

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 30 JANUARY 2003 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Jane Darnbrough (Chair), Stephanie Young, Daniel Coffey, Douglas Reid, Lillian MacLean, John Weir, Isabella Macrae, Alex Walsh, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean, Eric Jackson, 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; Euan Couperwhite, Head of Resource Support; 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); Caroline Gordon, Public Relations Assistant; and Melanie Anderson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Kathleen Hall, Drew McIntyre, Iain Linton and Julie Faulds.

CHAIR: Councillor Jane Darnbrough, Chair.

BUDGETARY PROGRESS REPORT

1. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 13 January 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 the Social Work Section for the period ended 17 November 2002 (Period 8).

DRUG TREATMENT AND TESTING ORDERS

2. There was submitted a report dated 6 December 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the introduction of a new community-based sentencing disposal, Drug Treatment and Testing Orders, to the Sheriff Courts at Ayr and Kilmarnock and which intimated that there would be a further report on implementation plans at a later date.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the initial action outlined within the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services report back to a future meeting of the Social Work Committee on progress made; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

Councillor Kelly left the meeting during discussion of this item.

FUNDING FOR YOUTH CRIME INVESTMENT 2002/2003

3. There was submitted a report dated 13 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on additional funding being made available to local authorities to increase the use of information technology in the completion of assessments of young people who offend and which sought approval for the proposed use of this funding.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed direction of spend as outlined within the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Finance be requested to amend the Social Work budget to reflect the additional income; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

Councillor Kelly re-joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

INTENSIVE SUPPORT FUND BID (Item 7, page 2493, 99/03)

4. There was submitted a report dated 7 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised that the Social Work bid to the Intensive Support Fund had been successful and which sought approval for the associated posts referred to within the bid.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee consideration of the staffing implications outlined within Appendix II to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

THE PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE ADULTS PROCEDURES (Item 9, Page 2192, 99/03)

5. There was submitted a report dated 10 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on progress in the development of the multi-agency Protection of Vulnerable Adults Procedures across East Ayrshire and which sought approval for the introduction of these procedures.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the introduction of the multi-agency Protection of Vulnerable Adults Procedures; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

Councillor Reid joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

THE JOINT FUTURE AGENDA: A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH (Item 13, Page 2495, 99/03)

6. There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on recent developments in Joint Future work and which sought approval, in principle, for the establishment of a new political process, a Joint Future Partnership Group.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to establish a Joint Future Partnership Group;
- (ii) to approve the development of the proposal set out in the report;
- (iii) to refer to Council consideration of the nominations to the Partnership Group, recommended to consist of three Administration Members and one Opposition Member;
- (iv) that the Director of Educational and Social Services, in consultation with the Head of Administrative and Legal Services, make arrangements for the establishment of the Group; and
- (v) otherwise to note the content of the report.

STAFFING IN RESIDENTIAL HOMES FOR OLDER PEOPLE

7. There was submitted a report dated 13 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval, in principle, for an additional two temporary full-time posts to deliver care support in Council-operated homes for older people.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit the staffing proposals to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

MOVING AND HANDLING CO-ORDINATOR

8. There was submitted a report dated 7 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the establishment of a Moving and Handling Co-ordinator to oversee training for Social Work staff, purchasing and monitoring of moving and handling equipment, as well as the development and implementation of policies and procedures in relation to Moving and Handling.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit the proposal to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY CARE

9. There was submitted a joint report dated 14 January 2003 (circulated) by the Directors of Educational and Social Services and of Finance on the proposed establishment of a dedicated finance post to ensure that the Department of Educational and Social Services fulfilled its Care in the Community responsibilities.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve, in principle, a dedicated temporary post, recommended to be graded at SO8 and attached to Community Care, to provide financial and accounting support;

- (ii) to remit 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.

FAST TRACK CHILDREN'S HEARINGS (Item 5, Page 2895, 99/03)

10. There was submitted a report dated 20 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on progress made to date in developing the Fast Track Children's Hearing pilot in Ayrshire and which sought approval for the continuation of developments in the direction so far taken to implement this enhancement to the management, within the Children's Hearing System, of young people engaged in persistent offending.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the progress made to date;
- (ii) to approve the continuation of developments in the direction so far taken;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services report back to a future meeting of the Social Work Committee on further progress; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

THE SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRAMME (Item 4, Page 2895, 99/03)

- 11.1 There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 13 January 2003 (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 this Scottish Executive initiative.

**THE FUTURE OF THE SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRAMME
(Item 4, Page 2895, 99/03)**

- 11.2 There was submitted a joint report dated 13 January 2003 (circulated) by the Directors of Homes and Technical Services and of Educational and Social Services on proposals for long-term staffing and management arrangements for the Supporting People Programme from April 2003.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Housing Committee, in respect of its service delivery responsibilities, had approved the staffing proposals detailed in Paragraph 4 of the report and had authorised the Director of Homes and Technical Services, in conjunction with the Head of Personnel, to submit these proposals for approval by the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1025 hours.