

ANGUS COUNCIL

**SCRUTINY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – 27 OCTOBER 2022
ANGUS COUNCIL – 3 NOVEMBER 2022**

ANNUAL CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER REPORT 2021-2022

REPORT BY KATHRYN LINDSAY, CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER

ABSTRACT

This report presents the Angus Council Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report for 2021 to 2022. The report and its consideration is a requirement to ensure oversight and accountability within the local authority for all social work and social care services, including those delegated to the Integration Joint Board. Following scrutiny and consideration by relevant Council committees, the report is required to be submitted to Scottish Government.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Scrutiny and Audit Committee:

- (i) Scrutinise and comment on the contents of the Annual Chief Social Work Officer Report for 2021-22 (appendix 1).

1.2 It is recommended that Angus Council:

- (i) note and endorse the contents of the Chief Social Work Annual Report for 2021-22 (appendix 1).

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN

2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Locality Plans:

- 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

2.2 Council priorities:

We want to maximise inclusion and reduce inequalities

We want our communities to be strong, resilient and led by citizens

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 This Annual Chief Social Work Officer Report provides an overview of social work and social care services, including commissioned services delivered during the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

3.2 There is a statutory requirement for the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) to produce an annual report providing an overview of social work and social care services in Angus. The CSWO 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 statutory responsibilities within her professional remit.

3.3 The report details arrangements within Angus Council to enable the CSWO 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 outlines how Angus Council performed in the delivery of a wide range of social work and social care services during 2021-2022. It draws on a range of performance information, a proportion of which will have been considered in more depth throughout the year by individual Council Committees and/or the Integration Joint Board. The outcome of external and internal evaluation and improvement activities are also referenced, including:
- Summary of Performance - key achievements and challenges, developments and improvements during the year
 - Service quality and performance including delivery of statutory functions
 - Finance
 - Workforce
- 4.2 The report acknowledges the external pressures that have impacted on the delivery of services and increased service demand this year including the pandemic, the war in Ukraine, the emerging cost of living crisis and the budgetary pressures on all local authority and partner services. A further impact is the transformative change proposed via the National Care Service. The CSWO acknowledges the significant impact of the societal, economic and policy climate during the year and continuing into this next reporting year and credits the workforce with their commitment to remain steady, secure and supportive of people during throughout.
- 4.3 Whilst acknowledging the developments and challenges over the course of the year, the report summarises some key priorities for social work and social care over the next period including ensuring sufficient provision of local care options for children, young people and adults, developing support for carers and whole family support options and engaging in and managing the implications of the National Care Service. Our own internal scrutiny and improvement arising Significant Case Review P19 will continue alongside external inspection we anticipate over the course of the year.
- 4.4 The Chief Social Work Officer will continue to discharge her duties in respect of professional oversight of social work practice and delivery and maintain membership of strategic governance groups as described in the report.

5. PROPOSALS

- 5.1 It is proposed that members scrutinise, note and endorse the contents of the Chief Social Work Annual Report for 2021-22 prior to its submission to Scottish Government.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An Equality Impact Assessment screening assessment has been carried out and is attached, no full EIA is required.

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 a material extent in preparing the above report.

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List of Appendices:

Draft Chief Social Officer Annual Report 2021 to 2022 (Once endorsed by Angus Council it will be published in a PDF format)



Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Form

Step 1

Angus Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report 2021-2022

Step 2

Is this only a **screening** Equality Impact Assessment Yes
(A) If Yes, please choose from the following options **all** reasons why a full EIA/FSD is not required:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (i) It does not impact on people | Yes |
| (ii) It is a percentage increase in fees which has no differential impact on protected characteristics | No |
| (iii) It is for information only | Yes |
| (iv) It is reflective e.g. of budget spend over a financial year | Yes |
| (v) It is technical | No |

If you have answered yes to any of points above, please go to **Step 16**, and sign off the Assessment.

Step 16: Sign off and Authorisation. Please state name, post, and date for each:

Prepared by: Karen Ross

Reviewed by: Kirsty Lee

Approved by: Kathryn Lindsay