

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Social Work Committee held within the Council Suite, Council Offices, Rosebery Place, Clydebank, on Wednesday 1st October, 1997.

Present: Councillors Duncan Mills (LAB), John Syme (LAB), Andrew White (LAB), Anthony Devine (LAB), William Mackechnie (SNP), Margaret McGregor (SNP), James Flynn (LAB) and James Chirrey (SNP).

Attending: Tim Huntingford, Director of Social Work and Housing; Iain M. Murray, Resources Manager; William Clark, Planning and Development Manager; Anne Ritchie, Operational Services Manager; and Stephen Brown, Manager - Legal and Administrative Services.

Apologies Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors James McElhill

for absence: (SNP), Patricia Rice (LAB), John Wailes (SNP) and Geoffrey Calvert (LAB & CO-OP).

Councillor Duncan Mills in the Chair

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Social Work Committee held on 6th August, 1997 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

HOME CARE SERVICES

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Social Work Committee held on 2nd October, 1996 (page **1255** refers), there was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing updating Members on action taken and progress made in respect of Home Care Services.

Having heard the Director of Social Work and Housing in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the terms of the Report and that further reports on Home Care would be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.

SOCIAL WORK SERVICE IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Social Work Committee held on 29th January, 1997 (pages **1699/1700** refers), there was submitted and noted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing presenting to the Committee, the Annual Planning Statement for Social Work Service in the Criminal Justice System for 1998/99, as required by the Scottish Office.

YOUNG PEOPLE IN TROUBLE

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Social Work Committee held on 7th May, 1997 (page **2161** refers), there was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing informing the Committee of efforts being made by the Department to provide services to young people.

The Committee received a presentation by Mr E. Mulhern, Senior Intermediate Treatment Officer (in attendance for this item only), on work currently being undertaken by the Intermediate Treatment team.

Having heard both Mr Mulhern and the Director of Social Work and Housing in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note, with approval, the work being done with young people in trouble;
- (2) to endorse the collaborative approach being taken in addressing the problems identified within West Dunbartonshire; and
- (3) that the Director of Social Work and Housing would arrange, at an appropriate time, a visit for Members of this Committee, to an Intermediate Treatment Group and a Residential School.

VETERANS PROJECT

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Social Work Committee held on 6th August, 1997 (page **2415** refers), there was submitted and noted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing advising the Committee of progress being made towards restarting the Veterans Project in Brucehill.

PANEL OF SAFEGUARDERS

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Social Work Committee held on 6th August, 1997 (page **2418** refers), there was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council providing Members with some general information on the Panel of Safeguarders in West Dunbartonshire and in particular on the selection process.

Having heard Mr Brown, Manager - Legal and Administrative Services, advise that since the Report had been written, Mrs Victoria Crawford, 8 Victoria Road, Gourrock, had resigned from the Panel of Safeguarders in West Dunbartonshire and therefore there was a vacancy on the Panel, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that a further Report on the situation would be submitted to the next meeting; and
- (2) otherwise to note the terms of the Report.

BUDGETARY PERFORMANCE

There was submitted and noted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing updating Members on the performance of the Social Work Budget as at 31st August, 1997.

INCREASE IN MAINTENANCE RATES

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing requesting the Committee to approve revisions to maintenance rates for private and voluntary homes and schools, applicable to West Dunbartonshire placements.

The Committee agreed to approve the revised maintenance rates as detailed in Appendix I to this Minute.

INCREASE IN MAINTENANCE RATES, WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing requesting the Committee to approve revisions to maintenance rates for private and voluntary sector homes located within the West Dunbartonshire area.

The Committee agreed to approve the revised maintenance rates as detailed in Appendix II to this Minute.

ALLOWANCES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN RESIDENTIAL CARE

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing making recommendations in respect of allowances paid to children who are resident in West Dunbartonshire's Units for young people.

Having heard the Director of Social Work and Housing in further explanation, the Committee agreed to approve the allowances as detailed in Appendix III of this Minute.

PAYMENTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS 1997/98

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing making recommendations in respect of payments to voluntary organisations for the financial year 1997/98.

Having heard the Director of Social Work and Housing in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to approve the recommendations in respect of payments to voluntary organisations for 1997/98 as detailed in Appendix IV of this Minute.

It was noted that the applications for grant referred to within the said Report had not been considered by the Working Group on Grants but that the Director of Social Work and Housing was currently considering an appropriate mechanism for processing future applications for grant which would involve the Working Group.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND ADOPTION SERVICE

There was submitted and noted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing, advising the Committee of current arrangements for dealing with the approval of baby adoption applicants from West Dunbartonshire.

DRAFT SCOTTISH OFFICE GUIDANCE ON INTER-AGENCY CO-OPERATION IN CHILD PROTECTION

There was submitted and noted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing advising the Committee of the draft Scottish Office Proposals on how agencies and professionals should work together to protect children from harm and abuse.

WEST OF SCOTLAND CONSORTIUM FOR THE PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN IN PERMANENT SUBSTITUTE FAMILIES

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work and Housing advising the Committee of proposals for exchanging resources for children requiring permanent substitute families who are unable to be placed within their local authority.

The Committee agreed to approve the involvement of West Dunbartonshire in the aforementioned Consortium.

INCREASE IN MAINTENANCE RATES, WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Homes/Schools		Previous Rate (Per week)	Revised Rate (Per week)	Effective Date	No of WDC Residents	Percent Increase
The Mallard 100 Morrin Street Springburn Glasgow	Residential	£831.45	£1112.19	01.04.97	2	33.77%
Good Shepherd Centre Bishopton Renfrewshire	Residential	£1111.00	£1092.00	01.04.97	10	-1.71%
St Andrew's Drive 52 St Andrew's Drive Glasgow	Residential Residential	£405.76 £427.59	£427.59 £436.64	01.04.96 01.04.97	1 1	5.38% 2.12%
Key Housing 360 Peat Road Glasgow	Residential	£282.22	£287.73	01.04.97	1	1.95%
Barnardos	Age Band					
Tanners Lane	0-4	£271.88	£282.11	01.04.97		3.76%
Barkingside	5-10	£285.26	£296.11	01.04.97		3.80%
Ilford	11-15	£302.20	£313.82	01.04.97		3.85%
Essex	16-18	£327.58	£340.37	01.04.97		3.90%

INCREASE IN MAINTENANCE RATES, WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Homes		Previous Rate (Per Week)	Revised Rate (Per Week)	Effective Date	No of WDC Residents	Per Cent Increase
Glasgow Association for Mental Health 12 Perth Crescent Clydebank	Residential	£347.45	£353.01	01.04.97	3	1.60%
Kilpatrick House Church of Scotland Bridge Street Alexandria	Residential	£526.98	£535.30	01.04.97	9	1.58%
Preparation for Life Action for Children 28 Bridge Street Alexandria	Residential	£110.33	£112.59	01.04.97	8	2.05%
Key Housing 10 Adelaide Court Clydebank	Residential	£1332.57	£1262.68	01.04.97	3	-5.24%
Key Housing 5 Pattison Street Dalmuir	Residential	£1292.76	£1271.37	01.04.97	3	-1.65%
Key Housing 32 Alexander Street Clydebank	Residential	£508.80	£493.20	01.04.97	9	-3.07%