

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **BEST VALUE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

#### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11 OCTOBER 2000 AT 0907 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Drew McIntyre, Finlay MacLean, Daniel Coffey, Douglas Reid, Jane Darnbrough, Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly and Tommy Farrell.

**ATTENDING:** Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources; Douglas Campbell, Head of Corporate Development and Communication; John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services; Graham Short, Head of Schools; Joe Cassidy, Policy Manager, Homes and Technical Services; Carol Foote, Principal Officer, Corporate Resources; Jacqueline Martin, Principal Officer (Support), Community Services; Donal Flannery, Service Unit Manager (Educational and Social Services); Melvin Griffin, External Funding Officer; and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Harry Wilson and Provost James Boyd.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Drew McIntyre; Councillor Eric Jackson from Item 3 onwards.

#### **CHAIRS REMARKS**

1. The Chair welcomed Melvin Griffin, External Funding Support Officer and wished him success in his new post.

#### **EAST AYRSHIRE RESIDENTS SURVEY**

2. The Sub-Committee received a presentation by the Head of Corporate Development and Communication which provided an analysis of the East Ayrshire Residents Survey which was commissioned by the Council as part of its Best Value Action Plan.

Following the presentation, the Head of Corporate Development and Communication answered questions from Members.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to request that the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources co-ordinate a response from all Directors and compile an action plan to respond to the service issues identified by the survey;
- (ii) to request the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources submit an executive summary report of the results together with the action plan referred to in paragraph (i) above to a future meeting of this Sub-Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the details of the presentation.

Councillor Douglas Reid left the meeting and Councillor Jimmy Kelly joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

**BEST VALUE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT - NEXT STEPS - RESPONSE TO  
SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

3. There was submitted a report dated 29 September 2000 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which summarised the Scottish Executive consultation document on the next steps on delivering Best Value in local government and requested approval of the Council's response to the consultation document.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the provisional response to the Scottish Executive on the consultation document as detailed within the report as the Council's response; and
- (ii) otherwise, note the contents of the report.

Councillor McIntyre left the meeting at this point.

**ACCOUNTS COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND - LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1992  
- CONSULTATION ON THE 2000 DIRECTION**

4. There was submitted a report dated 27 September 2000 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which advised of a consultation paper issued by the Accounts Commission containing proposals for its 2000 Direction and requested approval of the Council's response to the consultation document.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve submission of the proposed comments on the 2000 Direction to the Accounts Commission as the Council's response to the proposals; and
- (ii) otherwise, note the contents of the report.

**SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

5. There was submitted a report dated 3 October 2000 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which sought agreement for the submission of the key performance indicators information to the Accounts Commission on behalf of the Scottish Executive.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the submission to the Accounts Commission of the performance information as detailed within the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, note the contents of the report.

**BEST VALUE REVIEW - SOCIAL WORK SERVICES IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
SYSTEM**

6. There was submitted a report dated 3 October 2000 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which requested the Sub-Committee to note (a) the completion of the Best Value Review of Social Work Services in the Criminal Justice System; and (b) the Service Improvement Action Plan resulting from the review as endorsed by the Service Review/Member Officer Working Group.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the completion of the Service Review of Social Work Services in the Criminal Justice System;
- (ii) to note the actions contained within the Service Improvement Action Plan as endorsed by the Member/Officer Working Group;
- (iii) to note that the review and its outcomes were reported by the Director of Educational and Social Services at the Social Work Committee at its meeting on 14 September 2000; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

### **QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN EDUCATION**

**7.1** There was submitted a report dated 25 August 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which informed members of the introduction of a national framework for the evaluation of education authorities and which sought approval for the use of this framework within arrangements for Best Value.

**7.2** There was submitted a report dated 9 October 2000 (circulated) by the Head of Corporate Development and Communication which identified the issues that the Best Value Sub-Committee would wish to address in its consideration of the Quality in Management in Education system, as remitted to the Sub-Committee by the Education Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the use of the quality management in the education sector performance indicators as detailed within the report;
- (ii) to note the potential for the use of Quality Management in the Education system within the Council's arrangements for Best Value;
- (iii) to request that the Director of Corporate Resources and Director of Educational and Social Services provide a further detailed report on the links between Quality Management in Education systems and the Council's arrangements for Best Value; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1025 hours.

**AGENDA**