

**SOCIAL WORK (PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION) SUB – 8 May 2001**

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**Motherwell, 8 May 2001 at 11 am.**

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

**PRESENT**

Councillor Sullivan, Convener; Councillors Gordon, Jones, Love, Lunny, McElroy, J. McGuigan, McKendrick, McKinlay, J. Martin and Saunders.

**CHAIR**

Councillor Sullivan (Convener) presided.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

The Committee Services Officer, Head of Social Work Development, Head of Social Work Resources, Monitoring and Standards Manager and Development Manager.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

M. Moncrieff and M. Smith, Lanarkshire Community Care Forum; F. Shaw, Public Relations; K Malone and K. Ross.

**APOLOGIES**

Councillor McCabe, H. McGuigan and Shields.

**JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN - CONSULTATION WITH THE USERS OF COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES AND THEIR CARERS**

1. M. Moncrieff, Lanarkshire Community Care Forum was heard in relation to the consultation process which sought the views of users and carers in relation to the compilation of the Joint Community Care Plan 2001/2004.

Thereon, M. Moncrieff, Lanarkshire Community Care Forum responded to Members questions.

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

**IMPLEMENTATION OF LEARNING DISABILITY JOINT STRATEGY - PROGRESS REPORT**

2. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 22 February 2000 when, inter alia, the priorities for the next stage of the implementation of the Learning Disability Strategy were approved, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 3 May 2001 by the Director of Social Work regarding progress made in implementing the Joint Strategy for Learning Disability and seeking approval of the development priorities for the next phase of the Programme (1) setting out in Section 3 of the report progress made in relation to supporting people to live in the community, ownership options, hospital discharge programme, care management, transition planning, day opportunities and the Joint Lanarkshire Framework for Development 2000-2005; (2) setting out the proposed development priorities which would develop choices and give control to people with learning disabilities in their family for the coming year, and (3) intimating that the personnel and financial implications and the implementation arrangements and targets would be the subject of separate reports to future meetings.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the priorities detailed in Section 5 of the report for the next stage of the implementation of the Learning Disability Strategy be endorsed;
- (2) that the progress to date in implementing the priorities of the Learning Disability Strategy be noted, and
- (3) that further reports on the implementation arrangements and targets for learning disability service developments be submitted to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

**PROMOTING DIRECT PAYMENTS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

3. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of the meeting of the Social Work (Operations and Services) Sub-Committee held on 15 August 2000 when the progress of the Direct Payments Scheme Pilot Project for people with a disability under the age of 65 years was noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 30 April 2001 by Director of Social Work regarding national and local developments promoting direct payments to people with disabilities and seeking approval for development priorities (1) intimating that legislative changes contained in the Regulation of Care Bill proposed to make direct payments available to those assessed as requiring community care services; (2) indicating that in preparation for the legislative changes £530,000 had been allocated over the next 2 years for a project run by a consortium of voluntary organisations; (3) setting out the development priorities of the project, and (4) providing details of developments which had taken place in North Lanarkshire to promote direct payments to people with disabilities.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the progress in developing direct payments for adults and elderly people with disabilities be noted,
- (2) that further reports detailing the progress in promoting direct payments in North Lanarkshire be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee, and
- (3) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

**RIGHTS, ADVICE AND INFORMATION LINE**

4. With reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of the meeting of the Social Inclusion Committee held on 24 August 2000 when the bidding process in terms of seeking funding for projects in terms of the Social Inclusion Fund and the next steps towards determining expressions of interest were noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 25 April 2001 by Director of Social Work regarding the establishment of the Rights, Advice and Information Line, (RAIL) (1) setting out details of the project which was designed to promote benefit entitlement to all sections of the community and to improve take-up of specific benefits; (2) intimating that the service would be provided via a freephone number and staffed by two Benefits, Advice and Information Workers; (3) seeking approval to create two temporary AP3 posts 30 hours per week for an initial period of 6 months after which they would be subject to review depending on the success of the project, and (4) intimating that in addition to the initial allocation of £30,000 there would be the opportunity to bid for funding from the Social Inclusion Fund for 2001/2002.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the creation of two temporary AP3 posts as detailed in the report be approved as part of the Council's overall strategy to review and maximise benefit take up;
- (2) that the report be remitted to the Policy and Resources (Personnel) Sub-Committee for consideration, and
- (3) that the Director of Social Work submit an evaluation report on the project to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

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

5. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 26 April 2001 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, there had been two new registrations and/or notification of changes to the registration of establishments.

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

**CONTRACTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOCIAL CARE: UPDATE REPORT**

6. With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 6 March 2001 when progress in establishing social care contracts within North Lanarkshire had been noted, there was submitted a report dated 30 April 2001 by the Director of Social Work (1) intimating that there were no new registered residential services which required a contract with this Council and no new nursing home services which required a contract with Lanarkshire Health Board; (2) indicating that there had been a requirement to secure services outwith the Council for eight individuals to accommodate client choice as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, and (3) advising (a) that a written agreement had been concluded in respect of one client as part of the new partnership initiative under development as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, and (b) a service agreement had been signed in respect of the Equals Mental Health/Dementia Advocacy to provide an advocacy service to people with mental health problems or dementia.

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

**LIST OF AUTHORISED PROVIDERS OF SOCIAL CARE SERVICES - UPDATE**

7. With reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 6 March 2001 when inter alia, it was agreed that the Director of Social Work provide reports to future meetings of the Sub-Committee highlighting further changes to the list of authorised providers of social care services, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 26 April 2001 detailing six providers of services for inclusion on the list of providers of services to accommodate client choice; (2) advising that the client categorisation of Carrick Care Homes Limited, Barrhead and Southern Cross Healthcare Limited, Falkirk has been amended, and (3) intimating that Caledonian Community Care Home Care Services had been removed from the list of non-registered providers following a change in ownership and the new proprietors Acorn Nursing Home Services were currently being assessed.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the amendments to the list of providers of non-registered and registered social care services as detailed in the report be approved, and
- (2) that the Director of Social Work provide reports to future meetings of the Sub-Committee highlighting further changes to the List of Authorised Providers of Social Care Services.

**SERVICE MONITORING REPORTS**

**(1) INDEPENDENT SECTOR HOME CARE SERVICES**

8. With reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 6 March 2001 when the use of independent sector home care services and the outcome of contract monitoring in relation to the service for the period 1 October to 31 December 2000 was noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 30 April 2001 by the Director of Social Work regarding the use of independent sector home care services and the outcome of contract monitoring in relation to the service for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2001 (1) intimating that for the period up to 31 March 2001, 107 people were receiving services from independent sector home care sector providers in North Lanarkshire, 93 of whom were referred directly by the Council and 14 funded through independent living fund or independent living services monies, and (2) setting out in Appendix 1 to the report, the levels of use and comments on the performance arising from the monitoring of each provider of services.

**Decided:**

- (1) that a report on the process for the selection of private organisations to provide independent sector home care services be submitted to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

**(2) INDEPENDENT SECTOR SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICES**

9. With reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 6 March 2001 when the use of supported living services purchased by the Council and the outcome of contract monitoring in relation to service for the period 1 October to 31 December 2000 was noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 26 April 2001 by the Director of Social Work regarding the use of independent sector supported living services and the outcome of contract monitoring in relation to the service for the period 1 January to 31 March 2001 (1) intimating that for the period of to 31 March 2001, 105 people were receiving supported living services within North Lanarkshire, 64 with learning disabilities, 16 with mental health problems and 25 were vulnerable young people, and (2) summarising in Appendix 1 to the report, the outcome of the monitoring of independent sector supported living service providers.

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

**SENIOR OFFICERS (REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION) - REQUIREMENT FOR ADDITIONAL COVER**

10. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 4 May 2001 by the Director of Social Work seeking approval to employ staff on a sessional basis to assist with the inspection of residential and day care services to ensure compliance with Scottish Executive targets and enforcement of registration

standards (1) outlining the background to local authority responsibilities in respect of the registration and inspection of residential and day care services; (2) recommending that in order to manage the workload of the registration and inspection unit, sessional staff be recruited as and when required; (3) proposing that (a) the posts be graded at PO2 (pro-rata), and (b) £2,000 be set aside out to allow for recruitment and induction of staff.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the recruitment of staff for the Council's registration and inspection unit on a sessional basis be approved;
- (2) that funding of £2,000 be set aside to allow for recruitment and staff induction, and
- (3) that the report be remitted to the Policy and Resources (Personnel) Sub-Committee for consideration.

**SUPPLEMENTATION RATE INCREASES IN ESTABLISHMENTS OUTWITH THIS AUTHORITY**

11. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 20 April 2001 by the Director of Social Work setting out changes to the supplementation rates set by other local authorities for registered residential and day care establishments based in the voluntary sector within their areas.

**Decided:** that the new supplementation rates as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

**INCREASE IN ADOPTION ALLOWANCES, FOSTERING ALLOWANCES, LINK CARERS ALLOWANCES AND SHARED CARE PAYMENTS FOR 2001/2002**

12. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 30 April 2001 by the Director of Social Work setting out proposals by COSLA for the revised rates of allowances paid for Adoption Allowances, Fostering Allowances, Link Carers Allowances and Shared Care Payments for 2001/2002 which equated to an increase of 2.5% in line with inflation.

**Decided:** that the new rates for adoption allowances, fostering allowances, link carers allowances and shared care payments as detailed within the report be approved with effect from 1 April 2001.

**ABSENCE MONITORING**

13. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 19 April 2001 by the Director of Social Work regarding the level of staff absence throughout the Social Work Department during the month of March 2001.

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

**OVERTIME MONITORING REPORT**

14. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 19 April 2001 by the Director of Social Work providing details of overtime worked by officers paid above SCP35 during the period from 5 March to 31 March 2001 and paid at SCP35.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted and remitted to the Policy and Resources (Personnel) Sub-Committee for its interest.

SEVEN DAY CENTRE, WISHAW

15. There was submitted a report (docketed) by the Director of Social Work seeking approval for the redesignation and regrading of two Instructor Officer posts at the Seven Day Centre, Wishaw to Day Centre Officer posts graded on the qualifying Day Centre Officer scale (1) outlining the background to the services provided at the Seven Day Centre, Wishaw and the current staffing structure; (2) proposing that the staff currently designated as Instructors be redesignated as Day Centre Officers and regraded to Day Centre Officer (Qualified) grade, and (3) intimating that the proposed changes would result in increased costs of £3,500 which would be met from within the current budget.

Decided: that the matter be continued to the next meeting of the Social Work Committee

NORTH LANARKSHIRE CARE AND REPAIR PROJECT - PROGRESS REPORT

16. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 31 March 1998 when, inter alia, it was agreed that periodic progress reports on the North Lanarkshire Care and Repair Project be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee, there was submitted a report dated 1 May 2001 by the Director of Housing and Property Services intimating that as at 31 March 2001 the Project had 746 clients and 466 building cases complete or in the process and 62% of the clients were over 70 years of age and over 85% had a disability.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.