

# EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK NORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE 1 FEBRUARY 2005

## ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN NORTH KILMARNOCK

Report by Executive Director (Educational and Social Services)

### 1. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To advise members of the Local Committee on the range of provision and activities for young people in the Kilmarnock North Local Committee area.

### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At a previous Local Committee information was requested from the Director of Educational and Social Services on the range of provision of activities for young people in Kilmarnock North Local Committee area.
- 2.2 Provision of activities is delivered by a range of organisations: community, voluntary and local authority services including the Educational and Social Services Department.

### 3. REPORT

#### 3.1 Voluntary Organisations

There are a number of uniformed organisations who operate in the Kilmarnock North area such as: Kay Park's Boys Club and Boys Brigade/Girls Brigade, Scouts/Cubs, Guides/Brownies. A list is available to the Committee, on request.

#### 3.2 North West Youth Project

North West Youth Project is a voluntary organisation which provides a range of activities for young people between the age of 5 and 25 years. The youth project is open 5 nights per week for young people. The programme of activities include:

- Youth Café
- Summer Programme
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award group in partnership with the Community learning and Development Service.
- A Peer Education Initiative has been developed in conjunction with the Youth Outreach Service (Community learning and Development Service).

Through the Working for Families Fund the Project is developing an after school "Teen Care" service in the North West/Shortlees areas. This will increase the hours of childcare for parents in education/employment.

#### **4. EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

##### **4.1 Community Learning and Development**

One of the Service's priorities is achievement through learning for young people. The aim is to engage with young people to facilitate their personal, social and educational development and enable them to gain a voice, influence and place in society.

Community Learning and Development support a number of initiatives for young people in the Kilmarnock North area. This includes:

##### **The Youthie**

The Youthie is based in the community wing of St Josephs Academy four nights per week for the 12 – 18 year old age group. Young people are offered a number of opportunities which include:

- Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme
- Peer Education Programme
- Trips and visits
- Arts and drama
- Health issues and activities
- Issue based discussions

##### **Altonhill Youth Club**

The youth club is based in Altonhill Community Centre and operates two nights a week for the 11 – 18 age group and the programme includes:

- Junior and Senior club
- Boys and girls group

##### **Active Citizenship**

Active Citizenship with young people is a key aspect of Community Learning and Development's work. Young people are encouraged to participate in Youth Forums and can be elected to become a Member of Scottish Youth Parliament. The annual youth conference which is held in April each year had 43 young people attending from the Kilmarnock North area.

In addition, the service has a number of Projects which provide services for young people in the local area.

## **4.2 Dialogue Youth**

This is a national partnership initiative to develop youth information services and to involve young people in discussions on the development/direction of services. Dialogue Youth is funded on a match fund basis between Scottish Executive Modernising Government Fund and East Ayrshire Council. The project has worked jointly to offer Hack Pack (computer training) in the North West Kilmarnock area. Consultation has taken place with young people and the Young Scot card has been distributed to the schools.

## **4.3 Essential Skills**

The Essential Skills Project provides support to individuals who require support with reading, writing and numeracy skills. This is a free and confidential service open to all adults within East Ayrshire. The project is currently investigating the possibility of developing a youth literacies initiative, although individual young people are currently supported.

## **4.4 Youth Outreach**

The BNSF Youth Outreach Project operates an outreach service to young people in North West Kilmarnock, Shortlees and Riccarton areas. The aim is to increase access to services, advocacy for young people and educational programmes. It targets those young people who are potentially the most disadvantaged.

The project is working in partnership with the North West Youth Project and the North West Learning Centre on a Peer Education programme. The young people have used a variety of methods including working to produce a video as a way to address issues around young people and alcohol.

## **4.5 North West Learning Centre**

North West Learning Centre is a purpose built facility providing ICT equipment for use by local community. A programme of activities are on offer to individuals and groups including young people.

## **4.6 Neighbourhood Services**

In addition to Community Learning and Development Services Neighbourhood Services provide a range of activities for young people.

### **4.6.1 Neighbourhood Services have responsibility to provide and encourage leisure, recreation and sporting activities. This includes the Recreation Partnership Project which is a joint initiative with East Ayrshire Council Leisure Development Service, East Ayrshire Social Inclusion Partnership and Ayrshire & Arran Health Improvement fund.**

**4.6.3** This project aims to provide innovative health related initiatives for primary school aged children. The services include active recreation and health awareness in schools, a network of kids clubs in the community and the opportunity for training for local people.

In addition to this, Leisure Services coordinate a wide range of activities from basketball to volleyball (full details available).

## **5. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

**5.1** Nil

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**6.1** Nil

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**7.1** It is recommended that Members of the Kilmarnock North Local Committee –  
(i) note the contents of the report.

John Mulgrew  
Executive Director (Educational & Social Services)

18 January 2005  
AM/CMcl

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Members wishing further information should contact Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support. Tel (01563) 576104 or Margaret Phelps, Team Leader (Kilmarnock Area) (01563) 572757.

**IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: KAY GILMOUR**