

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**21 AUGUST 2003**

**MANAGEMENT PROVISION FOR  
KINNAIRD STREET YOUNG PERSONS UNIT**

**REPORT BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK**

**ABSTRACT**

This report seeks the approval of the Social Work and Health Committee to establish the post of Depute Manager at Kinnaird Street Young Person's Unit.

**1 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Social Work and Health Committee:-

- i) approves the establishment of one Depute Manager post (SCP 35-38)

**2 INTRODUCTION**

Angus Council provides accommodation for a maximum of six young people in a residential unit registered with the Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care. This provision in part discharges the duty of the authority to provide accommodation under Section 25 and 70 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995. Following the closure of Argyll Street Young Person's Unit in Brechin two years ago, Kinnaird Street in Arbroath is our only residential unit providing care and accommodation for young people. The Unit is located in a mid-terraced house (two properties combined into one) in a row of terraced houses in a residential area of Arbroath. Young people reside in Kinnaird Street under the terms of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 in the main as a condition of a statutory supervision requirement made by a Children's Hearing or less commonly on a voluntary basis with parental agreement.

Each young person has a Care Plan which will include the provision of a range of services according to individual need. The task of caring for young people in the community who have often been abused or had other traumatic life experiences is a difficult and demanding one and staff undertaking the care of young people in residential care require quality management support and supervision.

**3 CURRENT SITUATION**

The present unit manager has been in post for eighteen months and gives clear leadership and direction to the Unit with visible results in terms of the quality of care received by the young people and the Unit's capacity to manage crises in their lives.

Much time and energy is spent ensuring that the Unit can meet resident's needs and considering the impact of proposed new admissions on current residents and addressing any health and safety issues through risk assessments. These tasks require significant input from the Manager.

The Manager is also now required to provide regular formal staff supervision in compliance with the Department's and the Care Commission's standards for ten members of staff who also receive annual appraisal by the manager to Angus Council's agreed standards.

The Manager is also required to attend regular care planning meetings for all the residents and attends children's services management resource meetings which consider the most appropriate provision for young people who are to be received into the care of the local authority

The Manager has responsibility for neighbourhood liaison between the unit and the local community and chairs regular meetings in order to address local issues with nearby residents and other relevant agencies

Following an extensive internal departmental review of accommodation provision it is clear that the current management resource of one post is inadequate to manage the complex array and volume of responsibilities required of unit management.

The Manager currently works long hours and is regularly contacted at home when off duty about possible admissions and other issues which require management authority as there is no other management post in the current establishment.

#### **4 PROPOSAL**

It is proposed that a new post of Depute Manager at Kinnaird St. Young Persons' Unit is established to improve the level of supervision and support that staff receive and to enable the management standards, duties and requirements of the Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care to be appropriately discharged in Kinnaird Street.

#### **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed increase in staff establishment will be one Depute Manager. Approximate cost will be £33,000, depending on the individual's placing on the salary scale.

This cost can be met from within the social work department's revenue budget through use of the Council's virement arrangements.

#### **6 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

There are no Human Rights implications arising as a result of the recommendations contained in this report.

#### **7 CONSULTATION**

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

The Personnel Services Manager has been consulted, and is in agreement with, the proposal contained in this report.

**8 CONCLUSION**

It is recommended that the Social Work and Health Committee approve the introduction of a Depute Manager post for Kinnaird Street Young Person's Unit.

R Peat  
Acting Director of Social Work

**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.