

# **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

## **Report by Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health**

**Social Work and Health Improvement Committee: 11 August 2010**

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**Subject: Scottish Government Consultation on Social Care Procurement Guidance**

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** This report advises members of our departmental response to the Scottish Government's draft guidance on Social Care Procurement.

### **2. Background**

- 2.1** At the Social Work and Health Improvement Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2010, it was agreed that a report providing our Departmental conclusions and recommendation in respect of this guidance would be presented to this meeting of the committee.
- 2.2** A report on the response to the Consultation on this proposed guidance was approved by the Social Work and Health Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010. It was also agreed that a draft of the response be circulated to elected members to allow them to comment. One comment was received from one elected member before the response was submitted by the due date of 5<sup>th</sup> April 2010. A copy of that response is attached to this report.

### **3. Main Issues**

- 3.1** The draft guidance was the subject of a considerable number of responses from Councils and other key stakeholder groups in Scotland, though these have yet to be published by the Scottish Government.
- 3.2** The original draft is now being revised by the Scottish Government and is expected to be reissued by the end of August 2010

### **4. People Issues**

- 4.1** There are no personnel issues associated with this report.

### **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1** There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## **6. Risk Analysis**

- 6.1** Elected members are aware of the severe financial situation facing the Council at the present time. It is possible that procurement savings will feature in future budget options. To embark on such a course will require our procurement arrangements to be “fit for purpose”. The extension of a procurement approach to the provision of Care and Support services will require to be conducted professionally and with precision. The production of this guidance will provide a framework for this to happen.

## **7. Equalities Impact**

- 7.1** No significant issues were identified in a screening for the potential equality impact of these measures.

## **8. Conclusions and Recommendation**

- 8.1** Members are asked to note that our consultation response reflected the conclusions of the March report to committee.
- 8.2** Members are also asked to note that a further report on how the guidance will shape our Social Care procurement policy and procedures will be presented following the publication of final guidance.

H. Anne Ritchie  
Interim Executive Director of Social Work and Health

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**Appendices:** Response to draft consultation paper Social Care Procurement Scotland: Guidance

**Wards Affected :** All