

## **DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee - 8 February 2010

**REPORT ON:** Service Level Agreement - Dundee Violence Against Women Partnership

**REPORT BY:** Stewart Murdoch, Director, Leisure and Communities

**REPORT NO:** 63-2010

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek approval to enter into a 3 year Service Level Agreement of £20,000 per annum with Dundee Violence Against Women Partnership to provide ongoing, sustainable strategic management and support regarding the issue of prostitution in the Dundee area. This will include strategic oversight of the Vice Versa Project, which co-ordinates partnership working to provide support to women who are involved in street prostitution in Dundee.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee

- 2.1 Approve the 3 year Service Level Agreement of £20,000 per annum (total £60,000) with Dundee Violence Against Women Partnership as detailed in Appendix 1 for the period 1 March 2010 - 31 March 2013.

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 This sum can be met from the balance of £200,000 allocated by the Scottish Government in 2007 through the Four Cities Fund (which provided ring-fenced funding for the purposes of tackling prostitution). Permission to carry this funding into future years as necessary is confirmed in an email from the Scottish Government dated 3 October 2007.

### **4.0 MAIN TEXT**

- 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.
- 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 To ensure the continued success and long term sustainability of this partnership approach, it is important to have a robust management structure, with appropriate strategic oversight, in place to oversee the growth and development of the Vice Versa Project and associated developments in response to prostitution in the Dundee area.
- 4.4 It has been determined that the Dundee Violence Against Women Partnership is best placed to provide this strategic lead due to the skill, expertise and knowledge of the Dundee Violence Against Women Partnership in this field. Dundee Violence Against Women Partnership is a highly regarded organisation, respected by key partners and is deemed to be the only organisation capable of undertaking the strategic co-

ordination required to ensure long term sustainability of partnership services to support women involved in prostitution.

## **5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

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

There are no adverse implications.

5.2 Approval of this Service Level Agreement and implementation of the services outlined 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
- Dundee Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2009-2012
- Dundee Violence Against Women Partnership Strategy 2009-2011
- Tayside Police Strategic Plan

## **6.0 CONSULTATION**

6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive Support Services, Head of Finance, Director of Housing, Director of Social Work and the Chief Constable have been consulted and are in agreement with its contents.

## **7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 Policy and strategy documents as outlined in section 5.2 of this report are the key papers used to inform the report contents.

**STEWART MURDOCH**  
**DIRECTOR OF LEISURE & COMMUNITIES**  
**13 JANUARY 2010**