

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 23 MARCH 2006 AT 1000 HRS  
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,  
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Eric Jackson, Jim O'Neill, Gordon Cree, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, Isabella Macrae, Harry Wilson, Iain Linton, Ray Murray, John Knapp, Jim Raymond, Stuart Finlayson, Robert McDill and Neil McGhee.

**ATTENDING:** John Mulgrew, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services; Jackie Donnelly, Executive Head of Social Work; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services; Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services Designate; Eddie Fraser, Senior Community Care Manager; Sally Ann Kelly, Senior Manager, Children and Families and Criminal Justice; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Amanda McInnes, Resource Manager and Jennifer Morrison, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Stephanie Young, Douglas Reid, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies, William Crawford and Elaine Stewart.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Eric Jackson, Chair.

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT -  
SOCIAL WORK TO 5 FEBRUARY 2006 (PERIOD 11)**

1. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 28 February 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Head of Finance and the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised Members of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for Social Work for the period ended 5 February 2006 (Period 11).

**SOCIAL WORK CHARGES 2006/07**

2. There was submitted a report dated 1 March 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought Committee approval for alterations to charges for Social Work Services for financial year 2006/07.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the revised charges as detailed in Section 3 of the report; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**SMOKING IN THE WORKPLACE POLICY (Item 11, Page 2001, 03/07)**

3. There was submitted a report dated 28 February 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed the Committee of the forthcoming changes to the Council's Smoking in the Workplace Policy which was presented to the Corporate Governance Committee on 16 February 2006.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the forthcoming changes to the Smoking in the Workplace Policy;

- (ii) to authorise the Executive Head of Social Work to issue now to all Service Users letters outlining the implications of the new regulations for Social Work Services;
- (iii) to receive an update report within 6 months, or earlier if required; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**REPORT OF THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY SOCIAL WORK REVIEW:  
CHANGING LIVES**

4. There was submitted a report dated 6 March 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) advised the Committee of the recent publication of the report of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Social Work Review; (ii) advised the Committee of the Scottish Executive response to this report; and (iii) recommended the next steps in East Ayrshire in light of key findings and recommendations contained in the report.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the key issues contained in the report of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Social Work Review and the Scottish Executive's response thereon;
- (ii) that the Executive Head of Social Work continue to work on the strategic direction of Social Work Services and issues of sustainability outlined in the Agenda for Action in Section 8 of the report;
- (iii) to note that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services would submit a report to a future Committee identifying any implications and proposals for East Ayrshire Council Social Work Services in respect of the key findings of the review; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**BEST VALUE REVIEW - RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR  
ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES**

5. There was submitted a report dated 6 March 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised the Committee of the outcome of a Best Value Review of Residential Accommodation for Adults with Learning Disabilities and which sought the Committee's endorsement of the Service Improvement Plan which arose from the review findings.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the recommendations as outlined in Section 4 of the report;
- (ii) to endorse the Service Improvement Action Plan as contained at Appendix I to the report; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**JOINT INSPECTION OF LEARNING DISABILITY SERVICES**

6. There was submitted a report dated 1 March 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised the Committee of arrangements for the forthcoming Joint Inspection of Learning Disability Services.

It was agreed:

- (i) to receive future reports on the progress of the Inspection; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

#### **INTERNAL INSPECTION AND EVALUATION OF CHILD PROTECTION CASE FILES**

7. There was submitted a report dated 27 February 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) informed Committee of the development of a monitoring and evaluation tool for use in Social Work Child Protection cases; (ii) advised the Committee of the results of an initial Internal Inspection and Evaluation of Child Protection Case Files conducted in November 2005; and (iii) informed the Committee of plans to audit all East Ayrshire Social Work Child Protection Cases on a six monthly basis.

It was agreed:

- (i) to invite the Chief Social Work Officer to report to the Committee annually on the results of any scheduled and unscheduled Child Protection audits; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

#### **SUPPORT PACKAGES REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS**

8. There was submitted a report dated 1 March 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised the Committee of the costs of support packages which were currently provided to enable vulnerable people with identified community care needs to live in their own homes.

It was agreed:

- (i) that in terms of individual care packages that anonymised information on individual support packages over £50,000 be reported to the Committee twice a year; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

#### **MANAGEMENT OF OFFENDERS ETC (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005**

9. There was submitted a report dated 1 March 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised the Committee that on 3 November 2005 the Scottish Parliament formally approved the Management of Offenders Etc (Scotland) Act 2005. The Bill was given Royal Assent in December 2005. The subsequent Management of Offenders Etc (Scotland) Act 2005 introduced a number of significant measures for Criminal Justice Social Work which were detailed within the report.

It was agreed:

- (i) to invite the Executive Head of Social Work to produce a report for the May Committee to deal with the anticipated resource implications for the introduction of Sections of the Act; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**UPDATE OF DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITIES**

10. There was submitted a report dated 1 March 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised the Committee of the progress made in regard to the development of Community Justice Authorities.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the preparation in relation to the development of Criminal Justice Authorities; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**SOUTH WEST SCOTLAND COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY -  
APPOINTMENT OF ELECTED MEMBER AND SUBSTITUTE**

11. There was submitted a report dated 1 March 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which requested the Council to appoint an Elected Member and a substitute to the South West Scotland Community Justice Authority.

It was agreed:

- (i) to invite the Council to seek to nominate one Elected Member and one substitute to the South West Scotland Community Justice Authority; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**FINANCIAL INCLUSION DEVELOPMENT OFFICER POST**

12. There was submitted a report dated 23 February 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised the Committee of the proposed establishment of a Financial Inclusion Development Officer post.

It was agreed:

- (i) to refer the staffing proposals contained in paragraph 3.1 of the report to the Corporate Governance Committee subject to consultation with the Trade Unions; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**AWARDING OF CONTRACT**

13. There was submitted a report dated 8 March 2006 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which provided, for information, details of a tender which had been accepted as follows:-

<u>Contract</u>	<u>Successful Contractor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Supply of People Carrier (Phase 28)	Alistair Fleming Citroen, Kilmarnock.	£15,998.05 (one vehicle)

**CHAIR'S REMARKS**

14. The Chair highlighted that this was the Director of Educational and Social Services last Social Work Committee before his retirement, and thanks were conveyed to him for support given over the years, particularly in bringing together the Social Work and Education Departments.

The meeting terminated at 1043 hrs.