offences Programme project in Coatbridge.

**SCOTTISH OFFICE DRAFT CIRCULAR: GUIDANCE ON ISSUES CONCERNING EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL**

6. With reference to paragraph 14 of the Minute of the meeting of the Education Committee held on 21 October 1997 when, *inter alia*, it had been agreed that the Council's formal response to the draft guidance from the Scottish Office concerning exclusion from school was endorsed and the report be referred to the Social Work Committee for its interest, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 24 September 1997 by the Director of Education (1) advising Members of the Draft Circular on Guidance on Issues Concerning Exclusion from School; (2) informing of the consultation exercise conducted by the Education Department in response to this Circular, and (3) detailing the comments by the Directors of Education and Social Work which formed the Council's response to the Scottish Office.

**Decided:** that the terms of the report be noted.