

**REPORT TO: HOUSING COMMITTEE – 18 AUGUST 2003**

**REPORT ON: DUNDEE WOMEN'S AID SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT  
2003-2006**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF HOUSING**

**REPORT NO.: 450-2003**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1. To seek Housing Committee approval for the establishment of a service level agreement between Dundee City Council and Dundee Women's Aid Collective Ltd., (DWA) in terms of which the Council will provide funding and rent free refuge and office premises to the Collective.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1. It is recommended that Housing Committee approves the establishment of a service level agreement.

**3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1. Deficit funding of DWA for the three year period, 2003-2006 will total £216,360, split as follows: 2003/04 = £70,000, 2004/05 = £72,100, 2005/06 = £74,260. This sum will be met from the Other Housing Account.
- 3.2. Rent free refuge and office premises amount to £16,089.02 for 2003/04. Years 2004/05 and 2005/06 will be subject to an annual rent rise for refuge accommodation. This sum will be met from the Housing Revenue Account.

**4. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1. Provision of services to victims of domestic abuse is consistent with a number of Dundee 21 themes, including protection of health and access to the skills knowledge and information to enable everyone to play a full part in society.

**5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1. Provision of services to victims of domestic abuse ensures equality of access to safe supported accommodation for vulnerable clients who are in need of the services on offer.

**6. BACKGROUND**

- 6.1. Dundee Women's Aid Collective Ltd. provide a range of services to women who are, or have been victims of domestic abuse. Services provided by DWA include information, advice, support, counselling and provision of crisis refuge accommodation for women leaving or challenging abusive relationships. In addition, DWA provide support to organisations involved in awareness raising and training on domestic abuse issues.
- 6.2. Following expiry of the 2000-2003 agreement, the service level agreement will cover the three year period from April 2003 to March 2006 and detail the level of services to be provided by DWA. The agreement will also specify Dundee City Council's three year commitment to deficit fund DWA through direct grant and to provide rent free premises for use as refuge accommodation. A further, rent free, three year lease on DWA office premises at 61 Reform Street, Dundee, will be included as part of the agreement.

## 7. **CONSULTATION**

- 7.1. All Chief Officers have been consulted on this report.

## 1. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 8.1 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

**ELAINE ZWIRLEIN**  
**DIRECTOR OF HOUSING**

**16 JUNE, 2003**