

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

At Dumbarton and within the Sub-Regional Offices there on Wednesday, 11th October, 1995.

Present: Councillors Duncan Mills (LAB), Mary Campbell (LAB), Andrew White (LAB), Anthony Devine (LAB), Patricia Rice (LAB), John Syme (LAB), William Kemp (IND), William Mackechnie (SNP), James McElhill (SNP), Margaret McGregor (SNP) and John Wailes (SNP).

Attending: Michael J. Watters, Chief Executive; Ian Leitch, Depute Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council; Tim Huntingford, Director of Social Work; David Campbell, Director of Housing Services; Eric Walker, Director of Finance and Mary Cullen, Head of Corporate Policy and Public Relations.

Apology for Absence: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor G. Calvert (LAB).

Councillor Duncan Mills in the Chair.

Before dealing with the items of business on the agenda, Councillor Duncan Mills welcomed the Members and Officials to the first meeting of the Social Work Committee of the Unitary Authority.

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE – REMIT

(a) Remit of, and Proposed Delegated Powers to Social Work Committee.

There was submitted report by the Director of Social Work (previously circulated) containing proposed remit and delegated functions to the Committee.

With regard to item 2 under the heading of Criminal Justice the Committee agreed that item 2 be amended to read as follows:-

To development through care services and the resettlement of offenders.

Following consideration and having heard the Director of Social Work the Committee approved the report as amended which was signed as relative hereto and filed for reference.

(b) Director of Social Work - Proposed Delegated Powers

There was submitted report by the Director of Social Work (previously circulated) recommending powers to be delegated to the Director of Social Work.

With regard to recommendation (IX), the Committee agreed that the recommendation be amended to read as follows:-

- (IX) To provide aids and adaptations for homes of handicapped persons up to the value of £10,000.00 in any one case in consultation with the Convener and with regard to recommendation (MR) the Committee agreed that the words "Director, Strathclyde Legal Services" be deleted and substituted by the "Depute Chief Executive and Solicitor to the Council".

Following consideration the Committee approved the Scheme of Delegation as submitted and amended which was signed as relative hereto and filed for reference.

FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SERVICES CURRENTLY RUN ON A REGION WIDE BASIS

There was submitted report by the Director of Social Work (previously circulated) which had been approved by the Council on 29th September, 1995 and presented to the Committee by the Director of allow further consideration of the implications of the proposals.

After hearing the Director of Social Work and consideration, the Committee agreed that the report be approved subject to the following amendments:-

3. Social Work Training.

On the second paragraph thereof the Committee agreed that after the word Department and on the first line thereof, the words "be able to" and after the word "contribute" on the first line thereof, the words "if necessary" be inserted and that under –

5. Child Protection Committee.

The Director will bring before the Committee proposals for the setting up of a Child Protection Committee.

CLYDEBANK CARERS GROUP

The Committee were reminded that the letter from the Carers Group had be remitted by the Council in August to this Committee for consideration.

There was submitted report by the Director of Social Work (previously circulated) in connection therewith.

Following consideration and having heard the Director of Social Work, the Committee agreed that he should meet with the Carers Group and reply to their letter on behalf of the Council.

COMMUNITY CARE PLANNING: PLANNING STRUCTURES

There was submitted report by the Director of Social Work (previously circulated) in connection therewith.

Following consideration and having heard the Director of Social Work, the Committee agreed that the Director should meet with other Unitary Authorities and report back to the Committee in due course.

COMMITTEE VISITATIONS

The Committee were asked whether they wished to consider a programme of visits to Social Work offices and other appropriate Social Work establishments.

Following consideration and having heard the Director of Social Work, the Committee noted that there would be Members Seminars and agreed that the Director of Social Work should devise a programme in order that the Committee could visit the Area Offices of the Social Work Department, meet with the Area Managers and have discussions and ascertain what resources existed in the Members' wards.

The Committee agreed to leave the matter in the hands of the Director of Social Work in consultation with the Convener to make the necessary arrangements. It was further agreed that the local Members not on the Committee should also be present during the visitations, etc.