

ANGUS COUNCIL

SCRUTINY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – 21 NOVEMBER 2017

ANNUAL CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER REPORT 2016 to 2017

**REPORT BY KATHRYN LINDSAY, HEAD OF SERVICE, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE and
DESIGNATED CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER, ANGUS COUNCIL**

ABSTRACT

This report presents Angus Council Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report for 2016 to 2017.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Scrutiny and Audit Committee:

- (i) Scrutinise the contents of the Chief Social Work Annual Report for 2016 to 2017.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/CORPORATE PLAN

- 2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcome(s) and priorities contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017 – 2030.
- 2.2 Our Priorities: Tackling inequalities, Building services around people and communities, Focusing on prevention and Working together effectively.
- 2.3 Local Outcome 4 - The best start in life for children;
Local Outcome 5 - More opportunities for people to achieve success;
Local Outcome 6 - Improved physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The previous Chief Social Work Officer Report covered the period from 2015 to 2016.
- 3.2 This report is the annual evaluation report of social work services, including commissioned services.
- 3.3 The Chief Social Work Officer has a statutory requirement to produce an annual report which provides an overview of social work services in Angus. The Chief Social Work Officer also has a responsibility to report directly to elected members and the Chief Executive in respect of any significant, serious or immediate risk or concern arising from the statutory responsibilities.
- 3.4 The report details the arrangements within Angus Council to enable the Chief Social Work Officer to fulfil the responsibilities outlined in Section 5 (1) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 (as amended).

4. CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The report details some of the major successes within social work services in 2016 – 2017. It draws on a range of performance information as well as external and internal evaluation and scrutiny activities to report on:
- Partnerships, Structures and Governance Arrangements
 - Engagement with Service Users, Carers and the Third Sector
 - Social Services Landscape
 - Finance
 - Service Quality and Performance
 - Statutory Functions

- Workforce and
- The Challenges for the Year Ahead

4.2 This year's report highlights the continuing need for strong political leadership to ensure that decisions taken in relation to the distribution of limited local resources protects essential services to the most vulnerable in Angus.

5. PROPOSALS

5.1 The Scrutiny and Audit Committee scrutinise the contents of the Chief Social Work Annual Report for 2016 to 2017.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

NOTE: No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

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Appendices: Angus Council Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report for 2016 to 2017.