

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CORPORATE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 11TH FEBRUARY 2003

SCOTLAND'S HEALTH AT WORK SCHEME ACHIEVEMENT OF GOLD AWARD

Report by the Director of Corporate Resources/Depute Chief Executive

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Sub-Committee of the Council being awarded the Gold Level Award of the "Scotland's Health at Work" Scheme.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Sub-Committee agreed at their meeting on 9th October 1996 that the Council should register with the "Scotland's Health at Work" national Award Scheme and instructed the Director of Personnel Services to liaise with the local health promotions team in terms of that registration and related health promotion activities.
- 2.2 The Sub-Committee at its meeting on 26th August 1997 and 28th September 2000 noted the Council's achievement of Bronze and Silver awards within the S.H.A.W Scheme.

3. ACHIEVEMENT OF GOLD AWARD

- 3.1 The Council's commitment to, and progress within, the S.H.A.W Scheme was assessed in November 2002. The Sub-Committee will be pleased to note that the Council was awarded Gold accreditation.
- 3.2 The S.H.A.W exercise has involved the support of representatives from all service departments and the two Local Government Employees' Trade Union Convenors. The team contribution has underpinned the Council's achievement and is greatly appreciated.
- 3.3 Achievement of Gold Award status required the Council to have:-
- a) maintained its commitment to the promotion of employee health and health promotion events, as reflected in its work at Bronze and Silver levels.
 - b) developed an Employee Health Promotion Strategy which promotes health in the following areas over a 3 year period:- Smoking; Alcohol/Drugs; Health Eating; Physical Activity; HIV/Aids and Sexual Health; Stress/Mental Health and Dental/Oral Health. This Strategy is in place with the objectives continuing to be met through the Council's existing quarterly health events.

- c) reassessed its employees' needs to direct our health promotion activities. This exercise will take place within the October 2003 activities linked to the annual European Health and Safety at Work week.
- 3.4 In addition to the S.H.A.W Gold Award, the Council has been advised that the Health and Safety Executive has selected the Council to receive a Scottish Regional award in recognition of its work during last year's European Health and Safety at Work week.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Council's progress with the S.H.A.W Scheme has been met from within existing resources.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Participation with the Scotland's Health at Work Scheme and achievement of the Gold Award supports the objectives of our Health and Safety at Work Policy and other employment related Policies.

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 The Sub-Committee is asked to note the Council's achievement of the Gold Level Award of the Scotland's Health at Work Scheme.

Fiona Lees
Director of Corporate Resources/Depute Chief Executive

4th February 2003

FL/GH/RRS

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Scotland's Health at Work Scheme
2. Previous related reports to Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee

Any person wishing further information should contact Graham Haugh, Head of Personnel on (01563) 576092.