

## **SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

At a Meeting of the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee held on Wednesday 17 June 2009 in the Council Chambers, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank at 10.00 a.m.

**Present:** Councillors Jim Brown, Gail Casey, Jonathan McColl, Ronnie McColl, Patrick McGlinchey, Marie McNair, Iain Robertson, Martin Rooney and May Smillie.

**Attending:** Bill Clark, Executive Director of Social Work and Health; Stephen West, Head of Service – Strategy, Resources and Modernisation; Jim Nisbet, Head of Service – Community Care; Max Agnew, Section Head, Quality Assurance and Training Section; Moira Swanson, Section Head – Strategy; William Pook, Joint Finance Officer; Nigel Ettles, Principal Solicitor and Nuala Borthwick, Committee Officer, Legal, Administrative and Regulatory Services.

**Apologies:** An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Jim Bolla.

### **Councillor Jonathan McColl in the Chair**

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Having heard Councillor J McColl, Members were invited to declare any interest in any of the items of business appearing on the agenda.

Councillor Rooney declared a non-financial interest in Item 4 – Care Commission Inspection Reports for Independent Sector Care Homes in West Dunbartonshire and advised that he would participate in any discussions held in relation to the item.

#### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee held on 15 April 2009 were submitted and approved, subject to the undernoted correction to the item under the heading 'Care Commission Inspection Reports for Independent Sector Care Homes in West Dunbartonshire':-

Change the third paragraph of Councillor Rooney's motion (Page 1905 refers) to read as follows:-

This Committee has no confidence in Dalmoak Castle Nursing Home's capacity to improve service to an acceptable standard.

### **CARE COMMISSION INSPECTION REPORTS FOR INDEPENDENT SECTOR CARE HOMES IN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health providing information on the most recent Care Commission inspection reports received covering independent sector care homes in West Dunbartonshire.

After discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Social Work and Health, the Section Head, Quality Assurance & Training Section and the Head of Service – Community Care in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to fully support the National Care Home Contract in relation to additional Quality Funding payments to care homes;
- (2) that reduced payments be applied consistently where care home inspections result in low grades of 1 or 2 in any of the themed areas;
- (3) that a Briefing Note providing an update on the situation at Dalmoak Castle, Clyde View and Castle View Nursing Homes be sent to all Members during or shortly after the Council recess; and
- (4) to support the actions being taken to meet the requirements noted in the Care Commission inspection report for Castle View Nursing Home and otherwise to note the other three inspection reports detailed in the report.

### **CARE COMMISSION INSPECTION REPORTS – ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY PROJECT**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social and Health providing information on the recent inspection report received from the Care Commission on an announced inspection of the Lomond and West Dunbartonshire Brain Injury Project which took place in late February 2009.

After discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Social Work and Health in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to instruct the Director of Social Work and Health to write to the management and staff of the Lomond and West Dunbartonshire Brain Injury Project to congratulate them on the excellent quality of care provided to service users and carers within West Dunbartonshire and the Lomond area;
- (2) to acknowledge the commitment and support from the Executive Director of Social Work and Health and his staff to support this vital service;

- (3) that a Briefing Note be sent to all Members of the Committee providing details of the support given to service users in relation to accessing further education and work; and
- (4) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

### **INSPECTION OF SOCIAL WORK SERVICES BY THE SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION AGENCY**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health providing details of the draft action plan to be submitted to the Social Work Inspection Agency (SWIA) in response to the recommendations contained in their recent report and as reported to Council at its meeting on 29 April 2009.

After discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Social Work and Health in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the points for action in the plan which will now be discussed and agreed with the Link Inspector of SWIA;
- (2) to note that any changes to the action plan resulting from discussion with the Link Inspector would be reported to the Committee; and
- (3) that further progress reports would be brought to the relevant committees over the next 12 month period.

### **QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT 1 OCTOBER 2008 TO 31 MARCH 2009 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS: SOCIAL WORK SERVICES FOR ADULTS, LOCAL IMPROVEMENT TARGETS FOR ADULTS AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT INFORMATION FOR ALL SOCIAL WORK**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health:-

- (a) providing information on the performance of Social Work and Health in relation to the Statutory Performance Indicators and Local Improvement Targets for Adult Services for the period of 1 October 2008 to 31 March 2009;
- (b) providing information on work being undertaken by the Department on continuous improvement including Best Value Reviews and Complaints Monitoring; and
- (c) presenting information for elected members and stakeholders as part of wider Public Performance Reporting in line with Scottish Executive Best Value Guidance and Audit Scotland recommendations.

Following discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Social Work and Health and the Section Head - Strategy in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) that a Briefing Note be provided to Members of the Committee on the progress made by the Criminal Justice Service in recruiting more staff to deal with the increasing volume of Community Service Orders; and
- (2) to note the contents of the report and the actions initiated by the Department to attempt to improve performance.

### **FIRE SAFETY IN RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health providing an update on the fire safety improvements being undertaken in residential care homes for older people under the control of Social Work and Health.

Following discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Social Work and Health in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

### **SOCIAL WORK SERVICES DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE PLAN 2009/2013**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health presenting the draft Social Work Service Plan for the period 2009/2013.

After discussion and having heard officers in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, Councillor Rooney, seconded by Councillor Casey, moved:-

- (1) that the draft Service Plan for Social Work Services for 2009/2013 be approved;
- (2) that the preparation of future Service Plans involve all stakeholders including all Members of the Council; and
- (3) that a performance improvement report for 2009/2010 be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

As an amendment, Councillor R. McColl, seconded by Councillor Iain Robertson, moved:-

that the draft Service Plan for Social Work Services for 2009/2013 be approved.

On a vote being taken, 5 Members voted for the amendment and 3 Members voted for the motion. The amendment was accordingly declared carried.

**EQUIPU (FORMERLY GGILES –  
GREATER GLASGOW INDEPENDENT LIVING EQUIPMENT SERVICE)**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health providing information on the status and progress of West Dunbartonshire Council and West Dunbartonshire Community Health Partnership as a member of the Joint Equipment Store at Ballieston in Glasgow operated by Greater Glasgow Independent Living Equipment Service (GGILES).

Having heard the Executive Director of Social Work and Health in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) that a further report be presented to the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee on the progress of the extended partnership arrangements and any impact arising for the service users within West Dunbartonshire; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

**Motion by Councillor Black – Thomas McCulloch**

This Council demands that the Scottish Government reviews as a matter of urgency the position in relation to the proposed parole hearing for Thomas McCulloch and demands that the Scottish Government ensure that the parole board takes full account of public safety when considering this case.

After it had been moved by Councillor J. McColl, the Committee agreed to approve the above motion.

The meeting closed at 11.17 a.m.