

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2003 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Eric Jackson, Jim O'Neill, Gordon Cree, John Weir, Harry Wilson, Ray Murray, Stuart Finlayson, Robert McDill, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies, Neil McGhee, William Crawford .

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services; Chris McAleavey, Head of Homes; Euan Couperwhite, Head of Resource Support; Jackie Donnelly, Head of Social Work; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager, Educational and Social Services; John Alexander, Principal Officer (Quality and Planning); Eddie Fraser, Acting Principal Officer, Community Care; and Gillian Hamilton, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Stephanie Young, Douglas Reid, Drew McIntyre, Isabella Macrae, Iain Linton, John Knapp, Jim Raymond, Jimmy Kelly and Elaine Stewart.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Eric Jackson, Chair.

**CHAIR'S COMMENTS**

1. The Chair reported that an Audit Scotland report: Dealing with Offending by Young People had just been released which made some comment of practices in various authorities, including East Ayrshire.

The Chair assured the Committee that the issues were being addressed and that, in addition, a range of actions were being taken which would evidence the good work in this field which has been, and which continues to be, undertaken within East Ayrshire.

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - SOCIAL WORK TO 21 SEPTEMBER 2003 (PERIOD 6)**

2. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 23 October 2003 (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 year for Social Work for the period ended 21 September 2003 (Period 6).

**VIREMENT OF RESOURCES – COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

3. There was submitted a report dated 30 October 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval to recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee the virement of Community Support budgets to Education.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve, in principle, the virement proposals detailed in Section 2.2 of the report;

- (ii) to refer the virement request to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

#### **SOCIAL WORK CHARGES 2003/2004**

4. There was submitted a report dated 20 October 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the amendment of current charging threshold levels for non-residential social work services, which took account of the introduction of Pension Credit.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the revised charging thresholds detailed in Section 3 of the report; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

#### **SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT 1968 – SECTION 10 PAYMENTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS 2003/2004**

5. There was submitted a report dated 20 October 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) sought authority to make Section 10 awards to organisations which had applied for assistance; and (ii) advised of awards made by the Head of Social Work under the Council's Scheme of Delegation.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the undernoted grant awards be made:-

<b>ORGANISATION</b>	<b>2003/2004</b>
Childline Scotland	£1,089.00
CSV/Clyde Action – Cash for Kids	£4,750.00
Counselling Ayrshire	£1,538.00
Dementia Services Development Trust	£600.00
East Ayrshire Elderly Forum	£1,430.00
Family Mediation Ayrshire	£2,000.00
PHACE West	£1,000.00
Scottish Spina Bifida Association	£800.00
Sensory Impairment Support Group Ayrshire	£1,500.00
Victim Support Scotland	£2,000.00

- (ii) that the following applications be refused:- Ayrshire Amputee Association, Couple Counselling Ayrshire, Glasgow LGBT Centre, Marks & Spencer Retired Staff Association, The Council for Music in Hospitals, The Poverty Alliance and West of Scotland Seniors Forum;

- (iii) to note the awards of grant which had been made by the Head of Social Work under the Council's Scheme of Delegation; as set out in Appendix 3 of the report; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

#### **ABSENCE MANAGEMENT – QUARTER 3 2003**

6. There was submitted a report dated 20 October 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on staff absence rates for Social Services, including Resource Support and Support to Communities, for the quarterly period ended 30 September 2003.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director and Senior Officers continued to take appropriate action to ensure support mechanisms were available for staff to assist the reduction of absence levels; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

#### **WORKING TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN SERVICES – PROGRESS REPORT (Item 15, Page 2496, 99/03)**

7. There was submitted a report dated 19 October 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on progress in achieving the targets set for joint working within the Department of Educational and Social Services.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made with the joint working targets set for the Department in April 2002, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (ii) to approve the planned progress to consolidate achievements made thus far, also set out in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services circulate this information widely;
- (iv) that the Director of Educational and Social Services present further progress reports to appropriate committees; and
- (v) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

#### **THE SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRAMME (Item 15, Page 250, 03/07)**

8. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 20 October 2003 (circulated) by the Directors of Educational and Social Services and of Homes and Technical Services on the implementation of the Scottish Executive Supporting People Programme initiative and its operation in East Ayrshire Council since April 2003.

#### **COMMISSIONING, CONTRACTING AND CONTRACT MONITORING FRAMEWORK**

9. There was submitted a report dated 20 October 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the implementation of a Commissioning Framework for Social Work.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the implementation of the Framework detailed in the report; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**CHILD PROTECTION POLICY AND PRACTICE DEVELOPMENTS - PROGRESS STATEMENT (Item 4, Page 2045, 99/03)**

10. There was submitted a report dated 16 October 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on progress with implementing service developments to improve Child Protection services in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made to date with the service developments described in Section 3 of the report;
- (ii) that further progress reports on implementation of the service developments would be presented to Committee on an annual basis;
- (iii) to note that a further report on the implications of the Caleb Ness report would be presented to the next meeting of the Committee;
- (iv) to note that the report would also be considered by the Education Committee at its meeting on 11 November 2003; and
- (v) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**CHILD PROTECTION NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM – CONSULTATION ON NATIONAL STANDARDS AND ON THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEES**

11. There was submitted a report dated 28 October 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval to submit a response to the Scottish Executive consultations on National Standards for Child Protection and on the role and responsibilities of Child Protection Committees.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the response to the consultation on National Standards as contained in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (ii) to approve the response to the consultation on the role and responsibilities of Child Protection Committees as contained in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (iii) to note that the report would also be considered by the Education Committee at its meeting on 11 November 2003;
- (iv) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit the responses to the Scottish Executive; and
- (v) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**SECOND ANNUAL REVIEW OF EAST AYRSHIRE JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN 2001-2004 (INCORPORATING A REVIEW OF THE EAST AYRSHIRE PARTNERSHIP IN PRACTICE AGREEMENT) (Item 7, Page 2772, 99/03)**

12. There was submitted a joint report dated 13 October 2003 (circulated) by the Directors of Educational and Social Services and of Homes and Technical Services which sought (i) endorsement of the second annual review of the East Ayrshire Joint

Community Care Plan 2001-2004 which incorporated a Review of the East Ayrshire Partnership in Practice Agreement 2001-2004; and (ii) authority to submit the review to the Scottish Executive as required by national guidance and directions.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the second annual review of the East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001-2004;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services in consultation with statutory planning partners submit the Review to the Scottish Executive; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the report.

### **REVIEW OF DAY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE – STAGE 1**

13. There was submitted a report dated 20 October 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) advised of initial outcomes of the joint Social Work/Health Review of Day Support Services provided to older people in East Ayrshire; and (ii) sought approval for implementation of stage one of the recommendations in order to meet national standards.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposals outlined in Sections 5 and 6 of the report;
- (ii) to refer the personnel implications to the Corporate Governance Committee;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a future report to Committee on Stage 2 of the review regarding accommodation and outcome in respect of exploring joint services; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

### **MENTAL HEALTH (CARE AND TREATMENT) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2003**

14. There was submitted a report dated 20 October 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) advised on the main requirements of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003; and (ii) sought approval to implement measures in order to meet the Council's increased responsibilities.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the recommendations contained in Section 5 of the report;
- (ii) to refer the staffing implications to the Corporate Governance Committee for consideration; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

### **JOINT PROTOCOL FOR ACCOMMODATING SERVICE USERS WITH COMMUNITY CARE NEEDS AND SERVICE USERS DISCHARGED FROM ACUTE HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

15. There was submitted a joint report dated October 2003 (circulated ) by the Directors of Homes and Technical Services and of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the introduction of a joint protocol for accommodating service users with community care needs and service users discharged from acute health care services.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the recommendations to introduce a joint protocol detailed in the report with immediate effect; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1042 hours.