

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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COMMITTEE	<b>Council</b>
DATE	<b>16 December 2015</b>
DIRECTOR	<b>Gayle Gorman</b>
TITLE OF REPORT	<b>Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report</b>
REPORT NUMBER	<b>ECS/15/057</b>
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	<b>Yes</b>

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report presents to Elected Members the Chief Social Work Officer's Annual report for 2014-15. The purpose of the report is to inform Members of the role and responsibilities exercised by the Chief Social Work Officer; to provide information on statutory decision making in the period; and to give a progress report on key areas of social work provision within Aberdeen City.

### **2. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

Council is recommended to

- (i) Note the content of the Annual Report, as attached; and
- (ii) Offer comment and observations on the content

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

There are no other direct implications arising from this report, as it offers observation on social work activity in the preceding year.

### **5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES**

The role of Chief Social Work Officer is a statutory post in accordance with the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, as amended by the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994. The required qualifications of the Chief Social Work Officer are set down in regulations. In 2009 the

Scottish Government published national guidance on the role of the Chief Social Work Officer.

The Chief Social Work Officer provides advice to the Council on social work matters; undertakes decision making in respect of statutory functions and; provides professional governance, leadership and accountability for the delivery of social work and social care services, whether they are provided by the Council or on behalf of the Council by another agency.

In 2014, the office of the Chief Social Work Adviser to the Scottish Government developed a common template for Chief Social Work Officer Annual Reports, with the aim of bringing consistency across Scotland.

This report is consistent with the guidance laid down by the Chief Social Work Adviser, with regard to the content and format of Chief Social Work Officers' annual reports.

The annual report is an opportunity to provide an overview of the range of services and initiatives in social care and to highlight key achievements and challenges. It is not a complete account of social work activity. The report covers the year preceding the appointment of Bernadette Oxley, as Chief Social Work Officer in April 2015.

## 6. IMPACT

**Improving Customer Experience** – there is no direct impact on the customer experience as this report provides a historical overview of social work activity during the 2014-15 financial year. However, the report does contain some key actions to be delivered during the present financial year, which are designed to improve the social work services we deliver and commission.

**Improving Staff Experience** – there is no direct impact for staff, as the report provides a historical overview of social work activity during the 2014-15 financial year. The major developments contained within the report, such as Health and Social Care Integration and Reclaiming Social Work will impact upon staff and will be reported on and monitored through reports to the relevant committees.

**Improving our use of Resources** – there is no direct impact on the use of resources, as the report provides a historical overview of social work activity during the 2014-15 financial year. The major developments contained within the report, such as Health and Social Care Integration and Reclaiming Social Work may have a financial impact and if so, they will be reported on and monitored through reports to the relevant committees.

**Corporate** – the report provides a historical overview of social work activity. As it is written to a standard template, there are no direct links

expressed within it to key Corporate priorities. However, the report and the developments within it are consistent with Corporate priorities.

**Public** – it is unlikely that this report will be of much interest to the public. An EHRIA and a PIA have not been completed, as the report covers historical activity.



## **7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK**

There is no risk associated with this paper, as it presents a historical review of activity. There are risk registers in place within the Education and Children's Services Directorate and for Health and Social Care Integration.

## **8. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The report is based on information provided by officers both within the Council and from partner agencies, information available on the Council website and statistical information provided from the Council's management information systems.

## **9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS**

Bernadette Oxley  
Head of Children's Social Work and Chief Social Work Officer  
 [boxley@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:boxley@aberdeencity.gov.uk)  
 01224 522110