

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18 MAY 2006 AT 1000 HOURS IN
THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Eric Jackson, Jim O'Neill, Douglas Reid, Gordon Cree, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, Isabella Macrae, Harry Wilson, Iain Linton, Ray Murray, John Knapp, Stuart Finlayson, Robert McDill, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies, Neil McGhee and William Crawford.

ATTENDING: Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support; Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services; Jackie Donnelly, Executive Head of Social Work; Euan Couperwhite, Head of Resource Support; 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, Jim Raymond and Elaine Stewart.

CHAIR: Councillor Eric Jackson, Chair.

SOCIAL WORK CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2006/2007

1. There was submitted a report dated 27 April 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which briefed Members on proposals for expenditure in the Capital Programme for 2006/2007 and which sought approval to progress with the programme.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to the proposed capital programme for 2006/2007 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (ii) to ask the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to continue to monitor closely the capital programme throughout the year, and report periodically to the Social Work Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

ABSENCE MANAGEMENT - QUARTER 4, 2005 AND QUARTER 1, 2006

2. There was submitted and noted a report dated 6 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised the Committee of staff absence rates for Social Work Services, including Resource Support (Social Work) for the quarterly periods 1 October 2005 ending 31 December 2005 and 1 January 2006 ending 31 March 2006.

HEALTH AND SAFETY ACTION PLAN 2006/2007

3. There was submitted a report dated 27 April 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought Committee approval for the 2006/2007 Health and Safety Action Plan for Social Work.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the 2006/2007 Health and Safety Action Plan as appended to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

THE FUTURE CARE OF OLDER PEOPLE IN SCOTLAND

4. There was submitted a report dated 9 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the publication by the Scottish Executive on 3 May 2006 of the second and final report from the Range and Capacity Review Group - "The Care of Older People in Scotland".

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services bring an updated Capacity Plan to a future Committee;
- (ii) that East Ayrshire Council Social Work would seek to develop services which utilised income from the Scottish Executive Telecare Grant if this was established in line with recommendations of the report; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION AGENCY AND MENTAL WELFARE COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND: FOLLOW UP INSPECTION OF SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL AND NHS BORDERS "NO FEARS AS LONG AS WE WORK TOGETHER"

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 2 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) provided Members with further information in relation to the Social Work Inspection Agency (SWIA) and Mental Welfare Commission report of the follow up inspection of Scottish Borders Council and NHS Borders, (ii) detailed the position in East Ayrshire in relation to the report recommendations and (iii) highlighted the main areas of work being undertaken in East Ayrshire to satisfy the recommendations.

STRENGTHENING MOVING AND HANDLING TRAINING

6. There was submitted a report dated 27 April 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for proposals to strengthen arrangements which would support front-line staff in the delivery of direct care to vulnerable people in the community.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the service development proposals contained in paragraph 3 of the report, subject to consultation with Trade Unions;
- (ii) to refer the staffing implications to the Corporate Governance Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY CARE INFRASTRUCTURE

7. There was submitted a report dated 27 April 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) sought Committee approval for further development of the Community Care infrastructure in East Ayrshire to meet

the changing needs of vulnerable people in our communities and (ii) proposed a range of measures to strengthen front-line services to ensure they were being delivered in a safe, effective and efficient manner.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the service development proposals contained in paragraph 5 of the report;
- (ii) to refer the staffing implications to the Corporate Governance Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

SEX OFFENDERS' AUDIT - OUTCOME OF STRATHCLYDE POLICE SEX OFFENDERS' AUDIT AND REVIEW (Item 11, Page 1931, 03/07)

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 26 April 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) advised of the outcome of the Sex Offenders' Audit carried out by Strathclyde Police with reference to Strathclyde "U" Division (within East Ayrshire) and (ii) updated Committee on the progress and development of audit findings as detailed in the report to Social Work Committee on 26 January 2006.

Councillor Drew McIntyre joined the meeting at this point.

REPORT ON THE ANALYSIS OF THE CONSULTATION ON THE ADOPTION BILL

9. There was submitted a report dated 2 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which updated members on the analysis of the consultation paper "Secure and Safe Homes for Our Most Vulnerable Children", and how the recommendations would impact upon East Ayrshire Council.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to ask the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to report to Committee on the implications of the Act when it was produced; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

OUTWITH PLACEMENTS

10. There was submitted a report dated 11 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which provided Elected Members with a summary of the Department of Educational and Social Services use of outwith placements up to 31 March 2006 and which sought approval for a method of management of these placements.

The report was not intended to consider the specific cases of secure placements made in relation to the Children's Hearing and Criminal Justice System, nor the cases of children educated outwith the authority as a result of foster care arrangements. Both of these were administered under different arrangements.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the method of managing outwith placements described in section 3 of the report;

- (ii) to ask the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to provide future reports at six monthly intervals on this aspect of provision, to include full financial implications;
- (iii) to ask the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to take whatever action was necessary to ensure that available resources were matched to established needs in this provision;
- (iv) to note that this report would also be considered by the Education Committee; and
- (v) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

DRAFT NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARDS FOR SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICES

11. There was submitted a report dated 2 May 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of the recent consultation by the Scottish Executive on proposed quality standards for substance misuse services during the Scottish Executive review of drug treatment and rehabilitation services in 2003, when the lack of agreed quality standards and substance misuse services emerged as a major issue.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the content of the Scottish Executive's consultation on the proposed draft national quality standards for substance misuse services;
- (ii) to approve the response to the consultation on the proposed draft national quality standards for substance misuse services as attached as Appendix 2 to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

AWARDING OF CONTRACTS

12. There was submitted a report dated 15 May 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:-

CONTRACT	SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR	AMOUNT
Supply and delivery of wheelchair accessible single entry bus (phase 29)	The Verve Ltd, Glasgow	£79,747.28 each £159,900.56 total (2 vehicles)

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the information which related to the supply of one people carrier should be deleted from the report, this information having previously been advised to Committee on 23 March 2006 (Item 13, Page 2094, 03/07); and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1027 hours.