

Motherwell, 5 December 2002 at 10 AM AGENDA ITEM No. 3

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

PRESENT

Councillor Selfridge, Convener; Councillors Chadha, Gordon, McLaughlin, Robertson, and Scott.

CHAIR

Councillor Selfridge (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Committee Services Officer; Head of Social Work Services; Manager, Children and Families and Criminal Justices and Manager, Community Care Adults.

APOLOGIES

Councillors McCallum, H. McGuigan and Ross.

MENTAL HEALTH (SCOTLAND) BILL

1. There was submitted a report dated 27 November 2002 by the Director of Social Work (1) regarding the Mental Health (Scotland) Bill which contained proposals for the care and welfare of people with mental disorders; (2) outlining the requirements of the proposed legislation and the implications thereof for local authorities and other agencies, and (3) indicating (a) that a review of the role and responsibilities of Mental Health Officers was currently being undertaken; (b) that the implications of the Bill for the Council would be incorporated into this review, and (c) that a report thereon would be submitted to the Sub-Committee.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted, and
- (2) that it be noted that the Director of Social Work would prepare a report on (a) the implementation arrangements for the new legislation, and (b) the resource implications for the Council in meeting its duties under the new Act, for submission to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

RACE RELATIONS (AMENDMENT) ACT 2000

2. There was submitted a report dated 12 November 2002 by the Director of Social Work regarding the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2002 and, in particular, the formulation of a Race Equality Scheme for the Council and Action Plan.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress of the corporate and departmental Working Groups in the early publication of the Council's Race Equality Scheme and Action Plan be noted;

- (2) that the Director of Social Work be requested to prepare a report on the progress of the operation of the Race Equality Scheme and any implications relating thereto for the Department of Social Work for submission to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee, and
- (3) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE HEALTH DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM - PROCEDURE ON RESTRICTED PATIENTS

3. There was submitted a report dated 27 November 2002 by the Director of Social Work advising of a Scottish Executive Health Department Memorandum which contained guidance on the care and management of restricted patients.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted, and
- (2) that the Director of Social Work be requested to prepare a report on the resource implications of the Scottish Executive's Memorandum of Procedure on Restricted Patients for submission to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

SOCIAL WORK RECEPTION SERVICES

4. There was submitted a report dated 13 November 2002 by the Director of Social Work advising of the progress achieved to date by the introduction of a Reception Services Team in each of the six Area Offices of the Department of Social Work.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress achieved to date by the introduction of a Reception Services Team in each of the six Area Offices of the Department of Social be noted, and
- (2) that the Director of Social Work be requested to prepare a report on the future progress and operation of the Teams for submission to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

EVENING TIMES LOCAL HEROES AWARDS 2002

5. There was submitted a report dated 18 November 2002 by the Director of Social Work regarding the Council's sponsorship of the Evening Times Local Heroes Awards for outstanding voluntary work during 2002 by community groups nominated by participating authorities (1) advising that South Lanarkshire Council would host the awards ceremony in February 2003, and (2) intimating that the Council's sponsorship and the cost of promotional gifts bearing the Council logo amounted to £6,000, the cost of which would be met from the departmental budget.

Decided:

- (1) that the Council participate in the Evening Times Local Heroes Awards for 2002;
- (2) that the Council sponsor the Local Heroes Awards 2002 in the sum of £6,000, and
- (3) that the Director of Social Work be requested to prepare a progress report on the awards for submission to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

BEST VALUE REVIEW OF INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

6. There was submitted a report dated 18 November 2002 by the Director of Social Work advising of arrangements for a Best Value Review of the Department's Independent Living Services. which would include services to people with physical disabilities, sensory impairment and/or brain injury.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

THE ADOPTION, FOSTERING AND FAMILY PLACEMENT PANEL

7. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of the meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 25 April 2002 when, *inter alia*, the Director of Social Work had been requested to report on the application of new procedures for the Adoption, Fostering and Family Placement Panel, there was submitted a report dated 11 November 2002 by the Director of Social Work thereon and providing an update on the developments to the Adoption, Fostering and Family Placement Panel.

Decided: that the developments to the Adoption, Fostering and Family Placement Panel since August 2002 be noted.

A SUMMARY REVIEW OF WELFARE RIGHTS ACTIVITY

8. There was submitted a report dated 12 November 2002 by the Director of Social Work advising of the level of work and benefit income generated by Welfare Rights Officers for the period from January to September 2002.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

PALLIATIVE CARE

9. There was submitted a report dated 27 November 2002 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising of the key issues relating to Palliative Care and Specialist Palliative Care, and (2) commenting on the work being undertaken in association with health agencies to co-ordinate and develop palliative care services.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

TRANSITIONAL PLANNING TEAM - DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

10. There was submitted a report dated 8 November 2002 by the Director of Social Work advising on the progress made by the Transitional Planning Demonstration Project which provides support for young people with disabilities to prepare for leaving school.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress made in developing Transitional Planning be noted, and
(2) that the report be remitted to the Education and Committee Services Committees for information.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE DOMESTIC ABUSE WORKING GROUP - UPDATE

11. There was submitted a report dated 12 November 2002 providing an update on the work of the North Lanarkshire Domestic Abuse Working Group.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted, and
- (2) that the video entitled "A Day in the Life of Donna" be made available by the Community Safety Group to members on request.

"FUNKY BLUE SMURFS" - VISIT TO GLENCRYAN SCHOOL, CUMBERNAULD

12. With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 3 October 2002 when it had been agreed that the Director of Social Work should proceed with arrangements for a visit by members of the Social Work Committee to Glencryan School, Cumbernauld, on 4 November 2002 to view the "Funky Blue Smurfs" in action, there was submitted a report dated 27 November 2002 by the Director of Social Work advising of the success of the visit which afforded members of the Social Work Committee the opportunity to participate with the Group and to share views on issues of importance to young people.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.