

## **DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH COMMITTEE - 25TH JUNE 2012

**REPORT ON:** RE-DEVELOPMENT OF THE ELMS SECURE RESIDENTIAL SERVICE

**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK

**REPORT NO:** 240 - 2012

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report outlines the proposal to design a new service which is committed to strengthening our work with young people in collaboration with our partner agencies and departments. This report details the proposed actions and planning to progress the preferred option in committee report number 241 - 2012.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

The committee is asked to approve the following recommendations:

- 2.1 That the Director of Social work sets up a Multi-Agency Development Group to progress the development of a new service from the Elms Residential Unit. This will be led by the Head of Children's Services.
- 2.2 That this group will report back to Committee by November 2012 with the detailed proposals for a new service and an implementation plan.

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The development of a new service will be met from the existing Social Work budget.

### **4.0 MAIN TEXT**

- 4.1 The re-development for the four bedded unit at the Elms looks at a service which enhances the current residential services at the Elms but provides a more multi-agency and intensive response to children in crisis who may be considered as being at risk within their own communities. The aim being to prevent these children requiring secure care or to prevent a re-admission to secure care. It may also consider returning children to Dundee from residential schools where their transition needs can be better met within their own communities.
- 4.2 The planning for such a service will be multi-agency in keeping with the spirit of Integrated Children's Services and the GIRFEC wellbeing indicators. The overall aim of such a service will be to improve, through effective collaborative outcomes for young people.
- 4.3 The group will be chaired by the Head of Children's Services to establish the future role and function of the unit in conjunction with all the services involved with children. This will include:
- Social Work - Adolescent Team, Intensive Support and Monitoring Services (ISMS), localities and residential
  - Police
  - Health - including LAAC Nursing and CAMHS
  - Education - including DEPS
  - Advocates for young people

- Any commissioned Voluntary Agencies

The group will look at the current profile of young people in Dundee who are looked after, and looked after and accommodated. We need to look at creative solutions and what works for these young people who place themselves at risk over a significant period of time, through drug misuse, absconding, exposure to sexual risks, and who become or are involved in offending behaviour. The young people who are involved in these activities are young people who usually have very complex needs, and whose behaviour is more difficult to manage.

4.4 The group will take cognisance of the following reports:

- Getting it Right for Children in Residential Care - Audit Scotland (September 2010)
- Extraordinary Lives (Scottish Government) (2006)
- We Can and Must Do Better (January 2007)
- NRCCI - National Residential Child Care Initiative (November 2009)
- Cel 16 - NHS (2009)
- The Fatal Accident Inquiry Report on children resident at the Good Shepherd Residential Unit (May 2012)
- The most recent internal review of children who are accommodated in secure care (March 2012)

4.5 This development has to fit with the other resources for adolescents including specialist Adolescent Services, ISMS, ACE and the current review of specialist fostering as well as any specialist educational resources and CAMHS development. This service should also be considered in terms of current commissioned services.

4.6 In terms of ongoing consultations these will take place with the Care Inspectorate and the Scottish Government.

4.7 The proposal will seek consultation with local residents' groups in terms of a change of use for the building within the community.

4.8 The training, and more effective use of multi-agency staff will be considered throughout the process and a training plan and structure will also be developed, suited to the service delivery model chosen.

4.9 The proposed change in remit to the service will have implications for the building having to be changed from its current use, to make it fit for purpose. The necessary planning for this will be included in all consultations and development plans.

4.10 The working group must agree and establish measurable outcomes for all young people using the service.

## **5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues.

## **6.0 CONSULTATIONS**

6.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services and Head of Democratic and Legal Services have been consulted in preparation of this report.

## **7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

Alan G Baird  
**Director of Social Work**

DATE: 14th June 2012