



REPORT TO: MORAY INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD ON 30 MAY 2024

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER
2023-2024**

BY: CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1. To inform the Board of the annual report of the Chief Social Work Officer on the work undertaken on the Council's behalf during the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 inclusive.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1. It is recommended that the Moray Integration Joint Board consider the contents of this report.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1. In compliance with their statutory functions under the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, all local authorities have a Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO). Chief Social Work Officers are requested to complete annual reports detailing the performance, challenges and successes experienced by their respective social work services and taken through their own governance structures alongside submission to Scottish Government.

3.2. The Office of the Chief Social Work Adviser in the Scottish Government (OCSWA) collates an overview Summary Report based on the key content of the reports from all local authorities in Scotland. This summary would:

- Be of value to CSWOs and also support OCSWA in their role of raising the profile and highlighting the value and contribution of social work services; and
- Be a useful addition to the set of information available to aid understanding of quality and performance in social work services across Scotland.

- 3.3. The Council's Social Work Services require to support and protect people of all ages as well as contributing to community safety by reducing offending and managing the risk posed by known offenders. Social Work has to manage this together with the implications of significant demographic change and financial constraint whilst fulfilling a widening array of legal obligations and duties.
- 3.4. The annual report is attached at **APPENDIX 1**.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)) and Moray Integration Joint Board Strategic Plan "Partners in Care 2022 – 2032"

This report is in line with Moray 2026 Plan – healthier citizens, ambitious and confident young people, adults living healthier, sustainable independent lives safeguarded from harm and Council priority 4 – More of our children have a better start in life and are ready to succeed.

(b) Policy and Legal

The services referred to in this report fall within the scope of a number of important pieces of legislation including:

- Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968
- The Adult Support & Protection (Scotland) Act 2007
- The Community Care & Health (Scotland) Act 2002
- The Children (Scotland) Act 1995
- The Joint Inspection of Children's Services & Inspection of Social Work Services (Scotland) Act 2006
- Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007
- Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009
- The Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014
- Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

Significant policies and white papers that relate to these services include:

- Changing Lives, the Future of Unpaid Care in Scotland (2006)
- Delivery for Health (2005)
- All our Futures: Planning for a Scotland with an Ageing Population (2007)
- Better Health, Better Care: Action Plan for a Healthier Scotland (2007)
- Better Outcomes for Older People: Framework for Joint Services (2005)
- National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland, The Scottish Government 2021
- The Promise: Scotland's Independent Care Review 2020

(c) Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Future priorities will be addressed within the context of the financial planning process.

(d) Risk Implications and Mitigation

There are no risk implications associated with or arising from this report.

(e) Staffing Implications

There are no staffing implications directly relating to this report.

(f) Property

There are no property implications arising from this report.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

There are no issues directly arising from this report.

(h) Climate Change and Biodiversity Impacts

There are no issues directly arising from this report.

(i) Consultations

The following have been consulted in the preparation of this report: MIJB Senior Management Team; Simon Bokor-Ingram, Chief Officer

5. CONCLUSION

5.1. The report outlines the performance, challenges and opportunities experienced across social work in Moray through the year.

Author of Report: Tracy Stephen CSWO/Head of Service

Background Papers: Attached at Appendix 1

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