

# EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 3 APRIL 2001

### FURTHER EDUCATION BURSARIES

#### Report by Director of Educational & Social Services

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the agreement on proposed allowances and contribution scales in respect of Further Education Bursaries for 2001 / 2002.

#### 2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Section 49 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and the Education Authorities Bursaries (Scotland) Regulations 1995 provide local authorities with the discretionary power to award Further Education and Higher School Bursaries. The implementation of the Educational Maintenance Allowances pilot scheme replaces this scheme for school pupils and the majority of Further Education students previously funded by the Bursary Scheme.
- 2.2 Under current arrangements, East Ayrshire Council provides Further Education Bursaries to students attending colleges of Further Education if outside the criteria of the pilot scheme for Educational Maintenance Allowances (EMA) and those places funded directly by the SEED.

#### 3. PROPOSED LEVELS OF AWARD FOR 2001/2002

- 3.1 Guidance from COSLA from 1999 indicated that any recommendations for amendments to the existing bursary policy or levels of award are a matter to be determined by individual Councils. This guidance still prevails.
- 3.2 Allowances are based upon the age and domicile of the students and the contribution scales are based upon household income. A further allowance may be payable in respect of dependent children.

#### 4. ALLOWANCES AND CONTRIBUTION SCALES

- 4.1 The allowances and contribution scales currently operated by East Ayrshire Council are as follows:

- |                              |                         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • under 18 at home           | £18.60                  |
| • under 18 away from home    | £62.35                  |
| • over 18 at home            | £45.20                  |
| • over 18 away from home     | £62.35                  |
| • dependent spouse           | £36.15                  |
| • dependent child            | £8.70                   |
| • two homes                  | £12.85                  |
| • students contribution      | (un-earned income £880) |
| • students contribution      | (earned income £3,220)  |
| • parental contribution      | (under 18) £9,666       |
| • dependents child allowance | £155                    |

- parental contribution (over 18) £17,210
- spouse contribution £10,350

East Ayrshire Council operates an additional contribution scale in respect of flexible learning students, such as those attending the Open University. For this the trigger level is £10,089.

**4.2** It is proposed that the allowances and contribution scales remain unaltered for 2001/2002.

## **5. ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR HIGHER SCHOOL STUDENTS**

**5.1** Applications may be considered from higher school students for additional resources in respect of materials and specialist equipment for courses of study. Each individual application may be considered for a further grant up to £50.00.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**6.1** There is financial provision within the Education budget for bursary grants.

## **7. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

**7.1** Nil

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**8.1** It is recommended that Members of the Education Committee:

- (i) agree that allowances and contribution scales for 2001/2002 in respect of Further Education Bursaries should be maintained at the current rate.

John Mulgrew  
Director of Educational & Social Services

AYMcD/JBS  
12 March 2001

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. East Ayrshire Council Policy on Higher School and Further Education Bursaries.
2. Education (Scotland) Act 1980.
3. Education Authorities Bursaries (Scotland) Regulations 1995.
4. COSLA Education Authority Bursaries, Session 1999/2000 – Guidance Notes.

Members wishing further information should contact Allan Y McDougall, Head of Resource Support, at 01563) 576090.

**AGENDA**