

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2001 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jane Darnbrough, Alex Walsh, Kathleen Hall, Stephanie Young, Daniel Coffey, Lilian MacLean, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, David Macrae, Iain Linton, Findlay MacLean, Eric Jackson, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies and Robert Taylor.

**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; Allan Y McDougall, Head of Resource Support; Stephen Moore, Head of Social Work; Ian Gemmell, Head of Anti-Poverty Unit; Euan Couperwhite, Finance Manager; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Jackie Donnelly, Principal Officer (Community Care); Caroline Gordon, Public Relations Assistant; and Melanie Anderson, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Douglas Reid, Jim Raymond, Jimmy Kelly, Julie Faulds and Jimmy Carmichael.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Jane Darnbrough, Chair.

**CHAIR'S COMMENTS**

1. The Chair referred to the presentation which was to have taken place in respect of Item 1 on the Agenda and advised that the young people were not now in a position to give the presentation to the Committee.

**LOOKED AFTER AND ACCOMMODATED PERSON'S INFORMATION DIARY AND VIDEO**

2. There was submitted a report dated 23 July 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the production and contents of an information diary and video, prepared on behalf of the Council's Looked After and Accommodated Children and Young People.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the Looked After and Accommodated Young Person's Diary and Video for dissemination and use; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

**BUDGETARY PROGRESS REPORT - SOCIAL WORK TO 29 JULY 2001 (PERIOD 4)**

3. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 10 September 2001 (circulated) by the Directors of Educational and Social Services and of Finance on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the Social Work Section of the Educational and Social Services Department for the period ended 29 July 2001 (Period 4).

**LAUNCH OF EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL'S CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES  
(Item 4, Page 804, 99/01)**

4. There was submitted a report dated 14 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the introduction of the launch of East Ayrshire Council's Child Protection Procedures.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the East Ayrshire Child Protection Procedure;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services prepare an annual report for Committee in relation to Child Protection and keep the Social Work Committee informed in relation to progress towards the implementation of the procedure; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**UP-RATING OF APPROVED NURSING AND RESIDENTIAL HOME RATES  
(Item 3, Page 1625, 99/01)**

5. There was submitted a report dated 15 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the up-rating of the Council's rate for voluntary and private residential and nursing home care for older people and the revision in respite charges for older people.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to the approved rate increase of £10 in residential care and £12 in nursing care respectively and to backdate this to July 2001;
- (ii) that the Director of Finance carry forward the £243,000 allocated for residential and nursing home care into the 2002/2003 Social Work budget for the purpose of covering the increased care costs outlined in the report; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

**ABSENCE MANAGEMENT REPORT: 2 APRIL TO 1 JULY 2001**

6. There was submitted a report dated 6 September 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on absence rates for Social Work services and resource support for the quarter ending 1 July 2001. There was further submitted (tabled) more detailed graphs in respect of paragraph 2.1 of the report.

It was agreed to note the contents of the report and the more detailed graphs tabled separately pertaining to paragraph 2.1 of the report.

**CHILDREN'S CHANGE FUND ALLOCATION FOR TACKLING DRUGS AND  
ASSOCIATED DRUG REHABILITATION INITIATIVES**

7. There was submitted a report dated 4 September 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of, and sought approval for, proposals to develop a range of initiatives to tackle the problems of drugs misuse utilising the Children's Change Fund Allocation for Tackling Drugs and existing resources from within the Social Work budget.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the strategy for tackling drugs and associated drug rehabilitation initiatives outlined in the report;

- (ii) to refer the personnel implications to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration;
- (iii) to refer the report to the Education Committee, for its interest; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**KILMAURS DEVELOPMENT (Item 6, Page 661, 99/01)**

8. There was submitted a report dated 24 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on progress within the Kilmaurs Partnership Development and which sought approval for the implementation of revised staffing arrangements.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the revised staffing arrangements;
- (ii) to refer the staffing implications to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration;
- (iii) that the Director of Finance incorporate the additional funding as detailed in 4.2 of the report to the Health Board account of the Social Work Budget for 2001-2002; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN**

9. There was submitted a report dated 21 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which recommended a prioritised Departmental Health and Safety Action Plan.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Departmental Health and Safety Action Plan contained in the Appendix to the report and summarised in paragraph 4 of the report, as it related to services authorised and empowered by the Social Work Committee; and
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services provide a future update report to the Social Work Committee on the Department's response to the Action Plan.

**ANTI-POVERTY ACTIVITY: ANNUAL REPORT 2000/2001**

10. There was submitted a report dated 13 September 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on anti-poverty activities undertaken by Social Work staff during the period 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit further reports to the Social Work Committee on anti-poverty activities on a regular basis; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

**AYRSHIRE PARTNERSHIP IN PRACTICE AGREEMENT 2001/2004 AND THE  
EAST AYRSHIRE PARTNERSHIP IN PRACTICE AGREEMENT 2001/2004**

11. There was submitted a report dated 24 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the Ayrshire and East Ayrshire Partnership in Practice Agreements 2001/2004, which set out the direction for services to people with learning disabilities and their families/carers and which required to be submitted to the Scottish Executive by 30 June 2001.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the draft documents outlined at Sections 3 and 4 of the report; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**THE SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRAMME (Item 4, Page 1694, 99/01)**

12. There was submitted a joint report dated 10 September 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Homes and Technical Services and by the Director of Educational and Social Services on further arrangements being made for the implementation of the Scottish Executive Initiative, including the introduction of a supplementary tenancy agreement and the nomination of an Elected Member to serve on the Core Co-ordination Group for Supporting People.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that authority was being sought to introduce the supplementary tenancy agreement and to bring into use in appropriate circumstances any documentation required in respect of persons who are incapax;
- (ii) to note the proposed nomination of an Elected Member to serve as a representative on the Core Co-ordination Group for East Ayrshire Council's implementation of the Supporting People Programme to Council; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC -**

13. 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 item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

**DEATH OF A CHILD LOOKED AFTER AND ACCOMMODATED BY EAST  
AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (Item 9, Page 1844, 99/01)**

14. There was submitted and noted a report dated 14 August 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the formal response from Scottish Ministers to the report submitted to them in April 2001 on the circumstances surrounding the death of a child looked after and accommodated by East Ayrshire Council.

The meeting terminated at 1050 hours.

**TO RETURN TO PREVIOUS PAGE  
PLEASE PRESS THE BACK BUTTON  
AT THE TOP LEFT OF THE PAGE**