



Executive Advisor Social Work – Update

Report to: Board
Date: 17 January 2018
Report by: Helen Happer, Chief Inspector Strategic Scrutiny
Report No: B-28-2018
Agenda Item: 12

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update members

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board notes the information contained in the update.

Version: 1.0	Status: <i>Final</i>	Date: 05/01/18
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Consultation Log

Who	Comment	Response	Changes Made as a Result/Action
Senior Management			
Legal Services			
Corporate and Customer Services Directorate			
Committee Consultation (where appropriate)			
Partnership Forum Consultation (where appropriate)			
Equality Impact Assessment			
Confirm that Involvement and Equalities Team have been informed	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
EIA Carried Out	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, please attach the accompanying EIA and appendix and briefly outline the equality and diversity implications of this policy.			
If no, you are confirming that this report has been classified as an operational report and not a new policy or change to an existing policy (guidance, practice or procedure)	Name: Helen Happer Position: Chief Inspector Strategic Scrutiny		
Authorised by Director	Name: Kevin Mitchell	Date: 5 January 2018	

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1.0 SCRUTINY OF STRATEGIC LEVEL PARTNERSHIPS

Adults

We have completed two of three inspections of strategic planning scheduled for the current year. There has been a delay in publishing the first report, due to the absence of a key officer, but we are scheduled to meet with the partnership shortly and will publish thereafter.

We will carry out a progress review of services for older people in the Western Isles this quarter.

Adult support and protection

This thematic review is now complete, and, along with our partners in Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland and Healthcare Improvement Scotland, we are in the process of drafting a report which will include findings from the six partnerships inspected, and national themes.

Children and young people

We have now completed the last of 32 inspections under the current programme and will publish the final two reports by the end of the financial year. We will undertake a follow up inspection of services for children in South Ayrshire this quarter.

An overview of our scrutiny intentions in respect of strategic partnerships for 2018/19 is attached as appendix 1. This was shared with integration authorities' chief officers at their meeting in December.

2.0 LINK INSPECTORS

We have clarified, updated and restated our links with chief social work officers. The link inspector role continues to be positively received and valued by CSWOs, particularly in supporting the CSWO role to foster a positive professional identity for social workers in a context of integration.

The Chief Inspector (Strategic Scrutiny) and the national care standards lead met in December with the chief social work officers group to consider the impact of the new health and care standards on social work, both as commissioners of care services and as professionals whose interventions aim to protect, support and empower vulnerable people. We will be participating with colleagues from Healthcare Improvement Scotland in a workstream designed to support non-regulated services to integrate the standards into practice.

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For each local authority, link inspectors and relationship managers are currently gathering and analysing evidence to support the Care Inspectorate's contribution to the Shared Risk assessment process and participating with colleagues from Audit Scotland, Education Scotland and the Scottish Housing Regulator in local area network meetings.

3.0 SOCIAL WORK SCOTLAND SUMMIT – 8 DECEMBER 2017

The chief inspector (strategic scrutiny) and service manager (strategic scrutiny, children and justice) attended Social Work Scotland's Summit "Equipping the Workforce – Being Lighthouses" held in Glasgow in December. The summit's title was taken from a presentation made to Social Work Scotland's annual conference in June last year by poet Louise Wallwein, who spoke very movingly about her own experience growing up in the care system and who described her social workers as "lighthouses" whose guidance "saved me getting dashed to pieces on the rocks of my life".

The Summit challenged us to think about what the role of social work is, and needs to be, in an integrated context and in a climate of fiscal constraint. There was a strong emphasis on community empowerment and enablement, with compelling presentations from colleagues in Wigan Council who are transforming delivery of adult social care, and East Ayrshire Council, whose "vibrant communities" model impressed us during a recent inspection of services for children. Social Work Scotland's organisational development hub, of which the chief inspector (strategic scrutiny) is a member, will seek to build on this learning over the coming year.

The Summit also included a presentation from Professor Gillian Ruch (University of Sussex) on relationship-based practice. Joint inspections of services for children and young people going forward from April 2018 will have a specific focus on how partnerships are encouraging and enabling relationship-based practice.

4.0 2018 – CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT

We plan to collaborate with Social Work Scotland, the office of the Chief Social Work Advisor, SSSC and the Scottish Association of Social Workers to mark this important anniversary and to highlight the important role which social work can play in improving outcomes for people in Scotland. We will update the Board as plans take shape.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Scrutiny intentions in respect of strategic partnerships – 2018/19

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