

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL 2007 AT 0900 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Eric Jackson, Gordon Cree, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, Isabella Macrae, Ray Murray, John Knapp, Stuart Finlayson, Robert McDill, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, Neil McGhee and Elaine Stewart.

ATTENDING: Fiona Lees, Chief Executive; Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services; Jackie Donnelly, Executive Head of Social Work; David Mitchell, Head of Legal, Procurement and Regulatory Services; Eddie Fraser, Senior Community Care Manager; Sally Ann Kelly, Senior Manager, Children and Families and Criminal Justice; Michael O'Neill, Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive; and Jennifer Morrison, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Stephanie Young, Helen Coffey, Harry Wilson, Iain Linton, Jim Raymond, William Menzies and William Crawford.

CHAIR: Councillor Eric Jackson, Chair.

**SOCIAL WORK APPROVED RATES AND CHARGES 2007-2008
(Item 6, Page 2797, 03/07)**

1. There was submitted a report dated 10 April 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services (i) which advised of the progress in negotiations between CoSLA and Independent Care Home providers in respect of fees for 2007/2008 and (ii) which sought approval for alterations to approved rates and charges for social work services for financial year 2007/2008.

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.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

2. The Committee resolved that under Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 & 11 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

3. There was submitted a joint report dated 10 April 2007 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support and the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services (i) which reported back on the full implications of the 21st Century Social Work Review "Changing Lives"; (ii) which made recommendations on a number of changes which would best position Social Work Services to further develop and successfully meet current and emerging challenges; (iii) to strengthen the arrangements for driving forward the Community Plan Action

Plan responsibilities through developing stronger links and partnership arrangements; (iv) which sought approval on revised operational and management arrangements within the Social Work Service and across the Department of Educational and Social Services and (v) which sought approval for amendments to the Social Work structure within the Department of Educational and Social Services to enhance service development.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the issues highlighted in the report in respect of the overall needs of the Social Work Service;
- (ii) to approve the strategic direction of Social Work Services in East Ayrshire as set out in the main body of the report;
- (iii) to approve the personnel proposals as set out in section 7 of the report;
- (iv) to remit the staffing implications to a Special Corporate Governance Committee;
- (v) to note the financial implications as set out in section 8 of the report; and
- (vi) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillors John Weir and Jimmy Kelly joined the meeting during consideration of this item.

The meeting terminated at 0918 hours.