

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2002 AT
1000 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS.
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Jane Darnbrough, Katie Hall, Daniel Coffey, Douglas Reid, Lilian MacLean, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, Isabella Macrae, Iain Linton, Alex Walsh, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean, Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, Julie Faulds, 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; Bill Eadie, Principal Officer (Children, Families and Criminal Justice); Jackie Donnelly, Principal Officer (Community Care); John Alexander, Principal Officer (Quality and Planning); Caroline Gordon, Public Relations Assistant; and Melanie Anderson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGY: Councillor Stephanie Young.

CHAIR: Councillor Jane Darnbrough, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair welcomed Bill Eadie to the meeting as the newly appointed Principal Officer for Children, Families and Criminal Justice and referred to the wealth of experience which Mr Eadie would bring to this work.

**BUDGETARY PROGRESS REPORT -
SOCIAL WORK TO 28 JULY 2002 (PERIOD 4)**

2. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 28 August 2002 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance and of Educational and Social Services on the current budgetary position and projected out-turn for the year for the Social Work Section for the period ended 28 July 2002 (Period 4).

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO FRONT LINE SERVICES

3. There was submitted a report dated 25 July 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for additional administrative support to meet the Council's additional responsibilities following the increased activities associated with delayed discharges from hospitals, the transfer of preserved rights individuals and the introduction of "Free Personal Care".

It was agreed:

- (i) to refer the staffing implications outlined in Section 4 of the report to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee, for consideration; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

ANTI-POVERTY ACTIVITY - ANNUAL REPORT 2001/2002 (Item 10, Page 2046)

4. There was submitted a report dated 12 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on anti-poverty activities undertaken by Social Work staff during the period 1 April 2001 to 31 March 2002.

It was agreed:

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

Councillor Reid joined the meeting during discussion of this item,

NEW COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ANNUAL REPORTS

5. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the annual reports on the new Community School Initiative in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:

- (i) to endorse the annual reports for new Community Schools in East Ayrshire;
- (ii) to record the thanks of the Committee to young people, parents and staff involved in the new Community School Initiative for the work undertaken to make it a success; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**COSTS, SENTENCING PROFILES AND THE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM 2000 (PUBLISHED IN 2002)**

6. There was submitted a report dated 29 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the content of a recent Scottish Executive publication "Costs, Sentencing Profiles and the Criminal Justice System 2000" and which sought approval for proposed action.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the action proposed within the report to promote the service with sentencers; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**REVIEW OF EAST AYRSHIRE JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN 2001-2004
(INCORPORATING A REVIEW OF THE EAST AYRSHIRE PARTNERSHIP
IN PRACTICE AGREEMENT) (Item 7, Page 1844)**

7. There was submitted a joint report dated 5 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services and of Homes and Technical Services which sought endorsement of the first annual review of the East Ayrshire Joint Community Care Plan 2001-2004 incorporating a review of the East Ayrshire Partnership in Practice Agreement 2001-2004 and which sought authority to submit the review to the Scottish Executive, as required by national guidelines and directions.

It was agreed:

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

AYRSHIRE BAIL INFORMATION AND SUPERVISION SCHEME

8. There was submitted a report dated 29 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the introduction of a Bail Information and Supervision Scheme to Ayr and Kilmarnock Sheriff Courts.

It was agreed:

- (i) to endorse the action taken to introduce a Bail Information and Supervision Scheme to Ayr and Kilmarnock Sheriff Courts; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

RESTRICTION OF LIBERTY ORDERS

9. There was submitted a report dated 29 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the new community sentencing disposal, Restriction of Liberty Orders (RLOs) which, following an independent evaluation of three pilots, was to be rolled out to all Sheriff and High Courts in Scotland, including Kilmarnock and Ayr Sheriff Courts, from 1 May 2002.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the action taken to ensure awareness and understanding of the new disposal which had been made available to appropriate staff and other preparations being made for the introduction of Restriction of Liberty Orders; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

THE SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRAMME (Item 12, Page 2047)

10. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 27 August 2002 (circulated) by the Directors of Homes and Technical Services and of Educational and Social Services on the continuing arrangements being made for this Scottish Executive Initiative.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

- 11.1 **SOCIAL WORK STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2001-2002 (Item 14, Page 2339)**

There was submitted a report dated 27 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the Council's performance in 2001-2002 against Social Work Statutory Performance Indicators as set out in the Accounts Commission Direction to Local Authorities 2000.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note that the Council had performed well in respect of its Social Work responsibilities, as evidenced by the Statutory Performance Indicators for 2001-2002;
- (ii) to note that, with regard to best value, officers would pursue continuous improvement in all aspects of Social Work provision;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services present a further report to a future Social Work Committee illustrating East Ayrshire's performance relative to other Councils; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

11.2 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING AUDIT 2001/2002 FOR EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL HOME CARE SERVICE (Item 15, Page 2194)

There was submitted a report dated 15 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the outcome of the 2001/2002 Performance Management and Planning (PMP) Audit of the Council's Home Care Services carried out by Price Waterhouse Coopers on behalf of the Accounts Commission.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the generally positive outcome of the 2001-02 follow-up Performance Management and Planning Audit of the Home Care Service and the implementation of an Improvement Action Plan to address issues identified through the audit; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

11.3 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING AUDIT 2001-2002 FOR EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICE (Item 8, Page 2338)

There was submitted a report dated 29 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the outcome of the 2001/2002 Performance Management and Planning (PMP) Audit of the Council's Criminal Justice Service which was carried out by Price Waterhouse Coopers on behalf of the Accounts Commission.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the generally positive outcome of the 2001/2002 follow-up Performance Management and Planning Audit of the Criminal Justice Service and the implementation of an Improvement Action Plan to address issues identified through the audit; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

11.4 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING AUDIT 2001-2002 FOR EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL SOCIAL WORK RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE (Item 14, Page 2339)

There was submitted a report dated 15 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services on the outcome of the 2001-2002 Performance Management and Planning (PMP) Audit of the Council's Older People's Residential

Services which was carried out by Price Waterhouse Coopers on behalf of the Accounts Commission.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the positive outcome of the 2001/2002 Performance Management and Planning Audit of the Older People's Local Authority Residential Services and the development of an Improvement Action Plan to address issues identified through the audit; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

RE-ALLOCATION OF SCOTTISH BUDGETARY RESOURCES - DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

- 12.** There was submitted a report dated 6 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought Elected Members' authority for investment in a range of Social Work service developments to be funded from Scottish budget resources re-allocated by the Scottish Executive.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the allocation of £95,000 for the implementation of Social Work development proposals;
- (ii) to approve the development proposals set out in Section 3 of the report;
- (iii) that the Director of Finance amend the Social Work budget for 2002/03 to reflect the allocation made; and
- (iv) 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 items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Schedule 7A of the Act as shown against each item.

CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR CAPACITY IN CARE HOMES (PARA 8)

- 14.** There was submitted a report dated 22 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the block purchase of places in a care home over the winter period to alleviate delayed discharges from hospitals.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the position regarding the European Procurement legislation and agreed to exempt the contract from the Council's Standing Orders as detailed in paragraph 7.2 of the report;
- (ii) to agree to the proposal to block purchase 17 care places as outlined in the report;
- (iii) to agree to the spending proposals outlined in Section 5.1 of the report; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES (PARA 3)

15. There was submitted and approved as a correct record, the undernoted Minutes (circulated) as detailed in the Appendix to these Minutes.

15.1 COMPLAINTS REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE OF 25 JULY 2002.

REPORT FROM THE SOCIAL WORK COMPLAINTS REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE (PARA 3)

16. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 2002 (circulated) from the Social Work Complaints Review Sub-Committee which invited Members to consider a report from the Sub-Committee on its findings and recommendations following a Hearing held on Thursday 25 July 2002.

It was agreed:

- (i) not to uphold any of the eight heads of complaint which were the subject of this referral and which were set out in paragraphs 6.1 to 6.8 of the report;
- (ii) that, in terms of the fourth head of complaint as set out in paragraph 6.4 of the report, in the light of further information submitted by the complainer after the conclusion of the Hearing held on 25 July 2002, this matter be fully considered by the Department of Educational and Social Services and an appropriate response issued to the complainer within 28 days of the Social Work Committee's decision on this matter; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1040 hrs.