

SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee held on Wednesday, 17 March 2010 in the Council Chambers, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank at 10.00 a.m.

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

* Arrived later in the meeting.

Attending: Stephen West, Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health; Jim Nisbet, Head of Service – Community Care; David Elliott, General Manager, Learning Disability Services; Max Agnew, Section Head, Quality Assurance and Training Section; Beryl Middleton, Section Head - Service Improvement; Nigel Ettles, Principal Solicitor and Nuala Borthwick, Committee Officer, Legal, Administrative and Regulatory Services.

Councillor Jonathan McColl in the Chair

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- (a) The Minutes of the Meeting of the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee held on 20 January 2010 were submitted and approved as a correct record.
- (b) The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee held on Monday, 22 February 2010 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

Note: Councillor McNair entered the meeting during consideration of this item.

COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES PERFORMANCE ON SERVICE DELIVERY TIMESCALES

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health advising of the performance of the Department of Social Work and Health in relation to timescales for service delivery within Community Care Services.

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

- (1) to instruct the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health to provide regular progress reports in relation to timescales for service delivery within Community Care Services;
- (2) that a report outlining improvements for service delivery timescales for both mental health and addiction client groups be provided to the next meeting of the Committee; and
- (3) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

PUBLIC SERVICE IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK

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

- (a) providing an update on the finalised action plan arising from the departmental self assessment carried out using the Public Service Improvement Framework (PSIF); and
- (b) providing details of the planned roll out schedule for PSIF for each service area of the Department.

After discussion and having heard the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health and the relevant Officers in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to congratulate staff on the work undertaken to finalise the action plan arising from the departmental self assessment carried out using PSIF and the roll out schedule for PSIF for each service area in the Department;
- (2) to note the updated and finalised improvement plan appended to the report;
- (3) to note the schedule for the roll-out of the PSIF process within the Social Work and Health department; and
- (4) that a Briefing Note providing details on the review stage of the earlier PSIF carried out within the Welfare Rights and Money Advice Service and its impact on service delivery be provided to Members.

DEPARTMENTAL WORKFORCE PLAN 2010 TO 2014

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

- (a) providing information on the development of a Departmental Workforce Plan; and
- (b) seeking approval of the related Improvement Plan for 2010/2014.

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

- (1) to note the development of the Departmental Workforce Plan for 2010 to 2014 which aims to ensure that the Department's resources are optimised by understanding the long term needs and creating people strategies and plans to meet them
- (2) to approve the Improvement Plan for 2010 to 2014;
- (3) to note that the structured approach to Workforce Planning is an ongoing process which will require updates on at least an annual basis to reflect changes in Council policy and priorities and any changes in legislation or regulation; and
- (4) that the Trades Unions be fully involved in the process.

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON SOCIAL CARE PROCUREMENT GUIDANCE

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health advising of the publication of the Scottish Government's draft guidance on Social Care Procurement in Scotland and the departmental response to it.

Having heard the Chair, Councillor J. McColl, in explanation of the decision taken at the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to instruct the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health to consult with Legal and Corporate Procurement colleagues on the guidance and its implications for future procurement policy and procedures, particularly with regard to social care;
- (2) to instruct the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health to report back to the Committee with conclusions and recommendations at the earliest opportunity;

- (3) that the consultation response should reflect the detailed views contained in the report including the view that within the procurement of social care, there may be cases where, through reasons of public protection or personal wellbeing, individual need will take precedence over procurement best practice;
- (4) that the consultation response should convey the Department's gratitude for the work undertaken by the Scottish Government to produce the Guidance; and
- (5) that a Briefing Note outlining the draft response be issued to all Elected Members requesting that any comments be provided to the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health at least 1 week prior to the submission date to the Scottish Government.

CARE COMMISSION INSPECTION REPORTS FOR REGISTERED SERVICES IN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health providing information on all Care Commission inspection reports received over the previous year for each of five services managed by West Dunbartonshire Council.

After discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the five Care Commission inspection reports; and
- (2) to congratulate and convey thanks to staff for the positive and complimentary inspection reports.

SOCIAL WORK BUDGETARY POSITION 2009/2010 AS AT PERIOD 9 – YEAR TO 15 JANUARY 2010

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health advising of the performance of the Social Work and Health budget for the period to 15 January 2010.

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

- (1) to congratulate staff on achieving an overall favourable outcome variance for the Social Work and Health budget whilst carrying out the stellar work of the department; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Bollan, having failed to obtain a seconder for a proposed motion, asked that his dissent be recorded in respect of this item.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL'S SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT POLICY

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health seeking approval of West Dunbartonshire Council's Self Directed Support Policy.

After discussion and having heard the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health and the General Manager, Learning Disability Services in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to approve the new Self Directed Support Policy.

The meeting closed at 11.10 a.m.