

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 19 SEPTEMBER 2000

MONITORING PROCEDURE FOR INDEPENDENT DAY AND RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Report by the Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1** This paper seeks Members' approval for the monitoring procedure for independent day and residential schools used by East Ayrshire Council for pupils with social and emotional difficulties and pupils with recorded special educational needs.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** East Ayrshire Council currently has around 57 pupils attending independent day and residential schools.
- 2.2** It is necessary, therefore, to ensure that these schools provide education and care services which meet the requirements of East Ayrshire Council and that all Health and Safety legislation, including requirements within the Cullen Report on school security, is fully observed.

3. CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1** Each day and residential school accessed by the Council should meet the requirements stated in East Ayrshire Council's Quality Service Specification for Providers, a copy of which is attached.
- 3.2** The proposed monitoring procedures have been developed in co-operation with Social Services. Any residential provision must also conform to East Ayrshire Council's Residential Care Service Specification in meeting the care and welfare needs of pupils, a process which is overseen by officers of Social Services on behalf of the Council.
- 3.3** Educational and Social Services will appoint an officer to carry out an inspection of educational establishments accessed by the Council. A partnership with the other Ayrshire Councils is being explored with a view to each Council assuming responsibility for monitoring establishments within its own area and sharing the results of such inspections.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1** There are no new financial commitments arising from the implementation of these procedures.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 It is recommended that Members:

- (i) approve the monitoring procedure for independent day and residential schools; and
- (ii) remit this paper for information to the Community Services Committee.

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational and Social Services

GS/DL
5 July 2000

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Day and Residential Special Schools: Quality Service Specification for Providers', East Ayrshire Council 1999.
2. Monitoring Procedure for Independent Day and Residential Schools', East Ayrshire Council 2000.

Implementation Officer : Graham Short

AGENDA