

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 14 January 2014 at 2.20pm.

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

Councillor MIDDLETON, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

There were no apologies intimated.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor May declared an interest in Item 6 as he was a Trustee of Dorward House and also a Trustee of Montrose Day Care Centre. He indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting on the matter.

Councillor Valentine declared an interest in Item 6 as he was a Trustee of Dorward House. He indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting on the matter.

Councillors Devine and Middleton declared an interest in Item 6 as they were both members of Forfar Day Care Centre Management Committee. They each indicated that they would participate in any discussion and voting on the matter.

3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The [minute of meeting of this Committee of 7 November 2013](#) was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

4. CONTRACTS AWARDED AND EXEMPTIONS APPROVED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS: 1 JUNE 2013 TO 30 NOVEMBER 2013 – SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH.

There was submitted [Report 2/14](#) by the Head of Quality and Performance, advising members of the contracts awarded and the Financial Regulations exemptions granted by the Strategic Director – People under delegated authority for the period 1 June – 30 November 2013.

The Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report.

5. FLEET REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 10 January 2013 there was submitted [Report No 3/14](#) by the Head of Quality and Performance advising members of the commissioning intentions for Social Work and Health vehicles for 2014/15 and seeking approval to work with the Communities Directorate to procure these vehicles in the most cost effective manner.

The Report indicated that Social Work and Health currently had an operational fleet of 116 vehicles that were considered to be essential for delivering Social Work Services. All but one of these vehicles were leased on a contract hire basis and required to be replaced as the lease period ended. The need for each vehicle would be reviewed at that time together with its specification. It was the Head of Quality and Performance's intentions to bring a Report to Committee annually which identified the replacements required.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to approve the commissioning intentions for the replacement of operational fleet vehicles through Fleet Services, as detailed in Section 4 of the Report.

6. SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT – IMPLEMENTATION AND POLICY UPDATE

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 4 April 2013, there was submitted [Report No 4/14](#) by the Head of Quality and Performance informing members of the progress towards implementing the Social Care (Self Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 and seeking approval of the Council's policy in relation to eligibility for Social Work Services and resource allocation; also seeking approval for the review of the non-residential charging policy to support the principles of self directed support (SDS); and to amend the Direct Payments Scheme in line with the new national regulation and guidance.

The Report indicated that the Social Care (Self Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013 was to be implemented from 1 April 2014 and to enable local authorities to deliver on personalisation, the Act introduced a duty on local authorities to offer those with eligible needs greater choice and control over the support to meet their needs with greater flexibility over the type of support and services that individuals identified.

The introduction of the self directed support legislation would require a significant degree of cultural change and change in resources, systems and infrastructure. A self directed support policy statement had been developed to support implementation and, in addition, acknowledged that the self directed support strategy was a ten year plan and that the time frame reflected the significant cultural shift required to fully embed the strategy.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the introduction of an eligibility policy for non-residential for Social Work services including the introduction of a financial ceiling;
- (ii) to approve the introduction of a resources allocation system (RAS) under self directed support;
- (iii) to approve the changes to the non-residential charging policy to better reflect the principles of self directed support; and
- (iv) to approve the changes to the Direct Payments Scheme in light of the national guidance and regulations.