ABSTRACT

This report presents to elected members the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) Report for 2010/2011.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Social Work and Health Committee notes the content of the Chief Social Work Officer Report for 2010/2011.

2 INTRODUCTION

The role and function of the Chief Social Work Officer is to support local authorities and elected members in ensuring that this statutory post not only enhances professional leadership and accountability, but provides a key support and added value to a local authority and its partners in delivering positive outcomes locally.

The report on the 21st Century Social Work Review, ‘Changing Lives’, set out a vision for the future for social work services in Scotland. In particular the Changing Lives report recommended a strengthening of the role of the CSWO as contained in Section 3 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968. Reference is made to Committee Report Number 01/09 that detailed the council’s response to the Scottish Government consultation on the role of the CSWO in 2009. The finalised guidance published in January 2010 sets out the role and function of the CSWO; competencies, scope and responsibilities of the CSWO, including responsibility for values and standards; access issues; leadership responsibilities and accountability and reporting arrangements.

3 CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER’S REPORT

The national guidance requires that a Chief Social Work Officer Report is provided to elected members on an annual basis. This is the third Chief Social Work Officer Report provided in Angus. It has been written to complement, and should be read in conjunction with, the Social Work and Health Annual Report for 2010/2011. This report provides details as to how the Chief Social Work Officer for Angus Council discharges specific statutory elements of his role.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations contained in this report. The cost of printing the Chief Social Work Officer Report will be met from within the department’s revenue budget.
5 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

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

6 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective. An equalities impact assessment is not required.

7 CONSULTATION

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

8 CONCLUSION

This report presents the Chief Social Work Officer Report for 2010/2011. The report presents details as to how the CSWO for Angus Council discharges specific statutory elements of his role, outlines the important contribution Social Work and Health makes to the well-being and safety of the people of Angus and highlights key developments and challenges for the year ahead.

R PEAT
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK AND HEALTH

NOTE: The undernoted 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 a material extent in preparing the above report.

Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968

SW&H/RP/AMcL