

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE : 23 MARCH 2006

SOUTH WEST SCOTLAND COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY – APPOINTMENT OF ELECTED MEMBER

Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To request Council to appoint an Elected Member to the South West of Scotland Community Justice Authority.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Management of Offenders etc (Scotland) Act 2005, recently passed by the Scottish Parliament, provides for the establishment of eight Community Justice Authorities (CJA) across Scotland.
- 2.2 The Community Justice Authorities (Establishment, Constitution and Proceedings) (Scotland) Order 2006 has been made under section 3(25)(a) of the Management of Offenders etc (Scotland) Act 2005 and will come into force 3 April 2006.
- 2.3 East Ayrshire is included within the South West Scotland Community Justice Authority, which also includes Dumfries & Galloway, North and South Ayrshire Councils.
- 2.4 The Scottish Executive Justice Department has issued guidance on the number of members to be appointed by each CJA and for a CJA of the South West Scotland size each Council can appoint 1 member. The Ayrshire Criminal Justice Partnership previously responded to the consultation concerning Community Justice Authorities and supported that representation should be 'one member – one vote'. The Statutory Instrument for the number of members per area supports this figure.

3. ISSUES IN RELATION TO APPOINTMENT OF ELECTED MEMBER

- 3.1 Social Work Committee is therefore requested to nominate an Elected Member to participate in the South West Scotland Community Justice Authority with this nomination being forwarded to a meeting of Full Council for consideration. Committee may wish to nominate a substitute member who would be entitled to vote only in the absence of the first nominate.
- 3.2 The term of office for the appointment to the CJA will be for the remainder of the term of the Council and up until the first meeting of Council following the next Local Government Election.

4. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Nil

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Nil

6. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The overall target of the introduction of the Management of Offenders Act is to reduce re-offending. This aspiration is consistent with the Improving Community Safety theme of the Community Plan.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Social Work Committee is asked to:-

- (i) Invite Social Work Committee to seek to nominate one elected member and one substitute to the South West Scotland CJA.
- (ii) Request that the nominations be taken forward to Council at which the formal selection process can be undertaken.

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

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- (1) Draft Scottish Statutory Instruments, Criminal Law, "The Community Justice Authorities (Establishment, Constitution and Proceedings)(Scotland) Order 2006.

For further information, please contact Sally Ann Kelly, Senior Manager (Children, Families and Criminal Justice) Telephone 01563 576907.

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER : JACKIE DONNELLY