

Date: Wednesday 3 July 2002

Venue: Committee Rooms 3 & 4, National Assembly for Wales

Title: Care Council for Wales

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide brief background information about the Care Council for Wales and their presentation to Committee today.

Summary and Recommendations

2. The Committee is invited to meet members of the Care Council for Wales, and receive a presentation from them in respect of their role and function and key objectives.

Background

3. The Care Council for Wales was established as an Assembly Sponsored Public Body in the Care Standards Act 2001 (CSA) and became operational on 1st October 2001. The Council has a key role in ensuring that we secure in Wales a social care workforce that is properly trained, appropriately qualified and effectively regulated, and which is properly supported and regulated. The Council will do this by setting up for the first time, a register of social care workers and by publishing codes of conduct and practice for employers and employees. They will drive forward workforce development in the sector and promote high standards of training.

4. The Council has also taken over, in Wales, responsibility for regulating qualifying and post qualifying training for social workers from the UK body the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work (CCETSW), which have now been abolished.

5. The Council itself has been set up to ensure that all of the key interests have a voice, and service users, carers and the general public are in the majority. Similar Councils have been set up in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

6. Today's meeting is an opportunity for Committee to meet the Chair, Members and the Chief Executive Officer of the Council and to receive a brief presentation from the Council focusing on their role and function, key aims and objectives and work to date. Time will be available for questions and discussion.

7. Members have received updates on the development of the Council in my Monthly Report and received a paper to note on the establishment of the Council on 14 September 2000.

Compliance

8. The Care Council was established in the Care Standards Act 2001. There are no issues of regularity or propriety.

Finance

9. There are no financial issues arising from this paper.

Jane Hutt

Minister for Health & Social Services

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