

**SOCIAL WORK (OPERATIONS AND SERVICES) SUB - 17 August 1999**

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Motherwell, 17 August 1999 at 2 pm.

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

**PRESENT**

Councillor Selfridge, Convener; Councillors Cassidy, Chadha, Coyle, Curley, Gordon, Gorman, H. McGuigan and Robertson.

**CHAIR**

Councillor Selfridge (Convener) presided.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

The Chief Committee Services Officer, Head of Social Work Services, Principal Officer, Community Care, Principal Officer, Child Care and Principal Officer, Criminal Justice.

**APOLOGIES**

Councillors McLaughlin, Morris and Shaw.

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

1. With reference to paragraph 13 of the Minute of the meeting of the Social Work Committee held on 6 October 1998 when, *inter alia*, it had been agreed that the Director of Social Work discuss the implementation of the Scottish Office Guidance on Community Care Needs of Frail Older People: Integrating Professional Assessments with partner organisations in community care in North Lanarkshire and bring forward a further report on the proposals for implementation, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 14 July 1999 by the Director of Social Work (1) detailing the key areas which the Scottish Office Guidance focused on, and (2) advising of the progress made in each area to date.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted;
- (2) that the work done to date in implementing the guidance from the Scottish Office be endorsed; and
- (3) that a report on the role of Local Health Care Co-operatives in North Lanarkshire be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

**PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A SCOTTISH COUNCIL ON AGEING**

2. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 15 July 1999 by the Director of Social Work detailing the proposal to establish a Scottish Council on Ageing and seeking authority to respond to the consultation paper on older people services (1) outlining the background to the changes at both Central and Local Government level in the field of older peoples services; (2) indicating that the recent
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Government initiative "Better Government for Older People" illustrated the complexity of the task of drawing together government, statutory and voluntary interests; (3) intimating that the three areas the consultation paper focused on were the timing, remit and organisation, and (4) providing details and comments on the three areas focused on.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the proposal to establish a Scottish Council on Ageing be noted, and
- (2) that a response to the questionnaire supporting the proposal to establish a Scottish Council on Ageing be approved.

### **CARE PROGRAMME APPROACH: SCOTTISH OFFICE SURVEY**

3. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated July 1999 by the Director of Social Work advising that a joint inter-agency response had been made to the Scottish Office confirming the progress across North and South Lanarkshire of the full implementation of the Care Programme Approach (CPA) for people with serious mental illness including dementia (1) outlining the background to the CPA which was introduced in North Lanarkshire on May 1996; (2) intimating that the Scottish Office Social Work Services Inspectorate released the national survey of CPA in November 1998 which amongst other things provided a check-list of actions required; and (3) detailing in Section 3 of the report the progress made in North Lanarkshire with regard to CPA following the formation of a joint agency monitoring group.

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

### **SOCIAL SERVICES INSPECTORATE - GETTING FAMILY SUPPORT RIGHT: INSPECTION OF THE DELIVERY OF FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES**

4. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 26 July 1999 by the Director of Social Work advising of the publication of a document from the Social Services Inspectorate (SSI) for England on Getting Family Support Right: Inspection of the Delivery of Family Support Services (1) outlining the background to and the need for the provision of Family Support Services; (2) advising that the SSI inspected three key Family Support Services and evaluated the experience of children and families from the end of the first three months to a year after entering a service; (3) detailing in Section 3 of the report the key issues raised from the inspection; (4) intimating that the document sets out a list of questions which can be used by Managers to evaluate and improve their own services and outlines what they considered to be good standards in relation to outcomes, and (5) informing that the report had been circulated widely within the Council for comment and while related to England it was considered a useful starting point for the review and improvement of North Lanarkshire Family Support services.

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

### **OLDER PEOPLE AS CONSUMERS OF CARE - REPORT BY THE OFFICE OF FAIR TRADING**

5. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated August 1999 by the Director of Social Work regarding a report by the Office of Fair Trading entitled "Older People as Consumers of Care" and outlining the steps taken or intended by the Director of Social Work in response to the recommendations of the report (1) outlining the background to the report which focused on initial information, contracts,

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financial issues and complaints; (2) summarising in Section 3 of the report the recommendations on the four main areas; (3) detailing a number of existing Good Practice Initiatives in North Lanarkshire which already accorded with the key findings of the report, and (4) intimating that the overall findings were generally positive although further work was required in certain areas.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted, and
- (2) that the actions taken by the Director of Social Work to improve the position of older people as consumers of care be noted.