

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Director of Social Work Services and the Director of West Dunbartonshire Community Health Partnership

Health Improvement and Social Justice Partnership: 21 February 2007

Subject: Joint Staff Forum

1. Purpose

1.1 This report advises the Committee of the reconvening of the Joint Staff Forum.

2. Background

2.1 The Joint Staff Forum had originally been set up as a core partnership arena within the Joint Future arrangements outlined in the full Local Partnership Agreement of 2003.

2.2 The Forum brought together managers, Trades Unions and Professional bodies from local authority and the NHS, so that any staff-related issues around the integration agenda could be fully discussed. The Forum aimed to resolve potential conflict, and act as an information conduit, promoting staff engagement and clarity of shared vision.

2.3 The Forum had to be suspended due to workload issues for staff-side representatives around the formation of the Community Health Partnership in late 2005, and then the dissolution of NHS Argyll & Clyde in April 2006.

3. Progress

3.1 In recent months the Community Health Partnership has achieved its full complement of management staff, and in a more general sense, other staff have now bedded in. This has resulted in a more settled and established organisation which has articulated its forward direction through its first Annual Plan.

3.2 Staff-side representatives are now in a better position to engage across the partnership, and in particular with local authority colleagues.

3.3 It was therefore agreed at the January meeting of the Joint Strategy Group that the Joint Staff Forum should be re-convened.

4. Personnel Issues

4.1 There are no personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications.

6 Risk Analysis

6.1 There are no identified risks.

7. Conclusions

7.1 The reconvening of the Joint Staff Forum represents a positive move to ensuring staff-side engagement and participation as we work towards further integration of service provision and patient pathways.

8. Recommendations

8.1 Members are asked to note the report, and to support the reconvening of the Joint Staff Forum.

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Background Papers: Scottish Executive Health Department letter of 23 February 2006.

Wards Affected: All council Wards.