

# **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE : 26 JANUARY 2006**

## **PROPOSED SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION AGENCY INSPECTIONS OF SOCIAL WORK SERVICES**

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

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

- 1.1 To inform Social Work Committee of the proposals for the inspection of Learning Disability Services and Criminal Justice Services.

#### **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The new Social Work Inspection Agency (SWIA) was established in 2005.
- 2.2 SWIA inspects all social work services in Scotland and reports publicly and to Parliament on the quality of services, locally and nationally
- 2.3 SWIA undertakes performance inspections and has undertaken six inspections of Criminal Justice Services in Scotland
- 2.4 SWIA also intend to use a model of integrated inspections which will include the joint inspection of partner services across health, the voluntary sector and other local authority departments.

#### **3. PROPOSED INPSECTIONS INVOLVING EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

- 3.1 Proposals have been announced that involve East Ayrshire Council in two SWIA inspections in 2006.
- 3.2 A pilot of the integrated inspection of learning disabilities across Ayrshire will commence in Spring 2006.
- 3.3 Criminal Justice services will be inspected across the Ayrshire Criminal Justice Partnership area in autum 2006.

#### **4. POLICY/LEGAL ISSUES**

- 4.1 Any review of policy required will be brought to Committee in due course.

#### **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 NIL

## **6. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Inspection of services serves to measure and improve the performance in key areas of service delivery. These services are delivered in a manner consistent with the principles of the themes of the Community Plan and the process of inspection therefore serves to strengthen the links to Community Planning

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 Social Work Committee is asked to:

- (i) Note the proposals for inspection of Learning Disability and Criminal Justice services in 2006;
- (ii) Request the Chief Social Work Officer to update Social Work Committee in March 2006 with detailed information regarding the progress of planning for these inspections; and
- (iii) Otherwise note the contents of this report.

John Mulgrew  
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services  
(Encs 0)  
SAK/JB  
9 January 2006

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Social Work Inspection Agency Aims and Vision (2005)
2. Letters from Social Work Inspection Agency relating to joint inspection of services (2005/2006)

For further information please contact: Sally Ann Kelly, Senior Manager, Children & Families & Criminal Justice, telephone 01563 576845

**IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: JACKIE DONNELLY**