

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 12 August 2014 at 3.07pm.

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

Councillor MIDDLETON, Convener, in the Chair.

Prior to the commencement of the formal business the Convener referred to the recent death of Dr Richard Speirs who had been a member of Angus Council and a valued member of this Committee. The Committee agreed to pass on its condolences to his widow Mrs Jennifer Speirs.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

There were no apologies intimated.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Houston declared a non financial interest in Item 8 as an observer on behalf of Angus Council on the North East Sensory Services (NESS) Board. He indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting.

Councillor Hands declared a non financial interest in Item 5 as a member of Angus Access Panel and also in Item 8 as a Visual Impairment Service User. She indicated that she would participate in any discussion and voting on both items.

3. MINUTES

(a) Previous Meeting

The [minute of meeting of this Committee of 20 May 2014](#) was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

(b) Executive Sub-Committee

The [minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of 31 July 2014](#), a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted and noted (**APPENDIX I**).

4. LOGISTICS HUB - UPDATE

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of 8 April 2014, members were advised that work was ongoing but was taking longer than originally anticipated, due to the complex interplay of accommodation issues, cost, single or multiple purpose premises, and considerations around a possible partnership approach with NHS Tayside for the equipment store. When completed, the options appraisal would be submitted to the first available Social Work and Health Committee. This is likely to be in the autumn of 2014.

The Committee agreed to note the position.

5. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 8 MAY TO 31 JULY 2014

There was submitted and noted [Report No 315/14](#) by the Strategic Director – People providing information to members with regard to services delivered in the People Directorate for the period 8 May to 31 July 2014.

6. CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF AN INDEPENDENT INTERMEDIATE CARE SERVICE

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 19 September 2013, there was submitted [Report No 316/14](#) by the Strategic Director – People seeking approval to extend the contract designed to facilitate the discharge of older people from hospital.

The Report indicated that the contract for an Independent Intermediate Care Service had been in place with Cairnie Lodge, Arbroath since February 2007 with the service being commissioned by way of a block purchase of six beds. The Independent Intermediate Care Service was currently undergoing a service review and the outcome of the review would determine the duration of the extension required.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note that the service review currently being undertaken in relation to the Independent Intermediate Care Service would determine if the service would be required in the longer term, and if so, whether a competitive tendering exercise needed to be carried out;
- (ii) to approve an exemption from the requirement to seek tenders in terms of Financial Regulations 16.24.10(g) to allow the contract to be extended until 30 June 2015 to allow a review of the service to be carried out; and
- (iii) that if a competitive tendering exercise was to be undertaken, the current contract would be extended until 31 December 2015 to allow time for this exercise to be completed.

7. TENDERING PROGRAMME 2014-2018

There was submitted [Report No 317/14](#) by the Strategic Director – People requesting approval to extend the duration of a number of contracts to facilitate a rationalisation of tender requirements to accommodate new legislation and regulations which would have significant implications to future tendering for services and supplies by the People Directorate.

The Report indicated that it was proposed to spread out tendering requirements so that a maximum of four tenders were commenced in any one year and overlap of tender processes between years was minimised. To facilitate this it was further proposed that thirteen of the contracts currently requiring to be tendered were extended for periods of between six and twenty three months, with details of these proposals set out in Appendix 1 to the Report.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposal to extend a number of contracts currently in place allowing the rationalisation of tendering requirements; and
- (ii) to note that new legislation and regulations would have significant implications for future tendering for services and supplies by the People directorate.

8. PROVISION OF A VISUAL IMPAIRMENT SERVICE

With reference to Article 9 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 12 November 2009, there was submitted [Report No 318/14](#) by the Strategic Director – People advising members of the proposal to vary the existing contract with North East Sensory Services (NESS) to include the provision of a visual impairment service and also setting out the proposed procurement strategy for this service.

Having heard from Councillor Hands, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to authorise the Head of Quality and Performance to procure a visual impairment service on the basis set out in the Report, namely an exemption from tendering and in doing so, approve the negotiations with North East Sensory Services to establish a contract for the provision of a visual impairment service;

- (ii) to accommodate North East Sensory Services' staff at Kinloch Care Centre, Carnoustie, on an 'in kind' basis;
- (iii) to instruct the Head of Quality and Performance to consult with service users of all ages to identify the key requirements that a future visual impairment service in Angus should contain prior to entering into contractual negotiations during the proposed 2015 procurement process;
- (iv) to instruct the Head of Quality and Performance to explore options in the interim to improve access to services between visually impaired residents of Angus, Dundee and Perth and Kinross; and
- (v) to request that a further update report be provided to a future Social Work and Health Committee outlining progress made prior to entering into contractual negotiations in 2015.

9. PUBLIC BODIES (JOINT WORKING) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2014 CONSULTATION ON DRAFT REGULATIONS AND ORDERS - SET 2

There was submitted [Report No 319/14](#) by the Strategic Director – People seeking approval for Angus Council's response to the Draft Regulation and Orders (Set 2) as they related to the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014.

The Report indicated that consultation on the first set of Draft Regulations had commenced on 12 May and had run for twelve weeks until 1 August 2014. To allow the response to be returned within the deadline an Executive Sub-Committee had approved the response at a meeting held on 31 July 2014. Consultation on Set 2 of the Draft Regulations and Orders had commenced on 27 May and would conclude on 18 August 2014. Attached as Appendix 1 to the Report was a proposed response in relation to Set 2.

The Committee agreed to approve the response to the Draft Regulations and Orders (Set 2) relating to the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014.

10. PEOPLE DIRECTORATE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2013/14

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 8 August 2013, there was submitted [Report No 305/14](#) by the Strategic Director – People advising of the production of the 2013/14 Annual Performance Report for the People Directorate.

The Report indicated that as an integral part of the Council's performance management arrangements each directorate was required to prepare an Annual Report for submission to their Service Committee in the first Committee cycle following the recess. The Reports were designed to give members, employees and the public (who had access to the Reports via the Council's website) an at a glance picture of performance within the directorates during the previous financial year.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed to note the terms of the People Directorate Annual Performance Report for 2013/14.