

# DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE  
– 19 August 2002  
SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE - 19 August 2002

**REPORT ON:** CRIMINAL JUSTICE SOCIAL WORK PARTNERSHIP

**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES  
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK

**REPORT NO:** 566-2001

## 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The Criminal Justice Social Work partnership of Angus, Dundee City and Perth and Kinross Councils seeks approval to establish the post of Partnership Development Manager. This post will have the responsibility to ensure that the partnership is able to deliver to the Criminal Justice System high quality, effective services which will contribute to a reduction in offending and an increase in community safety.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Personnel and Management Services Committee:-

2.1.1 Establish a post of Partnership Development Manager graded PO15-18 (£33,983 - £36,377), in the Criminal Justice Social Work Service.

2.1.2 It is recommended that the Social Work Committee:-

2.1.3 Note and approve the contents of this report.

## 3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost of establishing the Partnership Development Manager's post will be £44,620 in a full financial year. This will be met in full from the Tayside Criminal Justice Partnership's 100% grant funding from the Scottish Executive.

## 4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 These proposals fulfil the requirements of Local Agenda 21 by promoting the development of an effective and efficient Criminal Justice service and so contributing to community safety.

## 5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 These proposals meet the Council's equal opportunities policy

## 6.0 MAIN TEXT

6.1 Report Nos. 970/1998 and 822/1999 outlined the Government's proposals in respect of the future delivery of Criminal Justice Social Work Services in Scotland.

- 6.2 In a letter to COSLA from the Minister of Justice on 4 May 2000, the Scottish Executive agreed to establish 11 mainland groupings of Criminal Justice Services. The local grouping comprises Dundee City Council, Angus and Perth and Kinross Councils.
- 6.3 In April 2001 The Head of the Justice Department of the Scottish Executive reaffirmed that the overall objective of the restructuring exercise was to strengthen criminal justice social work services to the courts so that sentencers had greater confidence in using community options instead of imprisonment.

The principal objective for the groupings is to take over the responsibility for most aspects of strategic plans and financial budgets through to the delivery of front line services. It is also essential that services are delivered in a way that allows groupings to retain local dimensions, including community safety and the promotion of social inclusion. In developing the structural arrangements for the new groupings, due regard was made to the most appropriate models which are able to satisfy the needs for clear lines of political accountability and of management responsibilities.

- 6.4 There are, accordingly, two groups already established to oversee the delivery of services across the three councils in the Tayside partnership.

The first of these is the Management Team group comprising:-

- The Managers of Criminal Justice Social Work in the three Councils
- The Service Managers of each Service
- A Finance Manager.

The second group is the Partnership Steering Group comprising: -

- Conveners of Social Work, who rotate the chair
- Directors of Social Work
- Managers of the Criminal Justice Service
- Representatives from Personnel and Finance, as required

These two groups effectively deal with policy issues, strategic direction and the financial management framework of the partnership.

- 6.5 The main challenge now for the partnership is to ensure that all of its services are delivered in a manner consistent with best practice principles. It is for this reason that the post of Partnership Development Manager is proposed. The postholder would be responsible for the planning, implementation and development of partnership working across the three councils. There would be a particular emphasis on the development of consistent systems of risk assessment and risk management for potentially dangerous offenders and on the development of monitoring and evaluation protocols for all of the services of criminal justice social work.

The Partnership Development Manager would also initiate and co-ordinate the commissioning of new services. They would take the lead role in both negotiating additional funding support from the Scottish Executive for new service developments and in concluding service agreements with non-statutory service providers.

To assist the Partnership Manager in this task they would take management responsibility for all staff currently employed in planning, performance management and commissioning within each criminal justice service.

6.6 The Partnership Manager would be employed by Dundee City Council, but would act on behalf of all partnership councils.

## 7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 This report has been the subject of consultation with the Chief Executive, Director of Support Services and Director of Finance. Perth and Kinross Council, Angus Council and the trade unions have also been consulted.

## 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

A. Baird  
Director of Social Work

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Date

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J.C. Petrie  
Director of Personnel and Management Services

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Date

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29 July 2002