

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2002 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Jane Darnbrough, Stephanie Young, Daniel Coffey, Lillian MacLean, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, Isabel Macrae, Iain Linton, Finlay MacLean, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies, Elaine Stewart and Jimmy Carmichael.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services; Stephen Moore, Head of Social Work; Chris McAleavey, Head of Homes; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Jackie Donnelly, Principal Officer (Community Care); John Alexander, Principal Officer (Quality and Planning); Bill Eadie, Principal Officer (Children, Families and Criminal Justice); Alison Findlay, Service Unit Manager (Adult Services); Gerrard Coyle, Personnel Manager (Social Work); Claire Houston, Loudoun Academy; and Melanie Anderson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Hall, Reid, Walsh, Knapp, Jackson and Faulds.

CHAIR: Councillor Jane Darnbrough, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair welcomed Alison Findlay, Service Unit Manager (Adult Services) and Gerrard Coyle, Personnel Manager (Social Work) to the meeting and referred to the experience these Officers would bring as new members of staff. The Chair also extended a welcome to Claire Houston of Loudoun Academy and wished her success with her work experience placement in the Council's Administrative and Legal Services Section.

BUDGETARY PROGRESS REPORT

2. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 22 October 2002 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance and of Educational and Social Services on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the period ended 22 September 2002 (Period 6).

HOME CARE REVIEW: FINAL STAGE - COMMUNITY ALARM AND OUT OF HOURS SERVICE (Item 4, Page 2603, 99/03)

3. There was submitted a report dated 7 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on proposed improvements to the East Ayrshire Out of Hours Home Care Service and Community Alarm Service and on initiatives proposed through Delayed Hospital Discharge funding.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposal to modernise the Out of Hours Home Care Service;

- (ii) to refer the staffing implications to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

THE SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRAMME (Item 10, Page 2773, 99/03)

4. There was submitted a joint report dated 16 October 2002 (circulated) by the Directors of Homes and Technical Services and of Educational and Social Services on the continuing arrangements being made for the implementation of the Supporting People Scottish Executive Initiative.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress achieved to date;
- (ii) to approve the proposals to establish new support arrangements as detailed in paragraph 3 of the report, subject to further consultation with the Head of Personnel;
- (iii) to approve the procurement, by formal negotiation, of the Supporting People Local Systems software package from ANITE; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

YOUTH JUSTICE (Item 7, Page 2493, 99/03)

5. There was submitted a report dated 17 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on progress made to date in developing Youth Justice services in East Ayrshire and which sought approval for the continuation of developments in this area of service provision.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the progress made to date in developing Youth Justice services;
- (ii) to approve the need to maintain progress in the service areas identified;
- (iii) that the Director of Finance amend the Social Work budgets to reflect the additional funding from the Scottish Executive;
- (iv) that the Director of Educational and Social Services report back to a future meeting of the Committee on further progress;
- (v) to refer the issue of recruiting additional staff to the next meeting of the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee; and
- (vi) otherwise to note the content of the report.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

6. The Committee resolved that under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraph of Schedule 7A of the Act, as shown against each item.

UPDATE ON PROVISION OF CARE HOME PLACES OVER THE WINTER PERIOD (PARA 8) (Item 14, Page 2775, 99/03)

7. There was submitted a report dated 28 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the current position regarding the proposal to lease places over the winter period to alleviate delayed discharges in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposals outlined in Section 4 of the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Finance amend the Social Work budget to reflect the actual cost of £107,475 in 2002/2003; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

REVIEW OF DAY SERVICES: ADULTS WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY - STAGE 2 (PARA 1) (Item 11, Page 2193, 99/03)

8. There was submitted a report dated 18 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on progress made in Stage 1 of the review to modernise Day Services for people with a learning disability within East Ayrshire and which sought agreement for Stage 2, comprising a revised day service staffing structure which followed from the review of day care services in order to better meet the needs and aspirations of people with learning disabilities, allowing them to live and play a significant part in their communities in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposal to modernise learning disability day services;
- (ii) to refer the staffing implications to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a report to a future meeting of the Committee to provide detail regarding the future of Gilliesknowe; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

SETTING OF FEE RATE FOR NEWHOUSE/KIRKLEA (PARA 8)

9. There was submitted a report dated 17 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on a proposed fee rate for 2002/2003 for Newhouse and Kirklea, residential homes operated by Craegmoor Healthcare for Adults with Learning Disabilities.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the interim rates outlined in Section 4 of the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a further report to the Committee in 2003 to outline the proposed rate for 2003/2004; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1034 hours.