

**THE MORAY COUNCIL**  
**HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY 28 MAY 2008**  
**COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN**

**PRESENT**

Councillors L Bell (Chairman), A McKay (Depute), J Cree, B Jarvis, A McDonald, G McIntyre,  
J MacKay, I Ogilvie, P Paul, D Ross, J Sharp, D Stewart and A Wright

**IN ATTENDANCE**

The Director of Community Services, the Head of Community Care, the Head of Financial Services, the Principal Solicitor (Litigation & Licensing), and Mrs S Kennedy, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Meeting.

**1. DECLARATION OF GROUP DECISIONS**

In terms of the relevant Standing Order 20 and the Councillor's Code of Conduct the meeting noted that there were no declarations from Group Leaders or spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how members will vote on any item on the agenda.

**1. WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed Members to the first meeting of the Health & Social Services Committee.

**2. WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

The meeting noted that there were no written questions.

**3. COMMUNITY CARE REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING  
2007/08**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of the current position regarding the Community Care and Criminal Justice Revenue and Capital budgets.

During discussion Councillor Sharp commended the Director and his staff on the presentation of the report.

Thereafter the Committee agree to note:-

- (i) the Provisional position of the revenue budget for Community Care and Criminal Justice as set out in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (ii) the position of the capital programme for Community Care for 2007/8 as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

#### **4. COMMUNITY SERVICES SERVICE DEVELOPMENT & IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2007-08, MONITORING REPORT, FOURTH QUARTER, JANUARY – MARCH 2008**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services inviting the Committee to scrutinise the Department's performance against the Service Development & Improvement Plan 2007-08 for the quarter 1 January to 31 March 2008, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

The Meeting scrutinised the report page by page and thereafter the Director of Community Services and the Head of Community Care responded to questions and clarified concerns expressed by Members.

Thereafter, the Committee noted the performance against the Service Development & Improvement Plan 2007-08 contained within Appendix 1 of the report.

#### **5. COMMUNITY CARE PERFORMANCE REPORT, FOURTH QUARTER, JANUARY – MARCH 2008**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services inviting the Committee to scrutinise the Performance Indicators for Community Care for the quarter, 1 January to 31 March 2008, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

The Meeting scrutinised the report page by page and thereafter the Director of Community Services and the Head of Community Care responded to questions and clarified issues raised by Members. In particular it was agreed that targets CommS341b, 341c and 341d on page 6 of the report would be removed as these were now being reported to Committee in a different way. It was further agreed that a report on the Occupational Therapy Services would be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee to clarify the situation.

Thereafter, the Committee noted the performance information detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

#### **6. CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERFORMANCE REPORT, FOURTH QUARTER, JANUARY – MARCH 2008**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services inviting the Committee to scrutinise the Performance Indicators for Criminal Justice for the quarter 1 January to 31 March 2008, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

Following consideration the Committee noted the performance information detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

## **7. COMPLAINTS MONITORING REPORT, FOURTH QUARTER, JANUARY – MARCH 2008**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services inviting the Committee to scrutinise the Complaints Monitoring information for the Community Care and Criminal Justice Services, for the quarter 1 January to 31 March 2008, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

The Chair advised the meeting that the reporting format would be changed to be in line with others.

Thereafter, the Committee noted the performance information contained within Appendix 1 of the report.

## **8. SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION AGENCY (SWIA) PERFORMANCE INSPECTION – PROGRESS REPORT AND ACTION PLAN**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services advising the Committee on progress in relation to the Action Plan developed following the Performance Inspection of Social Work Services in Moray during 2007.

The Director of Community Services advised the meeting that the finalised Action Plan provided the Committee with an updated position on progress following the Social Work Inspection (SWIA) and that he would be meeting with SWIA in June and September 08.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) note the progress in relation to the Action Plan to address policy and practice issues requiring improvement;
- (ii) note that the Director of Community Services will continue to submit reports to Service Committees and the Audit & Performance Review Committee, as required, on progress outlined in relation to the Action Plan; and
- (iii) the Director of Community Services investigating the possibility of reporting on Children and Adult Services separately in future.

## **9. SERVICE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2008-09**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services presenting for approval the annual Community Services Department's Development & Improvement Plan 2008-2009 (Appendix 1).

In response to Members' concerns regarding the amount of staff time taken up with monitoring reports at this Committee the Director of Community Services advised that there were significant pressures on staff to produce monitoring information for a range of bodies and that he would look into the situation for future meetings.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Community Services Department's Service Development & Improvement Plan for 2008-2009; and
- (ii) that monitoring reports will be presented in the future to the Health & Social Care Services Committee and Audit & Performance Review Committee as required.

## **10. CURRENT STATUS OF CARE SERVICE CONTRACTS**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Committee of the current contracting status of the contracts.

During discussion the Director of Community Services and the Head of Community Care responded to questions and clarified issues raised by Members. In particular the Director of Community Services advised the meeting that the Sensory Service was not in jeopardy and that a full assessment of potential providers was being carried out to look at providing more integrated arrangements to work closely with the Blind & Deaf Societies, singly and together and a report would be submitted to Committee before the Council go out to tender stage.

In relation to Age Concern the Meeting noted that this service is now provided by the Moray Council with no reduction in service. The Meeting further noted that in relation to the range of Advocacy Services these were specialist services which come under the umbrella of the North East Advocacy Service. In regard to page 9, item 43 of the report the Meeting noted that the Public Transport Unit is currently carrying out a review and that a report would be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee.

Following further discussion in regard to page 10, items 1-8 of the report, the Head of Financial Services clarified the position regarding the outstanding contract and advised that under the review contracts had been provided for one year with a view to moving to long-term contracts which would be better for providers and more sustainable for the Council.

Thereafter, the Committee approved the contracts and the funding levels that had been negotiated and detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

## **11. CELEBRATING SUCCESS**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services sharing with the Committee some of the successes and positive developments within Community Care in recent months.

The Chair on behalf of the Committee congratulated Cerdarwood Day Care Centre staff and service users on receiving a major healthy eating award.

Thereafter, the Committee noted the successes and positive developments that Community Care had achieved in recent months.

## **12. QUESTION TIME**

In response to a question from Councillor Jarvis relating to the current position regarding Community Care Officers posts in light of the additional bid for funding, the Director of Community Services advised that four staff had been appointed, and that there had been a very good response to the advert with 18 qualified staff applying for the post.