

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 7 April 2015 at 2.00pm.

**Present:** Councillors GLENNIS MIDDLETON, JIM HOUSTON, BRIAN BOYD, COLIN BROWN, LYNNE DEVINE, MAIRI EVANS, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, MARTYN GEDDES, SHEILA HANDS, DAVID MAY, BILL DUFF, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, EWAN SMITH, MARGARET THOMSON and PAUL VALENTINE.

Councillor MIDDLETON, Convener, in the Chair.

### 1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Donald Morrison with Councillor Bill Duff substituting.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Committee agreed to note that no declarations of interest were made.

### 3. MINUTES

#### (a) Previous Meeting

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 24 February 2015 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

#### (b) Special Meeting

The minute of Special Meeting of this Committee of 10 March 2015 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

### 4. SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH – EXECUTIVE SUB-COMMITTEE

Members were advised that a Complaint had been lodged in terms of the Social Work (Representations Procedure) (Scotland) Directions 1996. It would not be possible for the recommendations of the Complaints Review Committee (CRC) to be considered by the Social Work and Health Committee on 7 April 2015.

The Committee agreed that delegated authority be given to the Executive Sub-Committee to consider the recommendations of the CRC, on this occasion only.

### 5. HOME SUPPORT SERVICE CLOSURE

With reference to Article 5 (e) of the minute of special meeting of Angus Council of 12 February 2015, there was submitted Report No 149/15 by the Strategic Director – People setting out the proposed timeline for the cessation of the in-house Home Support service.

The Report indicated that the Home Support service previously known as Home Help, was a domestic cleaning service provided by Angus Council to approximately 630 people within Angus with 43.8 FTE staff. The service had reduced over time from a budget of £951,000 in 2007/08 to £605,000 today. A review of the 31 other Scottish local authorities showed that only five of them provided a home support service similar to Angus Council, with some providing domestic cleaning only as part of a high level personal care package.

It was proposed that the Home Support Service would close on 30 October 2015. The bringing forward of the closure date from its original date of April 2016 was necessary because the gradual shrinking of the service would lead to a position before then when its continued delivery became untenable and the position for service users and staff unsustainable. The October end date allowed enough time for service user reviews to take place and for staff considerations to be taken into account, in line with Angus Council's Managing Workforce Change Policy.

All current service users would receive a Self Directed Support (SDS) assessment and may choose to purchase Home Support through their SDS delivery package.

Having heard from several members and the Strategic Director – People, the Committee agreed to approve the timeline for the cessation of the Home Support service, ending the service in October 2015.