

ANGUS COUNCIL

**SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**20 AUGUST 2002
27 AUGUST 2002
10 SEPTEMBER 2002**

**BETTER INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICES
ANGUS CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLAN 2002 -2004**

**JOINT REPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK AND
THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

ABSTRACT

This report presents to the Social Work, Education and Policy & Resources Committees the final draft of the Angus Childrens Services Plan 2002-2004 and the outcome of the bids to the Changing Children's Services Fund. Copies of the final draft of the Angus Children's Services Plan 2002-2004 have been placed in the members' lounge.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:-

- i) the Social Work and Education Committees endorse the contents of the final draft of the Angus Children's Services Plan 2002-2004 and note the outcome of the bids to the Changing Children's Services Fund;
- ii) the Policy & Resources Committee approves the final draft of the Angus Children's Services Plan 2002-2004 and notes the outcome of the bids to the Changing Children's Services Fund;

2 INTRODUCTION

Report 438/02 outlined the aims of the draft Children's Services Plan and the proposed Changing Children's Services Fund bids submitted to the Scottish Executive for consideration. The plan has been the subject of wide consultation and was presented to the Joint Children's Services Planning Group for agreement on 25 July 2002

3 ANGUS CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLAN 2002-2004

This is the second Angus Children's Services plan covering the period 2002-2004. The first Children's Services Plan for Angus was produced in 1998 and covered the period 1998-2001. The plan sets out a range of actions Angus Council and its partners intend to progress in order to achieve integrated and improved services for children and families across Angus. The plan adopts the principles of the *Report and Action Plan 'For Scotland's Children-Better integrated Children's Services'* produced by the Scottish Executive in October 2001.

The plan sets out:

- A description of how Angus Council plans with its partners for the future provision of services
- A description of the resources available to provide these services
- A description of patterns of need emerging within Angus
- A range of objectives and actions for 2002-2004

The plan also acts as

- A focus for those involved in delivering services to children, young people, their families and carers
- An information resource for current and potential users of services in Angus

The scope of the plan is wide ranging and addresses two main elements

- Universal provision, promoting the wellbeing of children and young people, covering universal services and issues for all children and young people up to 18 years of age in Angus
- Specific provision for children in need covering services to the much smaller number of children and young people who have a need for care attention and support due to their individual circumstances.

The plan has been produced in consultation with other council departments, NHS Tayside, Tayside Police, Angus Children's Panel, the Reporter to the Children's Panel, Angus Voluntary Sector Children's Forum, Angus Childcare Partnership and Angus Youth Congress. The strategic objectives and action points within the plan have been agreed by all partners and will be progressed by the sub groups of the Joint Children's Services Planning Group. Sub groups will prepare action plans which will be monitored by the Joint Children's Services Planning Group.

Changing Children's Services Fund

Proposals to integrate and develop services, within the plan, will be greatly assisted by the award of funding from the Changing Children's Services Fund. Angus proposals have been agreed in principle and funding of £538,000 in 2002/2003 and £728,000 in 2003/2004 provisionally awarded. Final written confirmation of this award from Scottish Executive ministers is still awaited.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All planned developments within the Children's Services Plan will be met from within existing budgets and/or the Changing Children's Services Fund allocation.

5 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications arising from the recommendations contained in this report.

6 CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and Administration and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

7 CONCLUSION

Angus Children's Services Plan 2002-2004 will serve as the key document for the progression of integrated delivery of services to children and families in Angus over the next two years. The plan will be reviewed annually with revised priorities as need is identified. Progress on actions within the plan and the use of resources will be monitored by the Joint Children's Services Planning Group and reported to future committees as well as the Healthy, Safe and Caring Communities Partnership.

A B WATSON
Chief Executive

W B Robertson
Director of Social Work

J Anderson
Director of Education

NOTE: 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.