

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Social Work Committee held within the Council Chambers, Council Offices, Rosebery Place, Clydebank on Wednesday, 3 May 2000 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors John Trainer (LAB), James McElhill (SNP), John Syme (LAB), Anthony Devine (LAB), Mary Collins (LAB), Linda McColl (LAB - substituting for Councillor Andrew White), Geoffrey Calvert (LAB & CO-OP), James Bollan (SSP), Craig McLaughlin (SNP - substituting for Ronald McColl), Margaret McGregor (SNP) and Connie O'Sullivan (LAB).

Attending: Alexis Jay, Director of Social Work and Housing; Anne Ritchie, Head of Social Work (Operations); Iain M Murray, Head of Resources; William Clark, Head of Strategy; Beryl Middleton, Principal Officer, Registration and Inspection Unit; John Hepburn, Welfare Rights Development Officer and Audrey Ritchie, Principal Solicitor.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Andrew White (LAB) and James Flynn (LAB).

Councillor John Trainer in the Chair

VALE OF LEVEN HOSPITAL SITE

With reference to the minutes of meeting of the Social Work Committee held on 8 March 2000 (Volume page 5594 refers), there was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing updating the Committee on developments regarding the future of the Vale of Leven Hospital and inviting the Committee to consider how the Council might be involved in further consultation on local health care services.

Having heard the Head of Strategy in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to approve that further reports on the Vale of Leven Project be submitted to the full Council;
- (2) that Councillor Trainer, Convener, would write to Mr David Silletto, Chief Executive, Argyll and Clyde Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, reminding him of the commitments made by his authority at the previous Social Work Committee; and
- (3) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

OFFICE PREMISES AT 13 GAVINS ROAD, HARDGATE

With reference to the minutes of meeting of the Social Work Committee held on 8 March 2000 (Volume page 5596 refers), there was submitted a report by Director of Social Work and Housing recommending that the premises at 13 Gavins Road, Hardgate be declared surplus to the requirements of the Department of Social Work and Housing.

Having heard the Head of Social Work (Operations) in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) that the offices at 13 Gavins Road, Hardgate be declared surplus to the requirements of the Department of Social Work and Housing; and
- (2) that the matter be referred to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.

INCREASE IN MAINTENANCE RATES FOR ESTABLISHMENTS LOCATED OUTWITH WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing recommending approval of revised maintenance rates for Voluntary Residential Homes, Residential Schools and Day Centres applicable to West Dunbartonshire placements.

Having heard the Head of Resources in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed to approve the revised maintenance rates for Voluntary Residential Homes, Residential Schools and Day Centres as detailed in the Appendix to these minutes.

RATES OF CHARGES FOR DAY CARE - 2000/2001

There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing reviewing the rates for day care in West Dunbartonshire and recommending approval of an increase in charges to other authorities.

The Committee agreed to approve the increases in charges to other authorities as detailed below, with effect from 1 April 2000:-

<i>Service</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>1999/2000</i>	<i>2000/2001</i>	<i>Increase</i>
Basic Day Care	Elderly	£30.00	£31.00	£1.00 (3.33%)
Intensive Day Care	Dementia	£40.00	£41.50	£1.50 (3.75%)
Basic Day Care	Learning Disability	£35.00	£36.00	£1.00 (2.86%)
Intensive Day Care	Profound Disability	£47.50	£49.00	£1.50 (3.16%)

RATES OF CHARGES FOR PERMANENT CARE - 2000/2001

There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing recommending approval of the rates of charges for permanent care of adults and older people in residential establishments operated by West Dunbartonshire Council.

Having heard Councillor Trainer, Convener, in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the requirement to set weekly charges for residential care and to review them annually; and
- (2) to approve the proposed rates for 2000/2001 as detailed below, with effect from 10 April 2000:-

<i>Category</i>	<i>1999/2000</i>	<i>2000/2001</i>	<i>Change</i>
Permanent residential care - elderly	£398	£398	£0 (0.00%)
Permanent residential care - learning disability	£462	£493	£31 (6.71%)

CHARGES FOR RESIDENTIAL HOMES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing reviewing the rate for the use of places in the Council's Young People's Homes and recommending an increase thereon.

The Committee agreed that the rate for use of places in the Council's young people's homes for the financial year 2000/2001 would be the sum of £889 per week.

REGULATORY FEES FOR RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES IN SCOTLAND

There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing seeking approval for increases to the Regulatory Fees for Residential Care Homes in West Dunbartonshire.

Having heard the Head of Resources in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed to approve the Regulatory Fees for Residential Homes in West Dunbartonshire, as set out below, for implementation with effect from 1 April 2000:-

Application for registration	£1,685
Annual continuation of registration (determined by reference to the maximum number of persons specified in the certificate of registration)	£65 per person
Application by the person registered for variation of conditions of registration	£373
Issuing a new certificate of registration following a change in information	£18

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Councillor Bollan declared a pecuniary interest in the following item and took no part in the deliberations thereon.

INCREASE IN FOSTERING AND RELATED ALLOWANCES

There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing recommending an increase in the rates for Fostering and Related Allowances for 2000/2001.

The Committee agreed:-

- (1) to endorse West Dunbartonshire's application of the rates recommended by COSLA; and
- (2) to approve the increased rates in respect of fostering and related allowances as detailed below, with effect from 1 April 2000:-

<i>Ages</i>	<i>1999-2000</i>	<i>2000-2001</i>
0-4	£57.13	£58.33
5-10	£70.89	£72.38
11-15	£88.24	£90.09
16-18	£114.26	£116.66

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing advising of the Supported Employment Programme and seeking approval for the Council's continued participation in the scheme.

Having heard the Head of Resources in further explanation, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the provisions of the Supported Employment Scheme;
- (2) to confirm the Council's continued support for the employment of disabled people; and
- (3) to approve the signing for the contract for the three years commencing on 1 April 2000.

GREATER GLASGOW PRIMARY CARE NHS TRUST IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (TIP) 2000-2005 (CONSULTATION)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing seeking approval of this Council's response to the consultation on the Greater Glasgow Primary Care NHS Trust's Implementation Plan for 2000-2005.

Having heard the Head of Strategy in further explanation, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to approve the response to the Greater Glasgow NHS Primary Care Trust Implementation Plan 2000-2005, as detailed within the report;
- (2) to instruct the Director of Social Work and Housing to write to all relevant Health Boards and NHS Trusts and other relative parties regarding the establishment of a short term joint working group (open to all elected members) to discuss the issue of provision of accessible health services and transportation links; and
- (3) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

ANNUAL REPORT (MODERNISING SOCIAL WORK SERVICES IN SCOTLAND)

There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing outlining the draft proposals from the Scottish Executive to develop an annual report for Social Work services across Scotland.

Having heard the Director of Social Work and Housing in further explanation, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) that Director of Social Work and Housing should bring forward further reports as more information becomes available from the Scottish Executive; and
- (2) otherwise note the contents of the report.

DEATH OF A CHILD ACCOMMODATED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing informing the Committee of the death of a young person who was accommodated at Kenmure St. Mary's School.

Having heard the Convener, the Committee expressed its sympathy to the family of the child who had died and noted the actions which officers of the Council had taken following the tragic incident.

INSPECTION AND REGISTRATION UNIT'S ANNUAL REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Director of Social Work and Housing presenting the Inspection and Registration Unit's Annual Report for 1999/2000.

Following discussion and having heard the Principal Officer, Inspection and Registration, in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed to approve the Inspection and Registration Unit's Annual Report for 1999/2000.

DECLARATION OF NON- PECUNIARY INTEREST

Councillor Collins declared a non-pecuniary interest in the following item and took no part in the deliberations thereon.

WELFARE RIGHTS SERVICE: 1999-2000

There was submitted a report by Director of Social Work and Housing up-dating the Committee on the performance of the Welfare Rights Service in generating income for the residents of West Dunbartonshire and summarising recent service developments.

Having heard the Head of Strategy and the Welfare Rights Development Officer in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the terms of the report and the levels of benefit take-up achieved over the past year.

The meeting closed at 10.55 a.m.

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOCIAL WORK
COMIITTEE HELD ON 3 MAY 2000**

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Having heard the Head of Social Work (Operations) in answer to members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

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