

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE : 24 MARCH 2005

MEMBER/OFFICER WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S SHELTERED HOUSING WARDEN SERVICE

Joint Report by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services and the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To recommend extending the remit of the Member/Officer Working Group to include review of the models of supported housing to meet changing needs and demands for services for older people in East Ayrshire.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Social Work Committee, at its meeting held on 4 November 2004, agreed as part of its consideration of the Supporting People Programme report to establish a Member/Officer Working Group to manage the review of the Council's Sheltered Housing Warden Service in accordance with the requirements of the Supporting People Programme and the Council's Best Value arrangements as outlined in the report, and to remit to Council to make the appropriate appointments. Membership of the group was agreed by the Council at its meeting held on 9 December 2004.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 The existing remit of the Member/Officer Working Group is:
- To review the services provided by the Sheltered Housing Warden Service and to ensure that they are fit for purpose;
 - That the service is effective, efficient and provides value for money;
 - That the services are operated in accordance with European legislation particularly the European Working Time Directive; and
 - That the resources both financial and manpower are commensurate with the service position.
- 3.2 The initial meeting of the Member/Officer Working Group was held on 7 March 2005. During discussions on the purpose and scope of the review, members concluded that while the existing remit is sufficient to allow the existing residential warden service to be reviewed, it gives insufficient scope to carry out a full Best Value Review of the wider Sheltered Housing Service.
- 3.3 The group agreed that a broader review would help locate sheltered housing and its outcomes in the context of the Council's proposals for older people's services, which would take into account the balance of needs and range of provision for a diverse older population in future. Such a review would also consider the capacity of sheltered housing to provide support to the neighbourhood and the wider community.

3.4 Members of the Member/Officer Working Group agreed to recommend, therefore, that the existing remit of the group be extended to include review of the models of supported housing to meet changing needs and demands for service for older people in East Ayrshire.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 It is recommended that members:

- (i) agree to extend the existing remit of the Member/Officer Working Group as detailed in Paragraph 3.4 above; and
- (ii) otherwise note the content of the report.

John Mulgrew
Executive Director of Educational &
Social Services

William Stafford
Executive Director of Neighbourhood
Services

8 March 2005
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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

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IMPLEMENTATION OFFICERS:
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