The Social Services Committee met on the above date at the County Administration Building with the following members in attendance:

Present: Chair Dwight Burley; Councillors Terry McKay, Francis Richardson, Deborah Haswell, Brian Milne and John Bell; and Warden Duncan McKinlay

Regrets: Councillors Ellen Anderson, Wayne Fitzgerald, Kathi Maskell,

Staff Present: Lance Thurston, Chief Administrative Officer; Barb Fedy, Director of Social Services; Lynne Johnson, Director of Long-Term Care; Rod Wyatt, Director of Housing; Kevin Weppler, Director of Finance; Karen Kraus, Administrator, Rockwood Terrace; Anne Marie Shaw, Housing Administrator; Rick Moore, Housing Manager; Wendy Henderson and Marcia Smith, Ontario Works Managers; and Tara Warder, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Chair Burley called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There was none.

Deputations

Access to Care

Sue McCutcheon, Access to Care Lead for the South West Community Care Access Centre (CCAC), attended the Committee meeting to present on access to care initiatives. Ms. McCutcheon introduced Maureen Solecki, President and Chief Executive Officer of Grey Bruce Health Services and Paul Rosebush, President and Chief Executive Officer of South Bruce Grey Health Centre who were also in attendance, as well as Kelly Gillis, Senior Director of the South West Local Health Integration Network
(LHIN) and Donna Ladouceur, Senior Director of the South West CCAC who participated by teleconference.

Ms. Gillis introduced the concept of access to care, noting that it is an approach to support individuals, including seniors and those with complex needs, to live in their homes as long as possible with community supports in place to assist.

Ms. McCutcheon provided information on why access to care is important, as well as the goals, programs, and upcoming work to be undertaken. Questions and comments from the Committee were addressed, including those related to efforts in coordination across LHINs, concerns about wait times and care for assessments, challenges with rural areas, and space issues during resident transitions to long-term care homes.

Staff were requested to schedule a meeting between the LHIN and the Long-Term Care Task Force to further discuss the provision of long-term care within Grey County.

Minutes of Meetings

Social Services Committee minutes dated March 28, 2013

The Social Services Committee minutes were reviewed.

SSC43-13 Moved by: Councillor Milne Seconded by: Councillor McKay

THAT the minutes of the Social Services Committee dated March 28, 2013 be adopted as presented.

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

Reports – Chief Administrative Officer

CAOR-SS-10-13 Illegal Tobacco

Lance Thurston addressed the Committee on the above report regarding illegal tobacco. The report originated with a request from the Ontario Convenience Stores Association seeking support for government action on the sale and use of illegal tobacco. Dr. Hazel Lynn, Medical Officer of Health, has reviewed the request and stressed that Public Health does not support the sale of legal or illegal tobacco, however supports efforts to eliminate contraband tobacco.

SSC44-13 Moved by: Councillor Bell Seconded by: Councillor McKay
WHEREAS all tobacco poses a health hazard;

AND WHEREAS access to cheap tobacco by youth and others who are most price sensitive increases tobacco use and results in more disease and death;

AND WHEREAS tobacco taxation is the single-most effective way to reduce smoking rates and is being undermined by inexpensive and widely available illegal tobacco;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report CAOR-SS-10-13 be received;

AND THAT Grey County Council hereby encourages the Federal and Provincial Government to continue to develop and implement necessary strategies to reduce the supply of and influence the demand for tobacco products in Ontario, particularly among youth.

Carried

Reports – Social Services

SSR-SS-09-13 Service Agreement with New Owners of Kent Residence Meaford

Wendy Henderson addressed the above report, noting that Kent Residence is one of six domiciliary hostels within Grey County and is currently in the process of being sold. The new owners, John and Lucy Hou do not anticipate making any changes to policies and procedures in order to provide for an easy transition for residents. The sale is anticipated to be completed by May 1, 2013.

SSC45-13 Moved by: Councillor Richardson Seconded by: Councillor Milne

WHEREAS the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing through its Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI), municipalities may enter into agreements with Domiciliary Hostels under the Housing With Related Supports service category for the provision of room, board and supports;

AND WHEREAS the authority to approve domiciliary hostel agreements has been delegated to the Social Services Committee through Policy ADM-02-08;

AND WHEREAS Grey County Social Services currently supports the costs of board and lodging in a supportive environment to approximately four residents at Kent Residence, Meaford;
AND WHEREAS Grey County Social Services’ Municipal and Provincial budgets contain provisions for ongoing assistance for the residents of Kent Residence, Meaford;

AND WHEREAS, as of May 1, 2013, Kent Residence, Meaford will be under new ownership and changing the name to Meaford Place;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report SSR-SS-09-13 be received;

AND THAT Grey County Social Services enter into a Domiciliary Hostel agreement with the new owners of Meaford Place;

AND THAT the Warden and the Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Agreement.

SSR-SS-12-13 Installation of Panic Buttons

Marcia Smith provided information on the above report. Staff are seeking approval to install panic buttons at the Markdale and Durham Ontario Works satellite locations, as well as the Child Care Ontario Early Years Centre in Hanover. These locations are remote and the installation of panic buttons would improve safety. The anticipated cost is $6000 for the purchase and installation of the panic buttons. There will be additional ongoing service and monitoring costs, totalling approximately $800 per year.

SSC46-13 Moved by: Councillor Haswell Seconded by: Councillor Milne

WHEREAS the Markdale and Durham Ontario Works satellite offices and Child Care Ontario Early Years Centre in Hanover are not currently equipped with panic buttons and alarm monitoring systems;

AND WHEREAS the need for panic alarm systems in these locations has recently been identified as a health and safety risk for County staff and the public;

AND WHEREAS the costs for installation of panic buttons, control panels and the annual monitoring costs were not contained within the 2013 approved budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report SSR-SS-12-13 be received;

AND THAT funding of up to $6,000 for the installation and annual monitoring costs of the panic alarm systems be provided through any savings realized in the 2013 approved Social Services budget, or
if insufficient savings exist, that this cost be funded through the Social Services Operating Reserve.

Carried

Reports – Housing

**HDR-SS-12-13 Fire Safety Recommendations**

Rod Wyatt provided recommendations to improve fire safety in Grey County Housing buildings. Mr. Wyatt requested authorization from the Committee to purchase and install heat detectors within Grey County Housing apartment units. Mr. Wyatt indicated that the heat detectors will be wired into the fire alarm panels, resulting in immediate notification to the fire department if activated by heat. Staff intend to install the alarms over a three year period, beginning in 2013.

There will be a report forthcoming regarding a policy on smoking within County Housing buildings.

**SSC47-13**

Moved by: Councillor Milne Seconded by: Councillor Bell

*WHEREAS* in 2012 the public housing projects managed by the County of Grey experienced three fires at three different locations;

*AND WHEREAS* there was one fatality, significant property damage and a number of residents were not able to return to their homes after the fires;

*AND WHEREAS* the emergency warnings systems in the buildings meet current legislative requirements and operated as designed during the emergencies;

*AND WHEREAS* enhancements to current emergency systems could improve earlier detection and improve response times by local fire departments;

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT* Report HDR-SS-12-13 be received;

*AND THAT* the fire emergency systems for apartment buildings managed by the County of Grey be enhanced by adding heat detectors in apartment units, directly connected to the fire alarm panels;

*AND THAT* the installation of apartment heat detectors be phased in over a three year period with the capital budget plans, starting with
four buildings in 2013 to be funded from reserves and the remaining buildings to be budgeted over the 2014 and 2015 years.

Carried

**HDR-SS-15-13 Video Surveillance Equipment**

Rick Moore addressed the Committee on the above noted report regarding video surveillance in Grey County Housing buildings. Staff are recommending that the funding budgeted for video equipment at the Flesheerton and Alpha Street Housing units be used instead to install video surveillance equipment at the building located at 225 4th Street West in Owen Sound.

*SSC48-13*  
Moved by: Warden McKinlay  
Seconded by: Councillor Haswell

**WHEREAS** the approved 2013 budget included funds for the installation of video surveillance equipment at 13 Housing building locations throughout Grey County;

AND **WHEREAS** the Housing Department deemed that the 2013 budget would not adequately fund the 13 identified Housing locations contained in the 2013 budget;

AND **WHEREAS** the Housing Department has issued RFP-HOU-02-13 regarding the installation of video surveillance at various County owned housing complexes;

AND **WHEREAS** the installation of video surveillance at 255 14th Street West, Owen Sound, was not identified in the 2013 budget;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT report HDR-SS-15-13 be received;

AND THAT the 2013 budgeted funding for the Flesheerton and Alpha Street Housing locations be reallocated to fund the installation of video surveillance equipment at the Housing building located at 225 14th Street West in Owen Sound.

AND FURTHER THAT should funds be available after the RFP award is finalized, that staff be authorized to negotiate the 2 excluded building units into the contract.

Carried

**HDR-SS-16-13 Washroom Upgrade – Accessible Unit**

Rick Moore provided information on the above report regarding washroom upgrades in order to improve accessibility for a current tenant in Chatsworth. It was noted that there were three accessible washroom upgrades scheduled for 2013, however this particular
project was not included. Staff are recommending that the proposed upgrades to one of the units in Dundalk be postponed until 2014.

Staff addressed questions from the Committee regarding concerns with altering the current work schedule, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), as well retrofitting requirements and standards.

**SSC49-13** Moved by: Councillor Richardson         Seconded by: Councillor Bell

**WHEREAS** the approved 2013 capital budget included three washroom upgrades for accessible units within Grey County with a budget figure of $15,000 per unit;

**AND WHEREAS** it has been deemed necessary to modify a standard apartment which was not included in the 2013 budget for repair located at 50 McNab Street in Chatsworth to accommodate the abilities of an existing tenant;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Report HDR-SS-16-13 be received;

**AND THAT** washroom upgrades be completed in 2013 to accommodate a tenant in Chatsworth at 50 McNab Street;

**AND THAT** a previously designated washroom renovation included in the 2013 capital budget, located at 181 Victoria Street in Dundalk, be deleted from the planned work schedule in 2013.

Carried

Closed Meeting Matters

There were none.

Correspondence

There was none.

Other Business

**Quarterly Purchasing Report**

There were no purchases requiring reporting for Quarter 1 of 2013.

**Anti-Bullying Day**

Councillor Milne noted that today is Anti-Bullying Day.
Poverty Education Forum

Barb Fedy updated the Committee on the upcoming “Bridges Out of Poverty Education Forum”, focusing on the effects of poverty on the local workforce. The event will be taking place on Thursday, May 16, 2013 from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Registration information will be provided to County Councillors.

Newcomers Services Development Forum

Barb Fedy spoke to the Newcomers Services Development Forum taking place on May 9th, 2013 at the Bayshore Community Centre. The forum will examine methods for attracting newcomers and businesses, supports and services needed by newcomers to the community, and experiences of other communities. Registration information will be provided to County Councillors.

Long-Term Care Update

Lynne Johnson noted that she will be making a presentation on Long-Term Care to County Council on May 7th, 2013.

Next Meeting Dates

May 15, 2013 at the Grey County Administration Building

On motion by Councillor Milne, the meeting adjourned at 11:33 AM.

Dwight Burley, Chair