

ANGUS COUNCIL

PERSONNEL & PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE

1 MAY 2001

BREAST FEEDING POLICY STATEMENT

REPORT BY ACTING DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL

ABSTRACT

This report proposes adoption of a Policy on Breast Feeding which clarifies the position of members of the public visiting Council premises and who wish to breast feed.

1. RECOMMENDATION

The Committee adopt the Policy on Breast Feeding as outlined in Section 3 of this report.

2. BACKGROUND

During Breast Feeding Awareness week in May 2000 Carnoustie Leisure Centre and Carnoustie Library were granted Breast Feeding Awards by the Tayside Joint Breast Feeding Initiative (TJBI) in recognition of their positive approach towards members of the public wishing to breast feed on their premises. Following on from these Awards TJBI contacted the Chief Executive to suggest that the proactive approach taken by these two locations be adopted by other Council premises which are visited by the public.

3. PROPOSAL

In response to the approach from TJBI and to coincide with Breast Feeding Awareness Week 2001 starting on 13 May it is proposed to adopt the following Policy:

The Council:

- *recognises the health benefits of breast feeding for mothers and babies.*
- *supports mothers wishing to breast feed on Council premises, who will be respected and made welcome to breast feed within public areas*
- *recognises that should a woman choose to breast feed her a baby on Council premises, staff will not intervene but if approached will respond in a positive and helpful manner, and give whatever assistance is needed, including the provision of a private room where possible.*

It is proposed that front line staff be made aware of the above so that they know the approach which should be taken when faced with a mother wishing to breast feed.

Any member of the public who wishes to comment or express their views regarding the Policy would be advised to write to the Acting Director of Personnel.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the terms of this report.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no human rights implications associated with the terms of this report.

6. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Director of Law & Administration have been consulted on the terms of this report.

HUGH ROBERTSON
Acting Director of Personnel

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.