

ARGYLL, BUTE AND DUNBARTONSHIRES CRIMINAL JUSTICE SOCIAL WORK PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Argyll, Bute and Dunbartonshires Criminal Justice Social Work Partnership Joint Committee held in Meeting Room 3, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton on Thursday, 11 March 2010 at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors Donald McIntosh & Elaine Robertson (Argyll and Bute Council), Gordon Low & Michael O'Donnell (East Dunbartonshire Council), Gail Casey, Jonathan McColl & May Smillie (West Dunbartonshire Council).

Attending: Argyll and Bute Council: Jon Belton, Assistant Partnership Manager and Kirsteen Green, Planning and Evaluation Officer.

East Dunbartonshire Council: John Fleming, Assistant Partnership Manager and Tony Keogh, Head of Social Work.

West Dunbartonshire Council: Norman Firth, Criminal Justice Partnership Manager; Anne Ritchie, Head of Social Work Services (Operations); Janine Corr, Accountant and Craig Stewart, Committee Officer.

Apology: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Douglas Dunlop, Head of Service (Children, Families, Young People and Criminal Justice), Argyll and Bute Council.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Councillor McColl, Chair, advised the Joint Committee that in terms of the Partnership's Minute of Agreement, there required to be an item on the next agenda covering the appointment biennially of a Chair and Vice-Chair from the membership of the Partnership. The Joint Committee agreed to note the position.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Committee held on 3 September 2009 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

DRAFT OUTTURN POSITION 2009/2010 AND DRAFT REVENUE ESTIMATES 2010/2011

A report was submitted by the Treasurer to the Joint Committee:-

- (1) providing information on the draft 2009/2010 outturn;
- (2) providing information on the draft revenue estimates for the Partnership for 2010/2011; and
- (3) seeking approval of the draft revenue estimates for the Partnership for 2010/2011.

After discussion and having heard Ms. Corr, Accountant and relevant officers in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Joint Committee agreed to approve the 2010/2011 draft revenue estimates of the Partnership and to note that these estimates would form the basis of the budgetary control statements to be presented to the Partnership Joint Committee during 2010/2011.

COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY PLAN/PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIC PLAN9

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health, West Dunbartonshire Council, advising of progress to date regarding the Community Justice Authority Plan/Partnership Strategic Plan 2008/2011.

After discussion and having heard Mr. Firth, Criminal Justice Partnership Manager, and relevant officers in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, it was agreed:-

- (1) to note the progress that was continuing to be made, including the updated information provided at the meeting, in respect of achieving a successful conclusion of the current planning commitments; and
- (2) to otherwise note the contents of the report.

NORTH STRATHCLYDE COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY: MULTI AGENCY PUBLIC PROTECTION ARRANGEMENTS (MAPPA): ANNUAL REPORT 2008/2009

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health, West Dunbartonshire Council advising of the contents of and issues arising from the above report. The report was published on 26 October 2009 and is available on the Scottish Government web site.

After discussion and having heard Mr. Firth, Criminal Justice Partnership Manager and relevant officers in elaboration and in answer to Members' questions, it was agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report; and
- (2) to note that further reports regarding MAPPA would be submitted to future meetings of the Joint Committee.

FISCAL WORK ORDER PILOT PROJECT: PROGRESS REPORT

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health, West Dunbartonshire Council, advising of progress in relation to the Fiscal Work Order Pilot which commenced in July 2008. The pilot relates to the jurisdiction of the Procurator Fiscal in Dumbarton.

After discussion and having heard Mr. Fleming, Assistant Partnership Manager and relevant officers in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Joint Committee agreed to note the contents of the report and in particular the success in establishing a rigorous pilot project in collaboration with the Procurator Fiscal and Apex (Scotland) partners.

STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2008/09

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health, West Dunbartonshire Council, informing of the Statutory Performance Indicators (SPIs) presented by the Partnership for 2008/09 and any issues arising from them.

After discussion and having heard the Planning and Evaluation Officer and relevant officers in elaboration and in answer to Members' questions, the Joint Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that Senior Social Workers/Team Leaders would implement the action points contained in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (2) that a new format for reporting SPIs would be created for the Partnership;
- (3) to note that the SPIs would continue to be analysed on an annual basis; and
- (4) that it would be helpful to incorporate another column in Appendix 1 to the report giving statistical information in respect of the previous year.

TRANSLATION/INTERPRETING SERVICES 2008/09

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health, West Dunbartonshire Council, providing an update on the monitoring of the use of the translation and interpreting services by the Partnership during 2008/09.

Having heard the Planning and Evaluation Officer, the Joint Committee agreed:-

- (1) that the Partnership would continue to monitor the use of translation/interpretation services; and
- (2) that the Partnership would review services as appropriate in relation to changes in need.

THE SEXUAL OFFENCES (SCOTLAND) ACT 2009

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health, West Dunbartonshire Council, providing information on the content of the Sexual Offences (Scotland) Act 2009. The Act received Royal Assent in July 2009 but will not be implemented before Autumn 2010 at the earliest.

After discussion and having heard Mr. Fleming, Assistant Partnership Manager in answer to Members' questions, the Joint Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

BREACH, RECALL & REVIEW APPLICATIONS 2008/09

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health, West Dunbartonshire Council, providing information on the numbers of breach, recall and review applications submitted by the Partnership during 2008/09.

After discussion and having heard the Planning and Evaluation Officer and relevant officers in elaboration and in answer to Members' questions, it was agreed:-

- (1) to request that a further report be prepared to a future meeting of the Joint Committee giving information in respect of technical breach of orders;
- (2) that the Partnership Management Team would implement the action points contained in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (3) to note that the monitoring of breaches, recalls and reviews would continue throughout the year via Carejustice reports as per the Partnership Monitoring and Evaluation Programme.

THE CALEDONIAN SYSTEM: AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO ADDRESS MEN'S DOMESTIC ABUSE AND TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF WOMEN, CHILDREN AND MEN

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health, West Dunbartonshire Council, providing informing of the bid for resources recently made available by the Scottish Government to deliver the Caledonian System.

After discussion and having heard Mr. Firth, Criminal Justice Partnership Manager and relevant officers in elaboration and in answer to Members' questions, the Joint Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that a bid for the Caledonian System had been submitted to the Scottish Government;
- (2) to approve the recruitment of the required staff subject to the availability of full funding for the required posts; and
- (3) that a further report be requested on progress should the bid be successful for consideration at the next meeting of the Partnership Joint Committee in June 2010.

URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS

The Chair, Councillor McColl, in terms of Section 50B (4) (b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as inserted by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, decided that the following item be considered as a matter of urgency on the grounds that the action to be taken required early consideration.

INTEGRATION OF WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH AND WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP (CHP)

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health, West Dunbartonshire Council, informing of the decision taken by West Dunbartonshire Council on 24 February 2010 to agree in principle that the Social Work functions of the Council should be integrated with the local CHP.

After discussion, the Joint Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the decision taken by West Dunbartonshire Council to move to closer integration with Health; and
- (2) to note that a further report on this matter would be provided to a future meeting in due course.

PROGRAMME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Having heard the Partnership Manager, the following dates and times for future meetings of the Joint Committee were agreed:-

Thursday, 10 June 2010 at 2.00 p.m.

Thursday, 2 September 2010 at 2.00 p.m.

Thursday, 9 December 2010 at 2.00 p.m.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the meeting of the Joint Committee to be held on Thursday, 10 June 2010 would take place at the Council Offices, West Dunbartonshire Council, Garshake Road, Dumbarton and that the venues for the September and December meetings would be discussed further at the next meeting of the Joint Committee.

The meeting closed at 3.45 p.m.