

REPORT ON: DUNDEE WOMEN'S AID
SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT 2006-2009

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

REPORT NO: 242-2006

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To seek Housing Committee approval for the establishment of a Service Level Agreement between Dundee City Council and Dundee Women's Aid, in terms of which the Council will provide funding and rent free refuge and office premises to the Collective.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. It is recommended that Housing Committee approves the establishment of a Service Level Agreement.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. Deficit funding of DWA for the 3 year period, 2006-2009 will total £228,000, split as follows:

- 2006/07 = £76,000
- 2007/08 = £76,000
- 2008/09 = £76,000

This sum will be met from the Other Housing Account.

- 3.2. Rent free refuge and office premises amount of £17,789.96 for 2006/07. Years 2007/08 and 2008/09 will be subject to an annual rent rise for refuge accommodation. This sum will be met from the Housing Revenue Account.

4. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. Provision of services to victims of domestic abuse is consistent with a number of Dundee 21 themes, including protection of health and access to the skills, knowledge and information to enable everyone to play a full part in society.

5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Provision of services to victims of domestic abuse ensures equality of access to safe supported accommodation for vulnerable clients who are in need of the services on offer.

6. BACKGROUND

- 6.1. Dundee Women's Aid provide a range of services to women who are, or have been victims of domestic abuse. Services provided by DWA include information, advice, support, counselling and provision of crisis refuge accommodation for women

leaving or challenging abusive relationships. In addition, DWA provide support to organisations involved in awareness raising and training on domestic abuse issues.

- 6.2. Following expiry of the 2003-2006 agreement, the Service Level Agreement will cover the 3 year period from April 2006 to March 2009 and detail the level of services to be provided by DWA. The agreement will also specify Dundee City Council's 3 year commitment to deficit fund DWA through direct grant and to provide rent free premises for use as refuge accommodation. A further, rent free, 3 year lease on DWA office premises at 61 Reform Street, Dundee, will be included as part of the agreement.
- 6.3. Copies of the 2006–2009 Service Level Agreement will be available through the group secretariat and in the members lounge.

7. **CONSULTATION**

- 7.1. The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and all Chief Officers have been consulted regarding the contents of this report.

8. **BACKGROUND**

- 8.1. None.

ELAINE ZWIRLEIN
DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

May 2006