



INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

Report Title	Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report
Lead Officer	Judith Proctor
Report Author (Job Title, Organisation)	Bernadette Oxley Chief Social Work Officer, Aberdeen City Council
Report Number	HSCP/17/101
Date of Report	9 th November 2017
Date of Meeting	12 th December 2017

1: Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. This report presents members of the Integration Joint Board, the Chief Social Work Officer's Annual Report for 2016/17 financial year.
- 1.2. The purpose of the report is to inform members of the role of the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO); to provide information on statutory decision making in the period and; to give a progress report on key areas of social work and social care provision within Aberdeen City.

2: Summary of Key Information

- 2.1. The role of the 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. This requires Local Authorities to appoint a single CSWO for the purposes of listed social work functions.
- 2.2. The required qualifications of the CSWO are set out in regulations. National Guidance on the role of the CSWO was published by the Scottish Government in 2009 and was revised in July 2016. The guidance provides an overview of the Chief Social Work Officer's role, outlining the responsibility for values and standards, decision making and leadership. The guidance also covers accountability and reporting arrangements. For members' interest, the guidance is attached as



INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

Appendix 2.

- 2.3. The Chief Social Work Officer provides advice to the Council and the IJB 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. *Social Work in Scotland*, an Audit Scotland Report published in September 2016 outlined the increased complexity of the role as follows:

“With integration and other changes over recent years, the key role of the chief social work officer (CSWO) has become more complex and challenging. Councils need to ensure that CSWOs have the status and capacity to enable them to fulfil their statutory responsibilities effectively”.

- 2.4. 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 does not provide a complete account of social work activity over the year. Rather it is an opportunity to provide an overview of the range of services and initiatives in social care and to highlight key achievements and challenges.

3: Equalities, Financial, Workforce and Other Implications

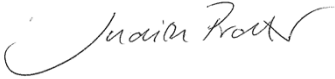

There are no financial or other implications arising from this report, as it offers observation on social work activity in the preceding year.

4: Management of Risk

There is no risk associated with this paper, as it presents a historical review of activity.



INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

5: Recommendations	
<p>It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Note the content of the Annual Report, as attached at Appendix 1 and;2. Offer comment and observations on the content.	
6: Signatures	
	Judith Proctor (Chief Officer)
	Alex Stephen (Chief Finance Officer)