

# DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE - 20 December 2004

**REPORT ON:** INTENSIVE SUPPORT AND MONITORING SERVICES

**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK

**REPORT NO:** 850 - 2004

## 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 With reference to Article IV of minuted meeting of the Social Work Committee held on 23 August 2004, this report updates members. The report updates members on progress made within Dundee to implement new arrangements for Intensive Support and Monitoring Services (ISMS) for "high risk" children.

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Social Work Committee:-

2.1.1 notes the progress made in implementing the scheme in Dundee.

## 3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Scottish Executive has provisionally agreed with Dundee City Council indicative funding of £636,000 to meet the full year costs of the scheme.

## 4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The proposals in this report promote improved safety for local communities and the citizens of Dundee.

## 5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The proposed actions outlined in this report seek to promote the improved equality of opportunity and social inclusion of children and young people who are involved in risk taking and anti-social behaviour.

## 6.0 MAIN TEXT

6.1 Report 580-2004, discussed and approved by Social Work Committee in August 2004, notes Dundee City Council's interest in piloting ISMS within Dundee. The ISMS initiative was introduced by the Antisocial Behaviour etc Act 2004, which was passed in June 2004. The Act allows, in certain circumstances, for a child to be made subject to electronic monitoring ("tagging"), where such monitoring is supported by intensive support services.

- 6.2 During the last few months, officers of the Council have been in discussion with the Scottish Executive and six other local authorities in the process of planning for the delivery of Phase One of the roll out of this new measure. Draft Guidance and Regulations governing ISMS will shortly be published, for consultation. Locally, a multi-agency Implementation Group has been established and it ensures that all relevant agencies are involved in and consulted about all the various aspects to the new measures.
- 6.3 The Draft Guidance for ISMS prescribes a variety of services and procedures that are required. These include the detailed requirements for assessment, case management, direct delivery of intensive support programmes, and the provision of key related services.
- 6.4 To ensure that these requirements are met, Dundee's submission to the Scottish Executive indicated that the following services and resources were necessary to implement ISMS within Dundee:
- a Programme Manager, to oversee the implementation of the scheme, managed by Dundee City Council Social Work Department;
  - an additional social worker post, to increase the capacity for assessment and case management of ISMS cases;
  - a Children's Reporter post;
  - additional resources to guarantee educational support for all children whilst they are subject to an ISMS order;
  - an Intensive Support service, including the provision of crisis respite services, to be developed in partnership with the organisation "Includem", who have experience in running such schemes in other parts of Scotland. This service includes the key features of the offer of a "24/7" emergency crisis response, the provision of high levels of support to families, and the organisation and provision of structured evening and weekend time for children whilst subject to an ISMS order; and,
  - some funding for evaluation, training and publicity.
- 6.5 The development of funding and organisational arrangements is ongoing, with ISMS having an estimated start date of April 2005.

## 7.0 **CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and the Depute Chief Executive (Finance) have been consulted in the preparation of this report. Consultation has also been undertaken with all the agencies and organisations represented on the Youth Justice Strategy Group.

## 8.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 8.1 None.

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Date: 10 December 2004