

Motherwell, 24 February 2005 at 11 am.

AGENDA ITEM No. 2

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

PRESENT

Councillors Devine, Lunny, H. McGuigan, Ross, Saunders and Selfridge.

CHAIR

In terms of Standing Order No. 11, Councillor H. McGuigan was appointed to the Chair.

IN ATTENDANCE

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

APOLOGIES

Councillors Gorman, McCallum, McCulloch, J. McGuigan, J. Martin, M. Murray, Nolan and Smith.

UPDATE OF SOCIAL CARE TENDERING LIST

1. With reference to paragraph 1 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 7 October 2004 when, inter alia, it was agreed that Community Integrated Care be included in the Social Work Department Social Care Tendering List, there was submitted a report dated 4 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising of progress made in reviewing the Department of Social Work's Social Care Tendering List, and (2) indicating that two applications from (a) tlc Scotland Limited, and (b) Caledonia Healthcare Limited, had been recommended for inclusion on the list, as detailed in the Appendix to the report.

Decided:

- (1) that tlc Scotland Limited and Caledonia Healthcare Limited be included on the Department of Social Work's Social Care Tendering List, as detailed in the Appendix to the report, and
- (2) that the Director of Social Work provide a report to this Sub-Committee, on a six monthly basis, highlighting further changes to the Social Care Tendering List.

SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT - LIST OF AUTHORISED SERVICES

2. With reference to paragraph 1 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 9 December 2004 when, inter alia, the arrangements for updating the list of authorised services were approved, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 4 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work indicating that a further three providers had been approved for inclusion on the List of Authorised Services, as detailed in Appendix One to the report.

Decided: that the inclusion of a further three providers on the List of Authorised Services, as detailed in Appendix One to the report, be noted.

CONTRACTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOCIAL CARE: CONTRACTS UPDATE REPORT

3. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 9 December 2004 when the progress in establishing social care contracts in North Lanarkshire had been noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 4 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work (1) providing an update on social care contracts, and (2) listing in Appendix One to the report, 12 contracts which had been signed between 20 November 2004 and 28 January 2005.

Decided:

- (1) that the signed contracts, as detailed in Appendix One to the report, be noted, and
- (2) that the Director of Social Work provide further reports to this Sub-Committee on contracting arrangements.

SERVICE MONITORING REPORTS

(1) INDEPENDENT SECTOR SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE

4. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 9 December 2004 when the use of private sector home care services and the outcome of contract monitoring for the period from 1 July to 30 September was noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 4 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work in respect of Contract Monitoring for the period from October to December 2004 (1) setting out the contract measures applied to Independent Sector Nursing Homes; (2) advising that the services delivered by the majority of providers were viewed as generally satisfactory; (3) giving details of the current position regarding Care Homes within North Lanarkshire, including (a) the recent opening of two new Independent Sector Care Homes with a further two scheduled to open within the next three months; (b) the position regarding finalisation of contractual negotiations with current providers, and (c) the situation in relation to investigations undertaken, and (4) detailing in Appendix One to the report, a summary of the outcome of the monitoring of independent Nursing Home Sector Providers, Care at Home Services and Independent Sector Day Care Services for Older People.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

(2) INDEPENDENT SECTOR SERVICES FOR ADULTS (EXCEPT OLDER PEOPLE)

5. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 9 December 2004 when the use of supported living services and other services for young people purchased by the Council and the outcome of monitoring for the period from 1 July to 30 September 2004 was noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 4 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising that (a) 232 adults with learning disabilities and 71 adults with mental health problems were receiving Supported Living Services in their own homes within North Lanarkshire; (b) in addition to the 303 people referred to in (a), 20 adults with learning disabilities were supported outside the North Lanarkshire area under Supported Living Arrangements; (c) 85 adults were receiving a service from Care at Home providers on a spot purchase basis each week; (d) 104 adults were receiving a service in Residential Care Home settings, of these 66 had learning disabilities and 38 had mental health problems; (e) two separate day services provided places for, respectively, up to 45 and 34 people with physical and various secondary disabilities on a daily basis, and a further one provided day services for up to 12 people daily who had significant learning and physical disabilities, and (f) three services provided a total of 23 residential respite place for adults (and/or children) with

learning disabilities, and (2) summarising in Appendix One to the report, the outcome of contract monitoring of Independent Supported Living Services, Care at Home Services, and Care Homes Services.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

(3) INDEPENDENT SECTOR SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FOR ADULTS WITHIN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

6. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 9 December 2004, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 4 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising of the use of Independent Sector Services for Vulnerable Young People and Adults involved in, or affected by, the Criminal Justice System for the period from 1 October to 31 December 2004, and (2) summarising in Appendix One to the report, the outcome of contract monitoring of Independent Sector Services to Adults and Young People within the Criminal Justice System, together with a diverse range of independent sector services to vulnerable young people within their communities.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE CARE AND REPAIR PROJECT - PROGRESS REPORT

7. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 9 December 2004 when the progress of the Care and Repair Project had been noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 16 February 2005 by the Director of Housing and Property Services (1) intimating that, as at 31 December 2004, the Care and Repair Project had 2,304 clients, of whom 1,131 were complete or in progress and that, of those, 67% of the Project's clients were over 70 years of age, and over 88% had a disability; (2) indicating that the new referrals to the Project totalled 152 in the quarter to December 2004; (3) pointing out that the total value of works completed in this quarter was £161,521; (4) advising that since the launch of the Small Repairs Service, staff had visited 2,389 clients, the progress of which was detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, and (5) detailing in Appendix 2 to the report, the income and expenditure account for Care and Repair in North Lanarkshire which indicated a surplus of £10,612 to 31 December 2004, due mainly to the Small Repairs Service staff not commencing employment until the summer.

Decided:

- (1) that a representative of the Department of Housing and Property Services be invited to the next meeting of this Sub-Committee to advise on the current position in relation to the Small Repairs Service, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE CONSULTATION ON DIRECT PAYMENTS: RULES FOR EMPLOYING RELATIVES

8. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 3 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work regarding a consultation paper proposing that the rules currently preventing people from using direct payment to employ a close relative to provide care be adjusted (1) advising that the Council had been invited to submit comments by 8 February 2005 on the consultation paper entitled "Direct Payments – Rules for Employing Relatives" from the Scottish Executive, and (2) seeking approval of the response which had been submitted prior to the deadline, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

Decided:

- (1) that the Council's response to the consultation document, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be homologated;
- (2) that a report on the implications for North Lanarkshire of the proposals contained within the consultation document be submitted to a future meeting of the Social Work Committee, and
- (3) that the contents of the report be otherwise noted.

MONKLANDS RAINBOW ASSOCIATION

9. There was submitted a report dated 3 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising that the Council currently provided annual funding of £3,000 to the Monklands Rainbow Association to meet their operating and running costs, and (2) proposing that this funding be increased to £3,500 per annum, with the increase being met from the Community Care budget.

Decided:

- (1) that funding for the Monklands Rainbow Group of £3,500 per annum be approved, and
- (2) that the contents of the report be otherwise noted.

DEVELOPMENT OF ADVOCACY

10. With reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 26 February 2004 when, *inter alia*, the work undertaken by the newly established North Lanarkshire Advocacy Forum had been noted, there was submitted a report dated 10 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work regarding the provision of advocacy (1) advising that the North Lanarkshire Advocacy Project, which was funded by the Council with a contribution from NHS Greater Glasgow had moved premises to Forsyth Street, Airdrie, which had incurred rental costs of £6,000 per annum; (2) proposing that the core funding be increased by £7,666, giving a total of £50,666 for 2005/2006 to take account of inflation and the rental costs; (3) indicating that (a) the North Lanarkshire Disability Forum received Section 10 funding of £17,772 from the Council for assistance with rental and salary costs, and (b) the National Lottery had provided citizen advocacy funding for the last three years and that from March 2005, 25% and 50% of the first and second year funding, respectively, would require to be funded from other sources, and (4) recommending that additional funding of £10,118 and £18,578 for 2005/2006 and 2006/2007, respectively, a total of £28,696, to meet their funding requirements.

Decided:

- (1) that additional funding of £7,666 for 2005/2006 for the North Lanarkshire Advocacy Project be approved;
- (2) that additional funding of £28,696 for the two years from 2005/2006 to 2006/2007 for North Lanarkshire Disability Forum be approved, and
- (3) that the contents of the report be otherwise noted.

SUPPLEMENTATION RATE INCREASES IN ESTABLISHMENTS OUTWITH THIS AUTHORITY

11. With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 9 December 2004 when new supplementation rates were approved, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 31 January 2005 by the Director of Social Work setting out changes in the supplementation rates set by other local authorities for registered residential and day care establishments based in the voluntary sector located within their area.

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

CHILDREN'S HOSPICE ASSOCIATION IN SCOTLAND (CHAS)

12. With reference to paragraph 11 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 11 December 2003, when it was agreed that a grant of £15,442 be made to the Children's Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS) towards the cost of Rachel House Children's Hospice for the 2003/2004 financial year, there was submitted a report dated 8 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work (1) seeking approval to make a grant to CHAS towards the cost of Rachel House Children's Hospice for 2004/2005, and (2) advising that the current funding sought from local authorities amounted to £257,959 for 2004/2005, with North Lanarkshire Council's share, based on population, being £16,448.

Decided: that a grant of £16,448 to the Children's Hospice Association Scotland towards the cost of Rachel House Children's Hospice for the 2004/2005 financial year be approved.

CARISBROOKE DAY CENTRE, AIRDRIE - ENABLE SCOTLAND - REPLACEMENT MINI-BUS

13. With reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 11 December 2003, when it was agreed that the funding levels applied in Carisbrooke Day Centre, Airdrie and the Centre's Outreach Service be increased, there was submitted a report dated 10 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work proposing that a one-off payment of £30,927 be made to the Carisbrooke Day Centre for the purchase of a new mini-bus, as detailed in the report.

Decided: that a one-off payment of £30,927 be provided, as detailed in Section 3.3 of the report, for the purchase of a new mini-bus for Carisbrooke Day Centre, Airdrie.

BONKLE DAY CARE PROJECT

14. There was submitted a report dated 14 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising that Bonkle Day Care Project provided day care activity for older people; (2) indicating that the Project had received no inflationary increase in their funding for 2004/2005 and were projecting a deficit of £5,000 for this year; (3) intimating that a review of funding levels had been undertaken in respect of the Project's funding for 2005/2006, and (4) proposing (a) that a one-off payment of £5,000 be made to Bonkle Day Care Project to fund the organisation's deficit for 2004/2005, and (b) that the budget for the Project for 2005/2006 be set at £128,193, with this funding being met from the Community Care Development Budget.

Decided:

- (1) that a one-off payment of £5,000 to Bonkle Day Care Project for 2004/2005 be approved;
 - (2) that funding of £128,193 for 2005/2006, as detailed in Section 3.2 of the report, be approved, and
 - (3) that the content of the report be otherwise noted.
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INCREASE IN ADOPTION ALLOWANCES, LINK CARERS ALLOWANCES AND SHARED CARE PAYMENTS FOR 2005/2006

15. With reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 23 April 2002 when rates for Adoption Allowances, Fostering Allowances, Link Carer Allowances and Shared Care Payments had been approved, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 9 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work setting out proposals by the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities for revised rates of allowances paid for Adoption Allowances, Fostering Allowances, Link Carers Allowances and Shared Care Payments for 2005/2006, which equated to an increase of 2% in line with inflation.

Decided: that the new rates for Adoption Allowances, Fostering Allowances, Link Carers Allowances and Shared Care Payments, as detailed within Section 3 of the report, be approved with effect from 1 April 2005.

ABSENCE MONITORING

16. With reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 9 December 2004 when the level of staff absence throughout the Social Work Department from 1 September to 31 October 2004 was noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 15 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work detailing the level of staff absence throughout the Social Work Department for the months of November and December 2004.

Decided:

- (1) that staff absence be considered at a future Social Work Committee meeting, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

OVERTIME MONITORING REPORT

17. With reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 9 December 2004, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 15 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work providing details of overtime worked by officers paid above SCP35 during periods 9 and 10 for the year 2004/2005.

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

PROPERTIES SURPLUS TO REQUIREMENTS

(1) 85-91 PARK STREET, AIRDRIE

18. There was submitted a report dated 8 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising that property at 85-91 Park Street, Airdrie, had formerly been used as a neighbourhood house for the Community Work Service; (2) indicating that the Community Work Service had transferred to the Department of Community Services in 1997/98; (3) intimating that the property had recently been leased to (a) Community Renewal Limited, and (b) Counselling and Benefits in Action (CABIA), and (4) seeking approval for the property at 85-91 Park Street, Airdrie, to be declared surplus to the requirements of the Department of Social Work.

Decided:

- (1) that the property at 85-91 Park Street, Airdrie, be declared surplus to requirements, with any rental income received transferring to the holding department, and
- (2) that the report be remitted to the Policy and Resources (Property) Sub-Committee for consideration.

(2) 84 HOWLETNEST ROAD, AIRDRIE

19. There was submitted a report dated 8 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising that the property at 84 Howletnest Road, Airdrie, had formerly been used as a neighbourhood house occupied by the Lone Parents Project; (2) advising that the project had wound up in March 2002, and (3) seeking approval for the property at 84 Howletnest Road, Airdrie, to be declared surplus to the requirements of the Department of Social Work.

Decided:

- (1) that the property at 84 Howletnest Road, Airdrie, be declared surplus to requirements, and
- (2) that the report be remitted to the Policy and Resources (Property) Sub-Committee for consideration.

(3) 171 MAIN STREET, PLAINS, AIRDRIE

20. There was submitted a report dated 8 February 2005 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising that the property at 171 Main Street, Plains, Airdrie, had formerly been used as a neighbourhood base occupied by Plains Countryside Park; (2) advising that the group had ceased to function in June 2004, and (3) seeking approval for the property at 171 Main Street, Plains, Airdrie, to be declared surplus to the requirements of the Department of Social Work.

Decided:

- (1) that the property at 171 Main Street, Plains, Airdrie, be declared surplus to requirements, and
- (2) that the report be remitted to the Policy and Resources (Property) Sub-Committee for consideration.