

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure Arts and Communities Committee - 10 January 2011

REPORT ON: Reduction of on street prostitution - Service Level Agreement to provide support services to women - Dundee City Council and Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Communities

REPORT NO: 3-2011

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To gain approval for a Service Level Agreement between Dundee City Council and Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (WRASAC).

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1 Remits the Director of Leisure and Communities to enter into a Service Level Agreement between Dundee City Council and Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Service Level Agreement is intended to run for the period to 31 March 2011. The cost is £10,016. This sum can be met from the carried forward balance of the £200,000 allocated to Dundee by the Scottish Government to tackle On-Street Prostitution. The full £200,000 has now been committed.

3.2 Interim funding of £7,500 has been provided to WRASAC from the Dundee Partnership's Resilience Fund.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 In January 2009, Tayside Police seconded an officer for 1 year to work with partners and put in place a sustainable model for the provision of services to support those involved in prostitution to exit and pursue positive outcomes for themselves and their families. The secondment ceased on 2 February 2010. Report 63-2010 refers.

4.2 The Vice Versa Project has been established and as part of this, an effective model has been operational. Service Level Agreements funded by the Scottish Government grant with WRASAC and Action for Children to support this have already been approved by Committee: Report No. 400-2009 refers.

4.3 This is part of an overall strategy to reduce on street prostitution, which includes enforcement action taken by Tayside Police.

4.4 The review process currently being undertaken by the Alcohol and Drug Partnership and the Dundee Violence Against Women Partnership is also considering how drug treatment provision and women's support services will work together in the future.

4.5 To allow this process to conclude, the agreed funding will allow WRASAC to continue to provide the support service for women and to participate in the review process. Specific Outcomes include:

- Ensure women have the required knowledge to be able to engage with the service.
- Evidence that proactive work has been undertaken to ensure women who have been referred into the service, engage with support programmes.
- Contribute to the care plan developed by Action for Children with regards to 100% of women who engage with the service.
- Participation in outreach work, encouraging women who find it difficult to engage with services.
- Explore opportunities for women on an individual basis to ensure they reduce their level of risky behaviour.
- Address the particular needs of women with a view to ensuring they are referred to other relevant external agencies for further support.
- Acceptance of referrals from agreed sources/partner agencies.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has been screened for any implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and will be made available on the Council website <http://www.dundee.gov.uk/equanddiv/equimpact/>.

There are no adverse implications.

- 5.2 Implementation of these Service Level Agreements will contribute to the following policy and strategic priorities:

- National Outcomes 9 and 11
- Dundee Outcome 7
- The Council Plan 2007 - 2011, Building Stronger Communities/Community Safety
- Leisure and Communities Service Plan 2007 - 2011, Community Safety
- Dundee Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2009 - 2012

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Assistant Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Housing, the Chief Constable and the Dundee Violence Against Women Partnership have been consulted and are in agreement with its contents.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 The following background papers as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report:

- Policy and Strategy Documents as outlined in 5.2 of this Report
- Service Level Agreement between Dundee City Council and WRASAC
- Equality Impact Assessment

STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT
20 DECEMBER 2010