

Date: 14th March 2001

Time: 2.00 pm to 5.15 pm , Committee Room 3

Title: SSIW- Consultation on Development Programme 2001-2006

1. Purpose and Background

1.1 This paper sets out proposals for a 5 year development programme for SSIW. It proposes a 5 year framework to achieve a longer term vision for the programme. To date this has been provided on an annual basis and, as a result has been viewed as too reactive, short term and patchy in coverage.

1.2 The development programme is a major part of SSIW's work and supports the achievement of its objectives of:

- promoting and disseminating the development of good practice
- supporting the implementation of policy
- monitoring performance and promoting the results of inspections, research or other service review or evaluation

1.3 A five year programme is being developed to provide greater coherence, consistency and coverage and the ability to link with the outcomes of the 5 year inspection programme.

2. Considerations

2.1 SSIW's Development Programme is linked to the Assembly's policy, developmental and legislative programmes. The programme reflects the overall development and monitoring role of SSIW and takes account of initiatives emerging from other parts of Government in the UK to achieve common standards of service when this is appropriate.

2.2 This means that the programme is often reactive to new policy initiatives that arise which cannot necessarily be planned for or anticipated over a five year period. It could also be difficult to plan in detail over a 5 year period – development is evolutionary and many areas cannot be deferred to year five. Development work includes a range of activities, including specific events such as workshops, that take place as part of the overall process. Workshops are not a set of stand alone events.

2.3 The present programme also needs to take account of:

- the agenda for quality, regulation and inspection;
- legislative commitments, known or anticipated;
- previously announced priorities (eg hospital resettlement); and
- other desirable developments.

3. The Strategic Overview

3.1 The attached annex sets out a framework within which to locate developments, which is grouped in the following three strategic themes:

- promoting quality
- promoting independence and meeting dependency needs
- safeguarding vulnerable people

The programme takes account of Social Services contribution to:

- equalities
- sustainability
- social inclusion
- communities
- joint working / which are core features of SSIW's work

3.2 The first priority for the Assembly must be to ensure that baseline social services provisions are in place and are of an acceptable quality. Without this, neither new developments, nor the drive to joint working can have much substance. The Social Services White Paper and the Care Standards Act put quality at the top of the agenda.

4. The Proposed Programme

4.1 These considerations have led us to propose a thematic approach to development. This will be more specific in earlier years but identify a set of directions to pursue over a 5 year period. For example, on assessment for elderly people it proposes that by year five there should be a well established a single assessment process for older people. It will also be linked with a set of principles that apply across all client areas. This is a long term goal, the steps to its achievement in year one will be clearer than in later years. The path after that may be variable according to opportunities that arise and progress but the long term goal remains constant.

4.2 The attached annex sets out the themes and goals over a 5 year period. Views are invited on:

- the overall approach
- the specific themes
- the long term goals
- actions in year one

<i>ANNEX</i>			
<i>SOCIAL SERVICES INSPECTORATE WALES</i>			
<i>5-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</i>			
<i>STRATEGIC THEMES</i>	<i>CORE AREAS</i>	<i>YEAR 1 / 2 TARGETS</i>	<i>5 YEAR DIRECTION</i>

<i>Promoting Quality</i>	Care Standards Inspectorate (CSI)	Secure Implementation of CSI by 2002	CSI fully operational and meeting quality standards
	Care Council } } } } } }	Secure implementation of Care Council by October 2001 including publication of codes of conduct and practice and workforce issues	Registration of Social Workers & Residential Child Care Staff complete. Other staff on course. Care Council managing issues for the workforce including qualification and recruitment
	} Quality Strategy and Social Services Management, } } Training, Recruitment and Retention }	Complete consultation on Quality Strategy including development of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● training policy ● review Diploma in Social Work and student funding ● review of TSP to raise standards in social care workforce ● develop overall qualification framework ● support employers to develop recruitment and retention strategy building on workforce audits ● SCIE (Social Care Institute for Excellence) ● Governance Leadership and Management 	Targets for staff qualification on course. Revised arrangements for Diploma in Social Work in place. Student funding arrangements established. SCIE established and producing evidence based practice guides. Social services soundly based within

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	Performance Management Framework	Establish core components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Planning ● management information ● IT systems 	Full framework established and monitored
	Complaints	Preparation for proposed changes in legislation and guidance Support implementation	Changes are reflected in new procedures
	Research	Full use and development of Welsh Office of Research & Development programmes	Development of evidence/research based practice
	Children First	Support and Promote Implementation of Programme Monitor progress and outcomes	Improvements are consolidated as part of children's services
	Children's Commissioner	Promote and support development of mechanisms to facilitate communication between the commissioner and social services for children.	Mechanisms in place and subject to evaluation

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	National standards and codes of practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Foster care ● Adoption 	Implementation of national standards and codes of practice	Mechanisms are in place to promote and monitor compliance with standards and codes of practice.
<i>Promoting Independence and Meeting Dependency Needs</i>	Carers	Promote implementation of strategy	Review implementation of strategy
	Assessment Framework for Adults	Development of Assessment Framework completed. Consultation and piloting underway	Assessment Framework fully implemented
	Assessment and Care Planning (including Implementation and Review) for individual children and families	Promotion and reinforcement of key aspects of the Looked After Children (LAC) system including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Achieving improvements in health of looked after children ● Achieving improvements in education of looked after children ● Achieving improvements in use of Assessment and Action Records. 	Integrated children's system established and its use is subject to monitoring and evaluation.

		Implementation of Framework for Assessment of Children in Need and their Families	
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		Development of Integrated Children's System for assessment care, planning and review (implementation anticipated 2002/2003)	
		Children Leaving Care – promote and support implementation of legislative changes (implementation October 2001)	Arrangements for care leavers established and subject to performance monitoring
		Promote planning for permanency, including consideration of whether adoption is an appropriate option, as part of assessment and care planning for looked after children	Planning for permanency monitored as an integral part of assessment and care planning
		Promoting and supporting work between services for children in need and youth justice services to:	Effective mechanisms in place to facilitate:
		i. Address strategic issues including planning and commissioning services and public protection	1. Strategic planning and commissioning of services and public protection

		ii. Facilitate coherent assessment and care planning, including consideration of public protection issues, for children in need who are also subject to the youth justice system, for example:	2. Coherent assessment and care planning for children
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Children who are looked after and children leaving care ○ Children who involved in child protection investigations and children included on a child protection register ○ Disabled children and children with learning difficulties ○ Young Carers 	
	Assessment and Care Planning Overall	Transition planning: ensuring effective links between children's and adult's services	Effective mechanisms for transition in place and monitored by local authorities
	Direct Payments	Review of usage & support mechanisms	

	Commissioning and Purchasing Services for Adults	Developing strategies to improve choice and stability in commissioning services	Commissioning strategies firmly in place
		Charging: Support development of guidance on charging	Arrangements for equitable charging in place
		Supporting People: enable SSDs to share learning and preparation for Supporting People	Supporting People implemented

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	Commissioning and Purchasing Services for Children	<p>Promote development of a framework to assist authorities in developing strategies for commissioning and purchasing services for looked after children that increase placement choice and improve stability for children and addresses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Retention and recruitment of foster carers ● Availability of placements for children with complex needs ● Availability of specialist services to support children in placement and their carers <p>Promote development of family support services for children in need who are living at home, including disabled children.</p> <p>Promote development of post adoption support services</p>	<p>Framework in place.</p> <p>Strategies for commissioning and purchasing services are developed and subject to evaluation and review</p>

	<p>Joint Working with Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Framework for collaboration 	<p>Partnership arrangements clarified and being implemented</p>	<p>Partnership arrangements fully operational</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Flexibilities 	<p>Implementation of flexibilities supported and monitored</p>	<p>Partnership working embedded</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Charter 	<p>Charter standards established</p>	<p>Charter standards implemented</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Planning Health Improvement Plans (HIPs) 	<p>HIP process fully established in partnership</p>	<p>Planning systems effectively established</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Pressures/Waiting Times 	Planning arrangements fully in place	Services able to plan and manage for peaks in demand etc
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate Care 	Support policies for development and implementation of intermediate car services	Intermediate care services implemented and evaluated
	<p>Specific Areas for Adults</p> <p>Older People</p>	Response to the Royal Commission developed and implementation framework established. Wales strategy developing	Policy implementation in place and monitored
	Mental Health	Revised Mental Health Strategy in place	Strategy implementation being monitored
		Support dissemination and implementation of recommendations from mental health inspection	Implemented
	Learning Disabilities	Service framework complete	Monitoring implementation of the framework and services
	Physical and Sensory Disabilities	Inspection work and research reviews completed. Implications for policy under consideration	Policy outcomes implementation

Ongoing

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	Protecting Vulnerable Adults	Monitoring of new procedures underway	Review of effectiveness of procedures