

SOCIAL WORK (PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION) SUB – 19 May 1998

Motherwell, 19 May 1998 at 11 am.

**A Meeting of the SOCIAL WORK (PLANNING AND
ADMINISTRATION) SUB-COMMITTEE**

PRESENT

Councillor Sullivan, Convener; Councillors Beekman, Chadha, Craig, Gordon, Lunny, McCulloch, W. Mart Murphy and Robertson.

CHAIR

Councillor Sullivan (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Committee Services Officer, Head of Social Work Development, Head of Social Work Resources, Principal Officer (Planning and Development) and Principal Officer (Inspection and Registration).

APOLOGIES

Councillors Cox, J. McGuigan and Saunders.

**REGISTRATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS; NEW REGISTRATION AND/OR NOTIFICATION OF
CHANGES TO THE REGISTRATION OF INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS**

1. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 19 May 1998 by the Director of Social Work advising that, in accordance with Section 2 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 as amended by the Registered Establishments (Scotland) Act 1987, there had been approved new registrations and/or changes to registrations of establishments, details of which were appended to the report.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION OF SUNART RESIDENTIAL HOME, AIRDRIE

2. With reference to paragraph 1 of the Minute of the meeting of the Social Work (Registration) Sub-Committee held on 21 August 1997, when it had been agreed that the registration of Mr and Mrs Dunsmore in respect of the establishment known as Sunart Residential Home, 58 Alexander Street, Airdrie be cancelled on the basis that Mr and Mrs Dunsmore were not fit persons to carry on such an establishment and that the conduct of the establishment failed to provide the services and facilities reasonably required by persons thereto, there was submitted a report dated April 1998 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising that the Director of Administration acting on behalf of the Director of Social Work had issued a notice to Mr and Mrs Dunsmore, indicating the Council's intention to cancel the registration of Sunart Residential Home; (2) intimating that the proprietors had appealed to the Secretary of State who had arranged for an Appeals Tribunal to be convened in April 1998; (3) indicating that the Head of Legal Services had now advised that the proprietors had withdrawn their appeal and that the cancellation of the registration would now take effect, and (4) informing that as the welfare of the ten frail residents would best be served by a planned closure, negotiations were underway with the proprietors to manage a phased closure.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

CONTRACTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOCIAL CARE - UPDATE REPORT

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 31 March 1998 when, inter alia, progress in establishing social care contracts within North Lanarkshire Council had been noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated April 1998 by the Director of Social Work (1) intimating that there were no new registered residential services which required a contract; (2) advising that Lanarkshire Health Board had indicated that no new nursing homes required to be included within the contractual framework, and (3) informing that there had been a requirement to secure services outwith North Lanarkshire Council for nine individuals as detailed within Appendix 2 to the report.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted

CONTRACTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOCIAL CARE - LIST OF AUTHORISED PROVIDERS OF SOCIAL SERVICES - UPDATE

4. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 31 March 1998 when approval had been given to make amendments to the List of Authorised Providers of Social Services, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated April 1998 by the Director of Social Work in respect of an amendment and in addition to the List of Authorised Providers (1) advising that for Bield Housing Association would now include services for older people with dementia; (2) detailing a new application from Thames and Chiltern Trust Limited (TACT) to provide supported accommodation and supported employment as summarised within the Appendix to the report; (3) intimating that the provider, Help 'n' Hands had withdrawn its application, and (4) indicating that the Advocacy Project, the Epilepsy Association of Scotland and the HIV/AIDS Carers and Family Support Group Projects could not be included on the List of Authorised Providers at this stage, as they did not constitute direct social care provision

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report be approved;
- (2) that it be noted that the further amendments to the List of Authorised Providers of Social Services would be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee, and
- (3) that the full List be reported to the Sub-Committee on completion of the verification of the Authorised Providers database.

LOCAL CARE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME

5. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 31 March 1998 when, inter alia, authorisation had been given to the Director of Social Work to carry out the necessary work in order to prepare a bid for funding through the Local Care Partnership Scheme for 1999/2000, there was submitted a report dated April 1998 by the Directors of Social Work and Housing (1) outlining the background to the Local Care Partnership Scheme under which bids required to be forwarded to Lanarkshire Health Board for submission to the Scottish Office Department by 1 June 1998; (2) advising that, if successful, funding would commence on 1 April 1999 for one year, and (3) detailing the outline proposal on the Joint Mental Health/Homelessness Initiative which the Directors of Social Work and Housing, in conjunction with Lanarkshire Health Board and Lanarkshire Healthcare NHS Trust had developed as the Council's current bid for the Local Care Partnership Scheme.

Decided:

- (1) that the outline proposal to develop the Joint Mental Health/Homelessness Initiative Project within North Lanarkshire be approved;
- (2) that the Directors of Social Work and Housing be authorised in partnership with the Lanarkshire Health Board and NHS Trust to submit a detailed bid to the Local Car Partnership Scheme, after consultation with the Conveners and Vice-Conveners of the Social Work and Housing Committees, and
- (3) that a report on the outcome of the bid be submitted to a future meeting of the Sub Committee.

SUPPLEMENTATION RATE INCREASES IN ESTABLISHMENTS OUTWITH THIS AUTHORITY

6. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 6 August 1997 when arrangements for setting out supplementation rate increases for establishments outwith this Authority were approved, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 27 April 1998 by the Director of Social Work setting out further Supplementation Rate increases for establishments outwith the Authority.

Decided: that the new Supplementation Rate Increases as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

ADDITIONAL OFFICE ACCOMMODATION FOR CUMBERNAULD AREA TEAM

7. There was submitted a report dated 5 May 1998 by the Director of Social Work regarding the acquisition of additional office accommodation in Carron House, Cumbernauld (1) outlining the background to and the need for the accommodation at Carron House, Cumbernauld; (2) intimating that the Reporter to the Children's Panel had recently vacated premises adjacent to the Cumbernauld Area Office, and (3) proposing that the property at Unit 11/12, Carron House, Town Centre, Cumbernauld be leased from the Landlord at a cost of £8,500 per annum.

Decided:

- (1) that approval be given to lease the property at Unit 11/12, Carron House, Town Centre, Cumbernauld, and
- (2) that the report be remitted to the Planning and Development (Building and Property) Committee for consideration.

ALTERNATIVES FOR LIVING PROJECT, PLAINS - PROGRESS REPORT

8. With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 6 January 1998, when *inter alia*, it had been agreed to approve a weekly rate of £972.65 for the Alternatives for Living Project with effect from 1 February 1998, there was submitted report dated 5 May 1998 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising of the current occupancy rate of the Alternatives for Living Project, Airdrie, and (2) indicating that the waking night cover post would be reviewed over the next few months.

Decided:

- (1) that the current position regarding the occupancy of the establishment be noted, and

- (2) that it be noted that the staffing levels and budget originally set were satisfactory and would continue to be monitored.

RECRUITMENT OF PROVIDERS OF SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 29 April 1998 by the Director of Social Work regarding the progress made in meeting the Department's responsibilities for the planning of care for people with learning disabilities and in respect of entering into detailed contractual negotiations with two additional care providers to support the development of services to this care group (1) outlining the background to and the need for more providers of services to people with learning disabilities; (2) advising of the agreed level of resources to be transferred from Lanarkshire Health Board as beds reduced; (3) detailing the conditions which should be in place before hospital bed reductions could take place; (4) intimating the current progress in meeting the Council's responsibilities in the North Lanarkshire area; (5) identifying two further social care providers with whom the Director of Social Work wished to enter into negotiations; (6) informing that the Department had held a meeting of care organisations with a view to establishing a Forum which would engage with current and potential providers of services to people with learning disabilities on a regular basis; (7) advising, as summarised in Appendix 1 to the report of a number of responses received following the Council's recent advertisement for local providers, and (8) indicating that the proposals contained within the report would permit the hospital discharge programme to proceed within jointly agreed timescales.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress made to implement planned hospital discharge programmes be noted, and
- (2) that the Director of Social Work be authorised to submit a report on detailed contractual arrangements with identified providers to a future Sub-Committee.

PUBLIC INFORMATION; COMMUNITY CARE INFORMATION

10. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting of the Social Work Committee of 20 January 1998 when, *inter alia*, it had been agreed that the Director of Social Work be authorised to issue the draft Community Care leaflets and the draft Directory of Residential and Nursing Homes to local providers and user and carer organisations for consultation, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 29 April 1998 by the Director of Social Work regarding the outcome of a consultation exercise which was conducted on a series of community care leaflets produced by the Council's Social Work Department (1) advising that the material was produced by the Department as part of the Council's response to the Scottish Office Social Work Services Inspection into assessment and choice for older people in Lanarkshire; (2) detailing, within Appendix 1 of the report, all the organisations consulted; (3) intimating that the Council's leaflets had been welcomed by the organisations, and required only minor amendment as a result of the consultation process, and (4) indicating that the community care leaflets represented a positive contribution to the provision of public information to the wider community in North Lanarkshire.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted, and
- (2) that the public launch of the public information leaflets be endorsed.

"THE COMMISSIONING MAZE" - PUBLICATION OF THE REPORT BY THE ACCOUNTS COMMISSION ON THE COMMISSIONING OF COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES

11. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated May 1998 by the Director of Social Work in relation to a report by the Accounts Commission on the Commissioning of Community Care Services by Local Authorities across Scotland (1) indicating that the report sought to examine how Councils were fulfilling their responsibilities as commissioners of community care services in areas detailed within the report; (2) detailing the Accounts Commission report's findings; (3) intimating within the Appendix to the report, a number of recommendations directed at Councils, Social Work Departments, COSLA and the Scottish Office together with comments on the position in North Lanarkshire, and (4) advising that while some of the assertions on the national position made in the report, might not reflect the situation in North Lanarkshire, many of the recommendations were pertinent and required action.

Decided:

- (1) that the Director of Social Work ensure that due consideration be given to the Account Commission report's recommendations and, where required, that action be taken, and
- (2) that the Council's concerns about the study be remitted to COSLA and that further discussion be sought within COSLA prior to any involvement in similar exercises in the future.

ARMS LENGTH INSPECTION; STANDARDS DOCUMENT FOR ADULTS AND CHILD CARE RESIDENTIAL ESTABLISHMENTS

12. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated April 1998 by the Director of Social Work regarding the implementation of Standards Documents to assist in the inspection of residential establishments for adults and children (1) outlining the background to the Council's obligations in discharging their responsibilities for the inspection of care services in homes for adults and children as set out within circular No. SWSG7/96 "Local Inspection of Residential and Day Services"; (2) advising that two separate standards documents had been developed to assist in the inspection of residential and child care services in North Lanarkshire; (3) indicating that these documents were in line with Scottish Office guidance, with emphasis being given to assessing the outcome for service users; (4) informing that each standard was underpinned by the key principles of privacy, choice, dignity, independence, fulfilment and belief in residents' rights, and (5) detailing the implementation arrangements for the two standards documents.

Decided: that the documents, as set out within the Appendices to the report, be endorsed as inspection standards set by North Lanarkshire Council in its arms length inspection of residential establishments.

BEDS FOR THE ELDERLY IN NORTH EAST GLASGOW - A CONSULTATION PAPER ISSUED BY GREATER GLASGOW HEALTH BOARD

13. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 14 May 1998 by the Director of Social Work in respect of proposals by the Greater Glasgow Health Board to close thirty long stay beds for frail older people at Lenzie Hospital and of the failure to include North Lanarkshire Council in the formal consultation process (1) outlining the background to the joint planning statement adopted by Greater Glasgow Health Board and Glasgow City Council, together with partner local authorities which set out hospital bed reduction and resource release plans for a number of different care groups; (2) advising that North Lanarkshire Council were not signatories to the agreement as the overall level of resources to fund alternative social care services had reduced from that previously agreed; (3) intimating that the proposed closure of beds in the North East Glasgow sector was potentially a matter of great significance as the facilities were used by residents who lived in that part of North Lanarkshire which fell within the boundaries of Greater Glasgow Health Board, and (4) detailing proposals made by Greater Glasgow Health Board to reduce the number of long stay beds at Lenzie and Stobhill Hospitals.

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- (1) that the Director of Social Work to express the Council's concerns to the Greater Glasgow Health Board, regarding their failure to consult the Council on the proposals;
- (2) that the Greater Glasgow Health Board be requested to defer any decisions on the proposals contained within the consultation document to allow the Council the opportunity to formally comment, and
- (3) that the Director of Social Work submit a report to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.