

FC36. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER

Council considered a report by the Director of Social Work Services presenting the annual report of the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO).

Council is required, in terms of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, to appoint a Chief Social Work Officer. The CSWO is required to prepare an annual report on the statutory, governance and leadership functions of the role. The report for 2013/14 presented as an appendix to the report, provided an overview of how the CSWO's statutory responsibilities had been fulfilled during that period. It also referred to key challenges for the year ahead including the integration of adult health and social care services.

Councillor Gow, seconded by Councillor Murray, moved the recommendations as set out in the report.

As an amendment, Councillor Meiklejohn, seconded by Councillor Jackson, moved, in substitution for the motion, that Council:-

- (1) notes the content of the report;
- (2) acknowledges that despite the commitment, skills and experience of staff in continuing to deliver social work services to vulnerable citizens of Falkirk there has been a lack of improvement in particular areas such as adult social care. A review of the improvement plan should be carried out and presented to the next scheduled Council; and
- (3) agrees that the policy on the role of the Chief Social Work Officers is revised to reflect the changes which will come into effect as a consequence of the integration of Adult Health & Social Care and is presented to a future meeting of Council.

In terms of Standing Order 22.4(i), a vote was taken by roll call, there being 31 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (16) – Provost Reid; Depute Provost Patrick; Baillie Paterson; Councillors Black, Blackwood, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, MacDonald, McLuckie, Mahoney, C Martin, Dr C R Martin, Murray, Nicol and Nimmo.

For the amendment (15) – Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Bird, Carleschi, Chalmers, Coleman, Hughes, Jackson, McCabe, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie, Spears and Turner.

Decision

Council agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the Annual report 2013/14 by the Chief Social Work Officer;
- (2) to acknowledge the commitment, skills and experience of staff in continuing to deliver high quality Social Work Services for the benefit of Falkirk citizens; and
- (3) that the policy on the role of the Chief Social Work Officer is revised to reflect the changes which will come into effect as a consequence of the integration of Adult Health & Social Care and is presented to a future meeting of the Executive.