

## Minute of Meeting Sheriff Principal and Sheriffs of North Strathclyde Sheriffdom and Chief Social Work Officers

Date	Time	Venue
Friday, 27 April 2018	14:00	Paisley Sheriff Court,

### Present

Sheriff Principal D L Murray; Sheriff Pender (Dumbarton); Sheriff Spy (Paisley); Sheriff McFarlane (Kilmarnock); Susan Taylor (East Ayrshire Council); Kate Rocks and Les Gaff (both East Renfrewshire HSCP); Sharon McAlees (Inverclyde HSCP); Allison Scott, Bob Leslie and Elaine Currie (all Renfrewshire Council) and Kenneth Ritchie (Scottish Children's Reporter Administration).

### Chair

Sheriff Principal D L Murray presided.

### Apologies

Sheriff McDonald (Kilmarnock); Sheriff Hamilton (Greenock); Alex Taylor (Argyll & Bute HSCP); Paolo Mazzoncini (East Dunbartonshire HSCP); Audrey Howard (Inverclyde HSCP); David MacRitchie (North Ayrshire HSCP); Peter Macleod and Dorothy Hawthorn (both Renfrewshire Council); and Jackie Irvine and Carron O'Bryne (both West Dunbartonshire HSCP).

### Order of Business

The Sheriff Principal intimated that he proposed to alter the order of business to facilitate the conduct of the meeting by considering item 4 of the agenda prior to item 3 of the agenda.

## 1 Minute

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting between the Sheriff Principal, Sheriffs of North Strathclyde Sheriffdom and Chief Social Work Officers held on 17 November 2017.

In relation to those present, it was noted that Les Gaff represented East Renfrewshire HSCP and not East Ayrshire Council as stated.

In relation to item 3 – Penal Policy Improvement Policy – it was agreed that the first sentence of paragraph two be amended to read ‘It was noted that the report did not include the full representations made to Linda Pollock and did not address the level of funding that was required to deliver the initiative’s supported bail arrangements’.

**DECIDED:** That the Minute, as amended, be approved.

## 2 Matters Arising

In relation to item 4 – AWI Issues and Schedule 2 Mental Health Reports - Sheriff Principal Murray advised that Laura Dunlop QC had been appointed to scrutinise the legal implications arising from any proposals to reform the AWI Act.

**DECIDED:** That the update be noted.

## 3 Transitional Arrangements and Representation on the Criminal Justice Board

Under reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of this group held on 17 November 2017, Allison Scott advised that it had been agreed that David MacRitchie, North Ayrshire HSCP and Jonathon Hinds, East Renfrewshire HSCP would attend meetings of the Criminal Justice Board.

Sheriff Principal Murray advised that he had written to Karyn McCluskey inviting her to a meeting of the Criminal Justice Board and she had confirmed that she would attend the meeting on 26 May 2018. Sheriff Principal Murray advised that he would report to the next meeting of the group.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That it be noted that David MacRitchie, North Ayrshire HSCP and Jonathan Hinds, East Renfrewshire HSCP would attend meetings of the Criminal Justice Board;

(b) That it be noted that Karyn McCluskey would attend the meeting of the Criminal Justice Board to be held on 26 May 2018; and

(c) That it be noted that Sheriff Principal Murray would report to the next meeting of the group.

## Sederunt

Sheriff McFarlane entered the meeting prior to consideration of the following item of business.

#### **4 AWI Issues and Schedule 2 Mental Health Reports**

Under reference to item 4 of the Minute of the meeting of this group held on 17 November 2017, there was submitted a report by Peter Macleod, Renfrewshire Council relative to a draft response by SWS members to the public consultation to reform Adults with Incapacity legislation.

Susan Taylor advised that the response to the consultation was being finalised and undertook to forward a copy of the final response to Sheriff Principal Murray.

**DECIDED:** That it be noted that the response to the consultation was being finalised and that Susan Taylor would forward a copy of the final response to Sheriff Principal Murray.

#### **5 Any Other Competent Business**

Kate Rocks and Allison Scott advised that there would be a change in the way future criminal justice social work reports relating to sex offenders would be provided for Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Councils. Currently each local authority provided a criminal justice social work report and the Pathways Service provided a separate Pathways report. However, from 1 July 2018 each Council would provide a criminal justice social work report which would reflect the assessment and advise regarding the proposed intervention, there would be no separate Pathways report attached.

Allison Scott undertook to write to Sheriff Principal Murray and Sheriffs advising them of this change.

**DECIDED:** That it be noted that there would be a change in the way future criminal justice social work reports relating to sex offenders would be provided for Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Councils and that Allison Scott would write to Sheriff Principal Murray and Sheriffs advising them of this change.

#### **6 Date of Next Meeting**

**DECIDED:** That the next meeting of this group be held at 2.00 pm on 16 November 2018 within Paisley Sheriff Court, St James Street, Paisley.