

SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee held on Wednesday, 13 August 2008 in Meeting Room 3, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Jim Bollan, Jim Finn, Jonathan McColl, Ronnie McColl, Patrick McGlinchey, Marie McNair, John Millar and Ian Robertson.

Attending: Bill Clark, Executive Director of Social Work and Health; Sally Michael, Principal Solicitor; Jim Nisbet, Head of Service – Older People's Team; Moira Swanson, Section Head - Strategy and Nuala Borthwick, Committee Officer, Legal, Administrative and Regulatory Services.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Gail Casey and Jim McElhill.

Councillor Jonathan McColl in the Chair

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee held on 21 May 2008 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

HEALTHY WORKING LIVES PROGRAMME AND STAFF HEALTH

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health providing an update on progress towards achievement of the 'Healthy Working Lives' Award (HWL) and seeking endorsement of a unified 'staff health plan', encompassing a number of health related projects across the Council.

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

- (1) that West Dunbartonshire Council continue to support and resource the Healthy Working Lives Programme; and
- (2) to take an active role in scrutinising progress of all staff health related activity to endorse the development of a 3-year staff health strategy incorporating all strands of health related activity.

SOCIAL WORK BUDGETARY POSITION 2008/2009 AS AT PERIOD 3 TO 15 JULY 2008

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health advising of the performance of the Social Work budget for the period to 15 July 2008.

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

- (1) to note the contents of the report;
- (2) that a report on the provision of Community Alarms be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee; and
- (3) that the Executive Director of Social Work and Health would provide financial information on charges for community alarms direct to Councillor McGlinchey.

UPDATE ON TELECARE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health providing an update on the Council's Telecare Development Programme funded via the Scottish Government.

Councillor Millar, seconded by Councillor McGlinchey, moved:-

Committee thanks the Executive Director for the report and congratulates staff members involved for all their hard work.

Committee notes that of the original £142,429 ring fenced funding awarded by the previous Scottish Executive £68,176 has been unspent and will be carried forward to financial year 2008/09.

Committee welcomes the additional £125,000 ring fenced funding from the Scottish Government for 2008/09, and instructs the Executive Director to provide detailed plans of this spend to a future meeting of the Committee.

However Committee is concerned that the ring fenced telecare funding of £125,000 in 2009/2010 requires to be match funded by the Council. This attempt to micro manage Council resources appears to go against the spirit of the concordat signed by the Scottish Government and Local Authorities.

Committee agrees that the Executive Director writes to the relevant Scottish Minister and requests that the Council receive the additional £125,000 of ring fenced telecare funding for 2009/2010 without any strings attached.

As an amendment, Councillor Jonathan McColl, seconded by Councillor Ronnie McColl, moved that the following recommendations contained within the aforementioned report be approved:-

- (1) to note the progress report in relation to the Telecare Development Programme and the use of the Telecare funding; and
- (2) to instruct the Executive Director of Social Work and Health to provide further reports on the use of Telecare equipment and its effect on service provision.

On a vote being taken, 4 Members voted for the amendment and 4 for the motion. There being an equality of voting, the Chair exercised his casting vote in favour of the amendment which was accordingly declared carried.

ATTAINMENT OF CHARTER MARK ACCREDITATION BY SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S OLDER PEOPLE AND CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL CARE SERVICES

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health advising of the successful outcome for Older People and Children's Residential Care Services in achieving Charter Mark accreditation.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to convey its thanks and appreciation to the staff involved for their hard work and dedication;
- (2) to note the success of Older People and Children's Residential Care Services in achieving the Charter Mark Standard for Customer Service Excellence; and
- (3) that the Leader of the Council, Leader of the Opposition and Service Spokespersons for Education and Lifelong Learning and Social Work and Health host an awards ceremony for the services achieving Charter Mark Standards and that all Elected Members be invited to attend the ceremony.

SCOTTISH SERVICE USER CONFERENCE: BEEN THERE, SEEN IT, DONE IT!

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health providing information on the Scottish Service User Conference.

It was noted that the high visibility event would be the first of its kind in Scotland and would be held in Clydebank Town Hall on Wednesday, 17 September 2008.

The Committee agreed:-

- (1) to support and promote the first Scottish Service User Conference arranged for 17 September 2008;
- (2) to support and host the Civic Reception proposed for the evening of 16 September 2008 in Clydebank Town Hall; and

- (3) that a further report on the Conference and the work of the Future of Addiction Services Team (FAST Group) be submitted to the Committee within 2 months of the event.

**ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2007/2008 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:
SOCIAL WORK SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS AND CONTINUOUS
IMPROVEMENT INFORMATION FOR ALL SOCIAL WORK**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Social Work and Health providing information on the performance of Social Work in relation to the Statutory Performance Indicators for Children and Adult Services and Local Improvement Targets for Adult Services for the period of 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008.

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 and the actions initiated by the Department of Social Work and Health to attempt to improve performance.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

After hearing the Chair, it was noted that Councillor Smillie had been replaced by Councillor Robertson and Councillor Rooney had been replaced by Councillor Millar as Members of the Committee.

Accordingly, the Chair, Councillor Jonathan McColl, welcomed Councillors Robertson and Millar to their first meeting of the Committee.

The meeting closed at 10.32 a.m.