

HEALTH IMPROVEMENT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE SUB-COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Health Improvement and Social Justice Sub-Committee held in Committee Room 2, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton on Wednesday 14 August 2002 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Ronnie McColl and John Trainer (West Dunbartonshire Council); Mrs Vivien Dance and Rev. Ian Miller (Argyll and Clyde NHS Board); Andrew Robertson (Greater Glasgow Primary Care NHS Trust and NHS Board); and David Dowie (Communities Scotland).

Attending: **West Dunbartonshire Council:** Alexis Jay, Director of Social Work and Housing Services, Bill Clark, Head of Strategy; Michael Foley, Senior Social Worker (Strategy); Tom Jackson, Community Planning Co-ordinator, Policy Unit; Bobby Jones, Lead Officer – Public Health Development, Policy Unit; and Craig Stewart, Administrative Assistant.

Greater Glasgow NHS: Alex MacKenzie, Assistant Director of Planning and Community Care.

Argyll and Clyde NHS: Michael Bews, Chief Executive; and Kay Eastwood, Director of Nursing.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Connie O'Sullivan (West Dunbartonshire Council) and Catriona Renfrew (Greater Glasgow NHS Board).

Councillor Ronnie McColl in the Chair

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 22 May 2002 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

After hearing the Chair, Councillor McColl, the Sub-Committee agreed to vary the Order of Business as hereinafter minuted.

SHORT LIFE WORKING GROUP ON ASBESTOS

A report was submitted by the Director of Social Work and Housing Services

- (1) highlighting the findings and recommendations of the CoSLA Short Life Working Group on Asbestos (SLWG); and
- (2) seeking approval for the organisation of a National Conference on Asbestos as an issue for Local Government across Scotland.

Prior to consideration of the report, the Sub-Committee heard a presentation from Mr. Tommy Gorman, Policy Officer, Welfare Rights Benefit Section, on this matter. Following a question and answer session, the Chair, Councillor McColl, thanked Mr. Gorman for the informative nature of his presentation.

After discussion, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (a) to support the recommendations contained in the SLWG report;
- (b) to support the proposal that a National Conference on Asbestos issues be arranged; and
- (c) to remit the matter to the next meeting of the Council for approval.

INTEGRATED POLICY & EDUCATION OFFICER (MENTAL HEALTH)

A report was submitted by the Director of Social Work and Housing Services advising of progress in the recruitment of an Integrated Policy & Education Officer for Mental Health Services.

Having heard the Head of Strategy, the Sub-Committee agreed to note the progress made in creating new capacity to assist the partners in implementing new legislation and policy aimed at advancing the modernisation and integration agenda in mental health.

TOWARDS INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT IN LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES

A report was submitted by the Director of Social Work and Housing Services seeking approval for proposals to be progressed on integrated management arrangements for learning disability services.

Having heard the Director of Social Work and Housing Services, the Sub-Committee agreed that the Director of Social Work and Housing Services be requested to bring forward proposals for the integrated management of Learning Disability services.

JOINT FUTURE PROPOSAL FOR ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES AND CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

A report was submitted by the Director of Social Work and Housing Services seeking approval for the expenditure from resource release for the following posts and services:-

- (a) Specialist Health Care Worker for children with disabilities;
- (b) Shared Care/Short Breaks for children;
- (c) Integrated primary health care services for the Council area;
- (d) Information, Needs Assessment Officer;
- (e) Increased short breaks for adults;
- (f) SVQ staff training initiative;
- (g) Forensic Social Work post; and
- (h) Main line jointly commissioned posts financed by the Change Fund.

With regard to Appendix 3 of the report, it was noted that the reference to "Appendix 3" should read "Appendix 2" in respect of the sentence which mentions revenue resource release.

Having heard the Head of Strategy, the Sub-Committee agreed to approve the expenditure, as outlined in the appendices to the report, which had been released from the existing Social Work operational budget and from NHS Greater Glasgow and NHS Argyll and Clyde Resource Transfer monies as a result of Transitional Housing Benefit.

DELAYED DISCHARGE ACTION PLAN IN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

A report was submitted by the Director of Social Work and Housing Services informing of the action being undertaken in West Dunbartonshire to reduce delayed discharges.

Having heard the Director of Social Work and Housing Services in elaboration and in answer to Members' questions, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (a) to note the progress being made in terms of tackling the issue of delayed discharges in West Dunbartonshire; and

- (b) that the Director of Social Work and Housing Services, as Chair of the Joint Strategy Group, be requested to bring regular reports on progress made to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

MACMILLAN PALLIATIVE CANCER CARE SERVICE

A report was submitted by the Director of Social Work and Housing Services advising of the development of a Macmillan Carers Service through a partnership with Macmillan Cancer Relief, West Dunbartonshire Council, Argyll and Bute Council and Lomond and Argyll Primary Care NHS Trust.

Having heard Mr. Jim Dean, Area Manager, Vale of Leven Area Office, in elaboration and in answer to Members' questions, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (a) to welcome the contents of the report and note the significant contribution that Macmillan Cancer Relief were making to the area;
- (b) to note the progress which had been made to date in terms of setting up the service; and
- (c) to congratulate those who were involved in the development of the partnership project, particularly Ms. Kay Eastwood, Mr. Jim Dean and Ms. Lynne McKnight, Section Head – Home Care.

JOINT HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

A report was submitted by the Director and Social Work and Housing Services informing of the progress made in terms of preparing a Joint Health Improvement Plan for West Dunbartonshire.

Having heard a short presentation on the subject by Mr. Bobby Jones, Lead Officer – Public Health Development, it was agreed:-

- (a) that the contents of the report be noted;
- (b) that progress reports on the Joint Health Improvement Plan for West Dunbartonshire would be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee; and
- (c) that a full presentation on the Joint Health Improvement Plan would be made to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Sub-Committee would be held on Wednesday, 27 November 2002 at 10.00 a.m. within the Council Chambers, Council Offices, Rosebery Place, Clydebank.

The meeting closed at 11.05 a.m.