

## **SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE**

At a Meeting of the Social Work Committee held within the Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton on Wednesday, 7th August, 1996.

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

**Attending:** Michael Watters, Chief Executive; Ian Leitch, Depute Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council; Tim Huntingford, Director of Social Work; and Mrs Morag Harley, Head Occupational Therapist.

**Apologies for Absence:** Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Mary Campbell and Geoffrey Calvert.

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

### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of Meeting of the Social Work Committee on 22nd May, 1996 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

### **LOMOND HEALTHCARE NHS TRUST**

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Social Work Committee held on 22nd May, 1996 (Page 521 refers), there was submitted Report by the Director of Social Work providing an update on the continuing dialogue with the Lomond Healthcare NHS Trust.

Having heard the Convener, it was agreed that a meeting be arranged between Members of this Committee and Members of the Board of the NHS Trust, at a date and neutral venue to be agreed between the Convener and the Chairman of the Trust.

### **CLOSURE OF CRANNOG COTTAGE**

There was submitted Report by the Director of Social Work requesting Members' approval to declare Crannog Cottage surplus to the requirements of the Social Work Department.

Following discussion, Councillor McGregor moved, seconded by Councillor Mackechnie, that no decision be taken on the disposal of Crannog Cottage until such times as consultation has taken place with Members of Bowling and Milton Community Council and the Tenants and Resident's Association. By way of an amendment Councillor Mills moved, seconded by Councillor White, that the Committee approve the disposal of Crannog Cottage and remit the matter to the Director of Planning and Economic Development for preparation of a development brief to be presented to the Policy and Resources Committee.

On a vote being taken six Members voted for the amendment and four for the motion. The amendment was accordingly declared carried.

### **SOCIAL WORK SERVICE PLAN AND STANDARDS**

There was submitted Report by the Director of Social Work requesting Members' approval of the Social Work Department's Service Plan and Standards of Service.

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

- (1) to approve the Social Work Service Plan and Standards of Service as detailed in the aforementioned Report; and
- (2) to note that, taking account of the Convener's comments in respect of Home Helps Job Descriptions, a Report on Home Care Services would be submitted to a future Meeting.

### **CHARGES FOR RESIDENTIAL HOMES FOR CHILDREN**

There was submitted Report by the Director of Social Work requesting the Committee's approval of the rate of charge for the use of places in the Council's Children's Homes by other authorities.

Having heard the Director of Social Work, on the motion of Councillor Mills, seconded by Councillor Cairney, the Committee agreed that the rate of charge for the financial year 1996/97 would be £568.00 per week per child.

### **REVIEW OF PROVISION OF AIDS AND ADAPTATIONS FOR DISABLED PEOPLE**

There was submitted Report by the Director of Social Work informing Members of the current practice of the Occupational Therapy and Sensory Impairment Team in the provision of equipment and adaptations for disabled people and identifying issues which require to be addressed in order to streamline and improve targeting of the service.

The Committee received a presentation by Mrs Harley, Head Occupational Therapist, on two case histories (tabled) where the Occupational Therapy Service had been able to help two residents from West Dunbartonshire by the provision of aids and adaptations.

Thereafter, the Director of Social Work responded to Members' questions on some of the difficulties which had been experienced with the scoring system used to identify and prioritise individuals requiring the assistance of the Service.

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

- (1) to instruct the Director of Social Work to provide local groups/voluntary organisations with details of the services which the Occupational Therapy Service and Sensory Impairment Team currently provided and contact numbers of the appropriate officers;
- (2) to note that the Director of Social Work would submit further Reports on aspects of the Occupational Therapy and Sensory Impairment Service to a future Meeting of the Committee; and
- (3) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

### **SOCIAL WORK SERVICES IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM 1997/98**

There was submitted Report by the Director of Social Work requesting the Committee's approval of the Annual Planning Statement for Social Work Services in the Criminal Justice System for 1997/98, as required by the Scottish Office.

Having heard the Director of Social Work and following discussion the Committee agreed to approve the Planning Statement for submission to the Scottish Office, as detailed in the aforementioned Report.

### **RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR PROCUREMENT OF COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES**

There was submitted Report by the Director of Social Work, recommending an addition to the Delegated Powers of the Director of Social Work in respect of the commissioning and contracting of Community Care Services.

Following consideration and having heard the Director of Social Work, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to adopt the rules for contracting Social Care Services, as detailed within the said Report; and
- (2) to recommend to the Council that the aforementioned rules be incorporated within the Scheme of Delegation for the Director of Social Work.

### **THE CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995**

There was submitted Report by the Director of Social Work outlining the main areas of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 and, in particular, detailing the implications for the Social Work Department and the Council in implementation of the Act.

Having heard the Convener, the Committee agreed that in order to fully apprise Members of the content and implications of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, a Seminar be arranged by the appropriate Officers, as soon as possible.

### **CONVENER'S REMARKS**

Councillor Mills, on behalf of the Committee, thanked the Director of Social Work, his staff and all other members of staff who provided their assistance to members of the public throughout the duration of the two Oasis Concerts which were held in Balloch last weekend.