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**REPORT TO: THE MORAY COUNCIL ON 31 OCTOBER 2018**

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER  
2017-2018**

**BY: CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 This report provides Committee with the annual report of the Chief social Work Officer on the statutory work undertaken on the Council's behalf during the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 inclusive, considers major policy and service initiatives across Social Work during the reporting period, summarises key issues in relation to governance and protection issues and advises Committee on measures taken to strengthen workforce.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Council in terms of Section II (13) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to reports and strategies of a corporate nature.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **The Council is asked to consider and note the contents of this report.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 A requirement that every local authority should have a professionally qualified Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) is contained with Section 3 of The Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968. Particular qualifications are set down in the regulations. This is one of a small number of officer roles and duties with which local authorities have to comply.
- 3.2 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 know 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.
- 3.3 In April 2014 the Office of the Chief Social Work Advisor for Scotland issued new guidance for CSWO Reports in Scotland. This guidance also included a template for the report structure which has been used to produce the report

for Moray 2017/18. The report contains information under the following headings:

- Moray Profile
- Key Challenges & Developments 2017/18
- Partnership Structures & Governance Arrangements
- Social Services Delivery Landscape
- Finance
- Service Quality and Performance
- Statutory Functions
- Workforce Development

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))**

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 2014

**(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**

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) Consultations**

The following have been consulted in the preparation of this report: Corporate Management Team; Chief Officer, Health & Social Care Moray, Aileen Scott, Legal Services Manager; Head of Housing & Property; Head of Integrated Children's Services and Democratic Services Manager, who are in agreement with the content.

**5. CONCLUSION**

**5.1 This is the ninth CSWO annual report for Moray. The overall conclusion is that Moray's Social Work Services has continued to adapt and improve in what has been, and will continue to be, a very challenging context and financial constraint. However, local staff have steadily improved and adapted what they do and have prioritised their resources to meet the growing demands associated with protecting and caring for the most vulnerable members of our community.**

Author of Report: Jane Mackie, Chief Social Work Officer/Head of Adult Services  
 Background Papers: With author  
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