

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE – 22 APRIL 2002

**REPORT ON: CRIMINAL JUSTICE SOCIAL WORK SERVICES:
FINANCIAL ALLOCATION FOR 2002 - 2003**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK

REPORT NO: 295-2002

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report advises members of the financial allocation to the Criminal Justice Social Work Service of the Dundee City for the year 2002 – 2003 by the Scottish Executive. This is the first year of the direct funding of the new partnership groupings and the last year in which individual councils will be informed of their own financial component within the grouping allocation.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Social Work Committee:-

- 2.1 Notes the contents of this report.
- 2.2 Agrees the acceptance of the financial allocation by the Scottish Executive

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The financial allocation to the Criminal Justice Social Work Service of Dundee City for the year 2002 – 2003 is £3,105,831. This sum is calculated using a formula based on information on needs and workload. The formula is applied nationally and ensures consistency, fairness and transparency in the allocation to each council.
- 3.2 The total allocation to the partnership grouping of Dundee City Council, Angus and Perth and Kinross councils for the year 2002 – 2003 is £4,995,239.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

- 6.1 Committee Report 398 – 2001 advised members of the development of a Tayside Partnership of the Criminal Justice Social Work Services of Angus, Dundee and Perth and Kinross councils. The partnership resulted from a Scottish Executive report in 1998 entitled “Community Sentencing, The Tough Option – Review of Criminal Justice Social Work Services” which tasked local authorities with the responsibility to develop a service

delivery framework which was efficient, effective and consistent so as to earn the confidence of both sentencers and the public.

- 6.2 In a letter to COSLA on 4 May 2000 the Justice Minister, Jim Wallace, confirmed that the Scottish Executive had agreed to establish eleven mainland groupings for the delivery of Criminal Justice Social Work Services.
- 6.3 Integral to the structure of the new groupings or partnerships was a decision by the Scottish Executive to make a single financial allocation to only one council within each grouping which would receive and disburse the allocation according to a process agreed by the partner councils. Dundee City Council is the host authority for the financial allocation to the Tayside partnership.
- 6.4 The Tayside partnership recently completed a strategic plan which covers a three year period from April 2002. This plan was presented to committee in November 2001 (report 751-2001). The partnership agreed strategic objectives for the development of services within each council area. The financial allocation to the partnership takes account of the development proposals contained within the strategic plan.
- 6.5 The allocation takes account of a growth in demand for the core services of Social Enquiry Reports and Probation Orders. The funding for 2002/2003 will allow a better alignment of resources to meet the increasing service demand. There is an additional funding element within the allocation which is intended to fund the introduction of Restriction of Liberty orders which will be made available to courts nationally later this year. There is, as yet, no formal guidance from the Scottish Executive on the implementation process for Restriction of Liberty orders. Committee will be advised when detailed guidance is available.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Director of Finance has been consulted in relation to this report.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers, as defined 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.

9.0 SIGNATURE

Director of Social Work

Date

11 April 2002