

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 12 SEPTEMBER 2006**

### **NATIONAL YOUTH WORK STRATEGY CONSULTATION: “YOUTH WORK – OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL”**

#### **Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the Education Committee of the National Youth Work Strategy Consultation: “Youth Work – Opportunities for All” and the arrangements which will be put in place with regard to seeking views from the statutory sector, voluntary sector and importantly young people.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** The Scottish Executive made a commitment in its partnership agreement ‘For A Better Scotland’ to develop a Youth Work Strategy. This document “Youth Work – Opportunities for All” is the first stage in developing a National Youth Work Strategy. Views are sought from staff working with young people, volunteers, and other professionals and in particular young people themselves.

#### **3. THE CONSULTATION**

- 3.1** The consultation comes in two parts, firstly a consultation paper aimed at those working with young people and secondly a specific questionnaire for young people themselves.
- 3.2** The closing date for comments on both aspects of the consultation is Wednesday 1 November 2006.
- 3.3** The outcome of this consultation process will be used to shape a National Youth Work Strategy. At this stage, it is unclear whether the National Strategy will be subject to further consultation prior to a final document being produced.
- 3.4** A series of consultation events will be coordinated by Community Learning and Development to allow youth workers, voluntary organisations and community work staff to respond to the consultation documents. Young people will be encouraged to respond online through the Dialogue Youth website and discussion forums held during September and October.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None at this stage.

#### **5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Nil

#### **6. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 The development of a National Youth Work Strategy will support the better integration of children's services agenda and the community planning process.

#### **7. POLICY AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 None at this stage.

#### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 It is recommended that Members of the Education Committee:

- (i) note the arrangements for this first phase of consultation;
- (ii) ask the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to return at an appropriate time with an update report regarding the National Youth Work Strategy; and
- (iii) note the contents of this report.

Graham Short  
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

KG/SR  
17 August 2006

#### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. "Youth Work - Opportunities For All" – A consultation paper to inform a National Youth Work Strategy.
2. ""Youth Work - Opportunities For All" – A consultation paper to inform a National Youth Work Strategy: Questionnaire for Young People.

Members wishing further information should contact Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support, Tel: (01563) 576104.

**IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: KAY GILMOUR**