FINANCE COMMITTEE CALL FOR EVIDENCE

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION (SCOTLAND) BILL:

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM SUBMISSION FROM NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Consultation
Did you take part in any consultation exercise preceding the Bill and, if so, did you comment on the financial assumptions made?

1. No

If applicable, do you believe your comments on the financial assumptions have been accurately reflected in the FM?

2. N/A

Did you have sufficient time to contribute to the consultation exercise?

3. N/A

Costs
If the Bill has any financial implications for your organisation, do you believe that they have been accurately reflected in the FM? If not, please provide details.

4. Yes, additional pressures may occur within social work assessments associated with investigations and or prosecutions. At present additional costs are expected to be minimal for North Ayrshire.

Do you consider that the estimated costs and savings set out in the FM are reasonable and accurate?

5. Yes, the costs have been collated from information obtained by the National Referral Mechanism set up by the UK Government. This is an appropriate source of data.

If applicable, are you content that your organisation can meet any financial costs that it might incur as a result of the Bill? If not, how do you think these costs should be met?

6. Yes, training is already provided to North Ayrshire front line social work staff to recognise the signs of human trafficking and exploitation.

Does the FM accurately reflect the margins of uncertainty associated with the Bill’s estimated costs and with the timescales over which they would be expected to arise?

7. Yes.
Wider Issues

Do you believe that the FM reasonably captures any costs associated with the Bill? If not, which other costs might be incurred and by whom?

8. Yes. However, minimal costs may be incurred to develop current procedures to record additional information in order to report on human trafficking and exploitation cases.

Do you believe that there may be future costs associated with the Bill, for example through subordinate legislation? If so, is it possible to quantify these costs?

9. There is insufficient information to answer this question at this time.