

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 22 MAY 2003 AT 1000 HOURS IN
THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Eric Jackson, Ray Murray, Jim O'Neill, Stephanie Young, Gordon Cree, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, Isabella Macrae, Harry Wilson, Iain Linton, John Knapp, Stuart Finlayson, Robert McDill, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies, Neil McGhee, William Crawford and Elaine Stewart.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services; Stephen Moore, Head of Social Work; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Jackie Donnelly, Principal Officer (Community Care); Bill Eadie, Principal Officer (Children, Families and Criminal Justice); John Alexander, Principal Officer (Quality and Planning); Caroline Gordon, Public Relations Assistant; Jaine Best, Solicitor; and Melanie Anderson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Douglas Reid, Jim Raymond and Jimmy Kelly.

CHAIR: Councillor Eric Jackson, Chair.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2003/2004 (Item 2, page 3033, 99/03)

1. There was submitted a report dated 13 May 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the proposed use of the Capital Programme allocation for the Social Work and Resource Support function of the Department of Educational and Social Services.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed Capital Plan noted in Section 3 of the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services be requested to submit regular reports on the progress of the implementation of the Capital Plan; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

HOME CARE PERFORMANCE REPORT (Item 11, page 2494, 99/03)

2. There was submitted a report dated 7 May 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on progress made in meeting national and local objectives in Home Care services, the implications of this progress for the delivery of services and proposals to address those implications.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposals set out in 3.4 and 3.5 of the report to improve the future delivery of services;
- (ii) to refer the staffing implications referred to within the report to the Corporate Governance Committee for consideration; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

JOINT FUTURE AGENDA: FULL LOCAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (OLDER PEOPLE'S SERVICES) (Item 6, page 3023, 99/03)

3. There was submitted a report dated 7 May 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the requirement to complete and submit a full Local Partnership Agreement to the Scottish Executive in respect of Older People's services.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the contents of the Partnership Agreement appended to the report;
- (ii) to refer the Partnership Agreement to the Partnership Group; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

MOVING AND HANDLING (Item 8, page 3024, 99/03)

4. There was submitted a report dated 7 May 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on operational issues in relation to Moving and Handling arising from a recent Health and Safety Executive inspection and which sought approval to implement increased measures to address concerns raised.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed developments outlined at Section 4.1 to Section 4.3 of the report;
- (ii) to refer the staffing implications to the Corporate Governance Committee for consideration; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS TO INCREASE PAYMENTS TO SHARED CARERS AND SHARED CARE PLUS CARERS

5. There was submitted a report dated 6 May 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on proposals to increase the rates currently paid to Shared Carers and Shared Care Plus Carers.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to increase the allowances for Shared Care and Shared Care Plus Carers to £41.60 per child per 24-hour period of care, with the rate for future years to be increased in line with rates paid to Foster Carers; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

AUDIT SCOTLAND PERFORMANCE AUDIT REPORT - COMPARING THE PERFORMANCE OF SCOTTISH COUNCILS: SOCIAL WORK SERVICES 2001-2002 (Item 11, page 2773, 99/03)

6. There was submitted a report dated 15 May 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the Council's performance in 2001/2002 against Social Work Statutory Performance Indicators relative to Scottish averages and the performance of other Councils.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Council had performed well in respect of its Social Work

- responsibilities, as evidenced by the Audit Scotland Report for 2001-2002;
- (ii) that Officers continue to pursue continuous improvement in all aspects of service provision in accordance with the Best Value regime; and
 - (iii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

QUALITY OF LIFE FUNDING

7. There was submitted a report dated 8 May 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on an allocation of Quality of Life monies to improve the quality of life of young people who are accommodated.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the recommendation that Team Leaders and Unit Managers be invited to bid on an individual case basis for the allocation which totalled £30,000;
- (ii) that a progress report be submitted in due course on the outcome of the spending; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

AYRSHIRE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SOCIAL WORK SERVICES PARTNERSHIP: THROUGH-CARE PLAN

8. There was submitted a report dated 9 May 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the plan for Throughcare Services submitted to the Scottish Executive on behalf of the Ayrshire Criminal Justice Social Work Partnership at the end of March 2003 and which sought approval to refer proposed personnel changes and the recruitment of additional staff to the Corporate Governance Committee for further consideration.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the report's proposals;
- (ii) to refer the staffing proposals within the report to the Corporate Governance Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

DIRECT PAYMENTS

9. There was submitted and noted a report dated 6 May 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the development of Direct Payments in East Ayrshire.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

10. The Chair invited any members of the Committee interested in visiting Social Work establishments to contact the Clerk to the Committee in order that suitable arrangements could be made.

The Chair also indicated that it was his intention to write to all members of the Committee to gauge the level of interest in a number of proposed seminar events on key Social Work issues.

Finally, the Chair undertook to ensure that a copy of the Social Work service information pack issued during a recent training event was provided to all members of the Committee who had been unable to be in attendance.

The meeting terminated at 1024 hours.