

## **SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE**

At a Meeting of the Social Work Committee held within the Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton on Wednesday, 27th November, 1996.

**Present:** Councillors Duncan Mills (LAB), John Syme (LAB), Andrew White (LAB), Anthony Devine (LAB), Patricia Rice (LAB), George Cairney (LAB - substituting for Councillor Mary Campbell), Geoffrey Calvert (LAB & CO-OP), John Wailes (SNP), William Mackechnie (SNP) and Margaret McGregor (SNP).

**Attending:** Stephen Brown, Manager, Legal and Administrative Services; Tim Huntingford, Director of Social Work; Anne Ritchie, Operational Services Manager; Bill Clark, Planning and Development Manager; and Iain M. Murray, Resources Manager.

**Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors James McElhill (SNP) and Mary Campbell (LAB).

### **Councillor Duncan Mills in the Chair**

## **VARIATION IN ORDER OF BUSINESS**

In accordance with Standing Order 6, the Committee agreed to vary the order of business as hereinafter minuted.

### **FOSTERING SERVICES**

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work detailing the range of fostering services provided by the Social Work Department, the impact of the recent recruitment campaign for Foster Carers, and outlining key issues facing fostering.

Having heard the Convener and the Director of Social Work, the Committee agreed to receive a presentation from Mrs Maureen Cullen and Mrs Heather Drysdale (Social Workers, both in attendance for this item only) informing of the outcome of a recent campaign to recruit Foster Carers in West Dunbartonshire and giving a brief description of the type of training that prospective Foster Carers must complete.

The Committee also heard Mrs Jackie Lorrimer and Mrs Lorraine Brand (Foster Carers, both in attendance for this item only) give a brief outline of some of the difficulties they had experienced when caring for children with problems and also the level of support they received from the Social Work Department.

Following discussion, Councillor Mills and Councillor McGregor expressed their thanks and appreciation for the very difficult and important service which the Foster Carers provide.

On the Motion of Councillor Mills, seconded by Councillor Cairney, the Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report and to support the continuing development of Fostering Services for the children of West Dunbartonshire.

### **CHILDREN IN SCOTLAND**

Reference was made to the Minutes of the Requisitioned Meeting of the Council on 14th November, 1996 (Page 1386 refers), when it was agreed that the undernoted Motion by Councillor Margaret McGregor should be referred for action to the appropriate Service Committee:-

"That the Council invite Children in Scotland to give a presentation to the Council".

On the Motion of Councillor Mills, seconded by Councillor Cairney, it was agreed to invite Children in Scotland to make a presentation to a future Meeting of the Committee.

### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of Meeting of the Social Work Committee on 2nd October, 1996 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

Having heard Councillor Mills and the Director of Social Work, the Committee noted:-

- (1) that in respect of the item under the heading "Home Care" (Pages 1254/1255 refer), a progress Report on Home Care would be submitted to Meeting of the Social Work Committee in March 1997; and
- (2) that in respect of the item under the heading "Waiting Lists and Priority Systems in Aids and Adaptations Provision" (Page 1255 refers), the Director of Social Work, in consultation with the Convener, would investigate ways in which to improve the waiting lists and priority systems in aids and adaptations provision and would report back to the Committee at a future Meeting.

### **BUDGETARY POSITION AT 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1996**

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work informing Members of the latest information available in respect of the Social Work Department Budget as at 30th September, 1996.

Having heard the Director of Social Work and Mr Murray, Resources Manager, in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the position.

### **INCREASE IN MAINTENANCE RATES**

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work advising Members of revisions to maintenance rates for private and voluntary homes and schools, applicable to West Dunbartonshire placements and making recommendations thereon.

On the Motion of Councillor Mills, seconded, by Councillor Cairney, the Committee agreed to approve the increase in maintenance rates from the effective dates as follows:-

<u>Establishment/ Organisation</u>	<u>Previous Rate</u>	<u>Revised Rate</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>No. of West Dunbartonshire Placements</u>	<u>Per Cent Increase</u>
Richmond Fellowship, Clydebank	£447.00	£449.00	1.4.96	4	2.7
Upper Springfield, Perth (Residential)	£674.00	£702.00	1.4.96	0	4.2
Upper Springfield, Perth (Respite)	£527.00	£550.00	1.4.96	0	4.4
Barnardos Family Placement	-	£302.20	1.4.96	2	2.1

### **INCREASE IN MAINTENANCE RATES (NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL AREA)**

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work requesting approval of increases in the rates of charge for maintenance of residents in residential establishments and attenders at day care facilities operated by voluntary organisations within the area of North Lanarkshire Council.

On the Motion of Councillor Mills, seconded by Councillor Cairney, the Committee agreed to approve the rates listed in Appendices I and 2 of the Report (printed as Appendices I and II hereto) for payment on behalf of any current or future residents who originate from West Dunbartonshire.

### **COMMUNITY LAUNDRY SERVICE**

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work recommending the closure of the Community Laundry at Langcraigs and outlining alternative ways in which the service could be provided to those in need.

Following discussion and having heard the Director of Social Work in answer to Members' questions, on the Motion of Councillor Mills, seconded by Councillor White, the Committee agreed to continue this item pending a further Report by the Director of Social Work which would provide more detail on the following issues:-

- (a) the impact of the proposed closure on the Home Help service;
- (b) the situation concerning users of the laundry service who reside in the Argyll and Bute Council area;
- (c) the position of the staff who would be affected by the closure; and
- (d) further information on the provision of alternative resources for providing a laundry service for current users of the service.

### **SCOTTISH CHARTER FOR SOCIAL WORK**

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work requesting the Committee to consider the adoption by West Dunbartonshire Council of a Charter for Social Work in Scotland.

On the Motion of Councillor Mills, seconded by Councillor Cairney, the Committee agreed to endorse the document "A Scottish Charter for Social Work" and authorised Councillor Mills to write to the Convenor of the Chairs of Social Work Group, in the appropriate terms.

### **COMMUNITY CARE FUNDING**

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work outlining various sources of Community Care Funding and in particular the provision of Social Work Services to Community Care Client Groups in West Dunbartonshire.

Having heard Mrs Ritchie, Operational Services Manager and Mr Murray, Resources Manager, in further explanation of the Report and the Director of Social Work, in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the terms of the Report.

### **SCOTTISH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY CARE**

There was submitted for information, a Report by the Director of Social Work together with an Executive Summary on the submission prepared by the Association of Directors of Social Work concerning Community Care, for consideration by the Scottish Affairs Committee.

Having heard the Director of Social Work, the Committee agreed to note the terms of the Report and the Executive Summary.

### **COMMUNITY CARE: CARE PROGRAMME APPROACH (CPA) FOR PEOPLE WITH SEVERE AND ENDURING MENTAL ILLNESS INCLUDING DEMENTIA (CIRCULAR NO SWSG 16/96: DD38/96)**

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work:-

- (1) providing Members with details on the Scottish Office Circular No. SWSG 16/96: DD38/96 - Care Programme Approach (CPA) for People with Severe and Enduring Mental Illness including Dementia; and
- (2) highlighting some of the practical difficulties of implementing the CPA without additional resources.

On the Motion of Councillor Mills, seconded by Councillor Cairney, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (2) to request the Director of Social Work to write to the Scottish Office outlining the practical difficulties of implementing the CPA without additional resources, as detailed within the Report.

### **GRANT AIDED EXPENDITURE ALLOCATION**

There was submitted and noted a Report by the Director of Social Work informing Members of the proposed changes to the indicators used by Central Government to determine the allocation of Grant Aid Expenditure money to Local Authority Social Work Departments.

### **CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work informing of the Social Work Department's priorities for Capital Programme Expenditure for 1996/97.

Following discussion, on the Motion of Councillor Mills, seconded by Councillor Cairney, the Committee agreed to endorse the priorities identified within the Report in respect of the Social Work Department's Capital Programme for 1996/97 with the exception of the proposals detailed in paragraph 2 of the Report relating to the creation of a Disability Resource Centre in the Adult Training Centre (A.T.C) in Bruce Street, Dumbarton.

Furthermore, it was agreed that the Director of Social Work would arrange for Members of the Committee and representatives from Carers/Users of the A.T.C. to visit the premises at Bruce Street and also one of the existing Disability Resource Centres in Inverclyde or Renfrew prior to the next Meeting of the Committee when the matter would be given further consideration.

### **THE PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO THE SHOOTINGS AT DUNBLANE PRIMARY**

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Social Work outlining some of the recommendations of the Cullen Inquiry and the Government response, particularly in relation to the vetting and supervision of adults working with children and young people, and making comments thereon.

Having heard the Director of Social Work, on the Motion of Councillor Mills, seconded by Councillor Rice, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (2) that the comments raised within the Report would form the basis of the Social Work Department's submission to the consultation process on the Accreditation for Voluntary Youth Groups.

### **CONFERENCE**

There was submitted details of the Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights - "Scotland's Children and Young People" Conference to be held in the Conference Centre, Stirling Royal Infirmary on Friday 14th February, 1997.

Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Cairney, moved that Councillor Mills, as Convener of the Social Work Committee, should attend the above Conference. By way of an amendment Councillor Mackechnie, seconded by Councillor McGregor, moved that one Labour Member and one SNP Member be allowed to attend the above Conference.

On a vote being taken, three Members voted for the amendment and seven for the Motion which was accordingly declared carried.

**SUPPLEMENTED ESTABLISHMENTS WITHIN THE AREA OF NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL  
INCREASE IN MAINTENANCE RATES FROM 1 APRIL 1996**

<b>ORGANISATION</b>	<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>Daily RATE 95/96</b>	<b>Daily RATE 96/97</b>	<b>Weekly RATE 95/96</b>	<b>Weekly RATE 96/97</b>
Alpha Project	Alpha Project, Cumbernauld	Day Care			<b>90.00</b>	<b>91.78</b>
Capability Scotland	Braidwood House	Residential Care			<b>519.01</b>	<b>530.59</b>
Capability Scotland	Alexander Anderson	Day Care	57.37	66.07		
Church of Scotland	Cornerstone, Wishaw	Residential Care			<b>792.00</b>	<b>810.00</b>
Enable Homes Cumbernauld Ltd.	High Barwood, Kilsyth	Respite Care			<b>704.76</b>	<b>721.08</b>
Key Housing	Cumbernauld	Residential Care			<b>260.74</b>	<b>266.19</b>
Key Housing	Bellshill	Residential Care			<b>284.58</b>	<b>290.62</b>
Key Housing	Weir Street, Coatbridge	Residential Care			<b>411.00</b>	<b>421.00</b>
PHEW	Clifton House	Respite Care		129.00	<b>See Appendix2</b>	
Quarriers	McGregor Road, Cumbernauld	Residential Care			<b>348.26</b>	<b>396.91</b>
Ross Properties	Heatherpark House	Residential Care			<b>299.00</b>	<b>304.00</b>
Scottish Society for the Mentally Handicapped	Enable C'Nauld Group Tenancy	Residential Care			<b>352.27</b>	<b>360.22</b>
Sense in Scotland	Calder Street	Residential Care			<b>1157.00</b>	<b>1181.38</b>
VAMH	Gavin Street	Residential Care			<b>387.06</b>	<b>395.70</b>
VAMH	Ailsa House	Residential Care			<b>628.96</b>	<b>641.34</b>
VAMH	Greenlaw House	Residential Care			<b>378.38</b>	<b>387.31</b>
YMCA/YWCA	Kildrum House	Residential Care			<b>200.08</b>	<b>204.71</b>
Mr & Mrs Strachan	Drumpark Cottage	Residential Care			<b>207.00</b>	<b>320.00</b>

**PHEW, CLIFTON HOUSE COATBRIDGE****PROPOSED RATES FOR 1996/97****GROSS RATES**

The rate is calculated on an assumed occupancy of 90%

Day Rate	129.00
Two night respite period	258.00
Three night respite period	387.00

**CLIENT CONTRIBUTIONS**

Client respite contributions for North Lanarkshire

1. Adult contribution is £101.40 per week or £14.48 per day
2. Child in receipt of D.L.A. Care Component at higher level contribution is £48.50 per week or £6.92 per day
3. Child in receipt of D.L.A. Care Component at middle level contribution is £32.40 per week or £4.62 per day

**CHARGING TABLE**

		<b>TWO DAYS RESPITE</b>	<b>THREE DAYS RESPITE</b>
ADULT	Gross	258.00	387.00
	Client Contribution	28.96	43.44
	Net charge to Social Work	229.04	343.56
CHILD	Gross	258.00	387.00
(DLA H)	Client Contribution	13.84	20.76
	Net charge to Social Work	244.16	366.24
CHILD	Gross		
(DLA M)	Client Contribution	258.00	387.00
	Net charge to Social Work	9.24	13.86
		248.76	373.14