

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**  
**KILMARNOCK NORTH LOCAL COMMITTEE – 16 SEPTEMBER 2003**  
**PROGRESS REPORT ON COMMUNITY LEARNING PLAN**

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

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the Local Committee of the progress made in relation to the Kilmarnock North Community Learning Plan.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The requirement to develop a Community Learning Strategy for each Scottish Local Authority Area was set out in the Scottish Executive Circular 4/99. The development of the strategy was led by the Educational and Social Services in consultation with other council departments and agencies who deliver services to learners within the Local Authority. East Ayrshire's Community Learning Strategy 2000-2003 was approved by the Policy & Resources Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2000.
- 2.2 The Community Learning Strategy required that all partners would identify their commitment to the development of community based learning. Community Learning Plans detail how the Community Learning Strategy will translate into meaningful local action.
- 2.3 The Scottish Executive circular 4/99 also required Local Authorities to identify pilot areas within their boundaries for the production of Community Learning Plans. Kilmarnock North was identified as one of the pilot areas within East Ayrshire Council.
- 2.4 With leadership from Community Learning and Development, a Community Learning Plan group consisting of a number of council departments, agencies and community groups was set in the local Kilmarnock North area in May 2000.
- 2.5 Progress of this group was last reported to this Local Committee in February 2002.
- 3. KILMARNOCK NORTH PILOT COMMUNITY LEARNING PLAN**
- 3.1 Kilmarnock North Community Learning Plan was published in October 2001, relating to the period May 2000 – June 2002.

**3.2** In developing the Kilmarnock North Community Learning Plan, four objectives were identified. These were:

- Making information about learning available to young people and adults
- Developing reading and writing skills with people of all ages
- Making computers and their uses accessible to everyone
- Improving knowledge about health matters.

**3.3** The pilot period has now ended and a progress report has been produced. This document details how partners met their objectives.

**3.4** In April/May 2002 HMIE visited the Authority with regard to inspecting standards and quality in Community Learning and Development in North Kilmarnock. The Kilmarnock North Community Learning Plan received positive comments when the report was published in September 2002. Nationally, HMIE have referred to the Kilmarnock North Community Learning Plan as an example of good practice.

#### **4. KILMARNOCK NORTH COMMUNITY LEARNING PLAN**

**4.1** In December 2001, the Community Learning Partnership agreed to extend the Community Learning Plan process relating to the boundaries of Local Committees. As a result, Kilmarnock North area was identified for development of a Community Learning Plan.

**4.2** In the development of this Community Learning Plan the existing group was expanded to include new projects taking account of the area.

**4.3** Three Community consultation events were organised and two Community questionnaires were circulated to identify the learning opportunities that local people wanted in their area.

**4.4** The Community Learning Planning Group continues to meet regularly and are about to publish the Kilmarnock North Community Learning Plan, which will cover the period 2002 – 2005.

#### **5. FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**

**5.1** Financial commitments relating to the production of this Community Learning Plan and progress report have been met from existing resources of Partners and through East Ayrshire Community Learning Partnership.

#### **6. POLICY REQUIREMENTS**

**6.1** Support for the development of Community Learning Plans is compatible with the Community Plan, the Council Plan and the promotion of social inclusion.

#### **7. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

**7.1** Nil

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

- (i) Comment on the progress that has been made in establishing Community Learning Plans in Kilmarnock North,
- (ii) Otherwise note the contents of this report.

John Mulgrew  
Director of Educational & Social Services  
15 August 2003

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Scottish Executive Circular 4/99
2. East Ayrshire Council's Community Learning Strategy 2000-2003
3. East Ayrshire – The Community Learning Plan
4. Kilmarnock North Community Learning Plan – pilot plan
5. Kilmarnock North Community Learning Plan – progress report

Members wishing further info should contact -  
Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support, (01563) 576104, or  
Anne Jackson, Principal Officer (Communities), (01563) 576126 or  
Margaret MacBain, Team Leader, (01563) 572757.