

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

GOOD HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE

22nd March 2005

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services Draft Directorate Strategic Plan 2005 -08

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To consult with the Good Health Select Committee on the draft (and not yet fully complete) Social Services Directorate Strategic Plan 2005-08 (attached as an Appendix.)

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The value of planning of services at all levels has been recognised for many years across every sector, public and private.
- 2.2 Planning for the Social Services Directorate (SSD) is undertaken in this wider context as well as the local context of improvements in planning which were sought at a corporate level as a result of the last Corporate Performance Assessment (CPA) process in the work of a Corporate Planning Improvement Group. The outcome of this has been strengthened corporate approaches to planning e.g. through the use of a shared template.
- 2.3 The SSD Strategic Plan seeks to achieve some key objectives:
- to strengthen the link between the whole Council's planning and that of the SSD
 - to indicate the main aims and objectives of the SSD
 - to be a resource for Elected Members, staff or other interested parties in giving an overview of the SSD and its activity.
- 2.4 The Plan does not try to summarise all the SSD's activities. Rather, it is a "high level" plan of the SSD that points to the more detailed information in Divisional Business and Performance Plans for:
- Children and Families;
 - Adults Services; and
 - Business Services.
- 2.5 The Plan shows that the SSD recognises that it cannot plan its activity in isolation and that it values the contribution of all those with whom and for whom it works as appropriate, including Members (cf. Section 4.1) as representatives of the local Dudley community. This is the reason for bringing the Plan to Members attention and at a stage when

the Plan is not fully completed or finalised so that Members of the Good Health Select Committee can make any comment and add their support to the purposes of the Plan.

3.0 PROPOSALS

- 3.1 That the GHSC comment on the draft Social Services Directorate Strategic Plan 2005-08 (attached as an Appendix.)

4.0 FINANCE

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications of this Report although the Strategic Plan gives an overall presentation of how the SSD will deploy the resources allocated to it

5.0 LAW

- 5.1 The Council may do anything incidental to, conducive to or which facilitates the discharge of its functions under section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 which would include the preparation of a strategic plan being incidental to its welfare function.

6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 6.1 The SSD Strategic Plan 2005-08 sets out the SSD's commitment to equal opportunities and diversity, the integration of which it promotes in all of its activity from management reports to individual practice.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 That the Good Health Select Committee comment on the SSD Strategic Plan 2005-08.



Linda Sanders
Director of Social Services

Contact Officer:

Brendan Clifford
Head of Policy and Performance

Ext. 5889

e-mail: brendan.clifford@dudley.gov.uk