

**SOCIAL SERVICES SUB COMMITTEE
8 JUNE 1999**

Present: Councillors Barnard, Bayle, Mrs Doyle, Miss Haydon, Ryan,
Mrs Shillcock, Mrs Sutcliffe, Wheaton and Worrall

Apologies for absence were received from:
Councillors Mrs Clifford and McCormack

1. **Election of Chairman**

RESOLVED that Councillor Barnard be elected Chairman of the Social Services Sub Committee for the municipal year 1999/2000.

2. **Appointment of Vice-Chairman**

RESOLVED that Councillor Miss Haydon be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Social Services Sub Committee for the municipal year 1999/2000.

3. **Substitute Members**

The Committee noted the attendance of the following substitute members under Standing Order 38:

Councillor Ryan for Councillor McCormack
Councillor Wheaton for Councillor Mrs Clifford.

4. **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Sub Committee held on 9 March 1999 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. **Chairman's Announcement**

The Chairman gave notice that Item 2 of the Agenda, "Securing Quality in Residential and Nursing Homes" would be considered after the exclusion of public and press in order that it could be considered with its Annex (Item 7 of the Agenda) as it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information under Paragraphs 4 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

6. Development of a Youth Offending Team – Progress Report (Item 1)

The Director of Social Services and Housing introduced a report giving details of the development to date of the local Youth Offending Team. An Annex regarding draft proposals and cost funding requirements was tabled and the Committee considered the funding arrangements for setting up the team as well as the multi-agency approach taken towards its development. The development was seen as part of a two-year programme to develop the team as part of the Crime and Disorder Act but also to respond to local community safety initiatives. Consideration was given to the funding and development of the new posts within the team including the new Support Team Manager, for which the recruitment process had already begun and which would be revisited via the Personnel Sub Committee, in order to recruit a higher grade than originally envisaged. It was noted that comprehensive training for team members would be supported in order to sustain their current skills and develop them within the work. It would be important to recruit as soon as possible in order to be able to approach the National Youth Justice Board to take part in their training.

RESOLVED that

- (i) the Sub Committee endorses the approach being taken by the Youth Offending Team Steering Group in setting up a Local Stand Alone Team; and
- (ii) the Sub Committee endorses the approach being adopted in relation to the management of resources necessary for the Youth Offending Team.

7. Items Submitted for Information

The following items were submitted for information only:

- (i) Adult Services – Responding to New Priorities (Item 3). The Committee welcomed this report.
- (ii) A New Approach to Social Services Performance (Item 4).
- (iii) SSI Inspection Report on Registration and Inspection West Berkshire (Item 5)
The Committee requested an up-date on the Action Plan.
- (iv) Social Services Management Information (Item 6)

8. Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED that

Pursuant to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, members of the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of the following items, involving the likely disclosure of exempt information under the following category of Schedule 12A of that Act:

- (4) Information relating to services provided to particular individuals (Items 2, 7 and 8)
- (7) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of a third party (Items 2, 7 and 8)

9. **Securing Quality in Residential and Nursing Homes (Items 2 and 7)**

In a report containing exempt information the Director of Social Services and Housing outlined the mechanism currently being used to secure quality for Bracknell Forest residents placed in residential and nursing home care as well as the mechanisms for improving the dissemination of reports in relation to local homes to those people with a genuine interest. It was noted that a schedule of visits have been proposed for all Members of the Social Services and Housing Committee and that a briefing session has been arranged for 1 July 1999 for Members to find out more about the services provided from the Operational Managers.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Sub Committee endorses the proposal to develop a programme of Member visits to homes run by the Borough and that such visits be classified as an approved duty for the Scheme of Members Allowances.
- (ii) That the Sub Committee supports the proposal for Service Committee Members to undertake Police checks before visiting Local Authority Children's Homes.
- (iii) That the Sub Committee endorses the mechanisms proposed for the wider dissemination of Inspection Reports.

10. **Birdsgrove Nursing Home**

In a report containing exempt information the Director of Social Services and Housing gave details of concerns raised regarding Birdsgrove Nursing Home.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm
and concluded at 9.20pm

CHAIRMAN