

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 27TH NOVEMBER 2003

THE SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRAMME

Joint Report by the Director of Homes and Technical Services and the Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To bring to the attention of members the current funding commitments being met from Supporting People Grant and associated expenditure.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Previous reports to members have detailed the policy background to the Supporting People Programme together with the funding being made available to the Council.

3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 The Scottish Executive published further guidance on 13th October, requiring local authorities to complete and return a comprehensive set of data sheets by 30th November. The information provided will supplement the Councils Supporting People Strategy Plan which was approved by the Housing and Social Work Committees of the Council in March 2003.
- 3.2 The data sheets cover services broken down to twenty different client groups and across all types of service provider. Completion of the data sheets has required considerable research to meet the Scottish Executive's requirement that we report the expenditure committed from other budgets to provide funding for care packages where Supporting People Grant is also involved. Copies of the completed data sheets have been placed in the members lounge for information.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE GENERAL FUND

- 4.1 A revised final Supporting People Grant Claim was submitted to the Scottish Executive seeking payment of £6.03M. Notification of the final offer of Supporting People Grant is awaited and will be reported to members on receipt. It has previously been reported to Committee that a 5% contribution to Supporting People Grant funding needs to be found from the Council's own resources for that element of Supporting People Grant that stems from Transitional Housing Benefit. Agreement has been reached between service departments on how this is to be done.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

- 5.1 The 5% contribution to the cost of Supporting People Grant funding for the Tenancy Support Team and our Homeless Hostel Warden Service would be provided from the Housing Revenue Account. This 5% contribution would total £61,288 for the current year. This is in addition to the previously reported need to fund the cost of services to protected tenants, who are existing East Ayrshire Council tenants getting Supporting People Grant funded services and who do not get Housing Benefit.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no policy implications arising from this report

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the contents of this report.

James Lavery
Director of Homes & Technical Services

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational & Social Ser.

10th November 2003

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Housing Committee Reports on 28 Mar 2001, 23 May 2001, 12 Sep 2001, 11 Sep 2002, 6 Nov 2002, 29 Jan 2003, 26 Mar 2003, 26 Mar 2003(Plan), 3 Sep 2003, 5 Nov 2003.

Social Work Committee Reports on 29 Mar 2001, 13 Sep 2001, 12 Sep 2002, 7 Nov 2002, 30 Jan 2003, 27 Mar 2003 27 Mar 2003 (Plan), 11 Sep 2003, 6 Nov 2003.

For further information please contact Geoff Crow, Senior Supporting People Officer telephone: 01563 554832.

Implementation Officer: Chris McAleavey, Head of Homes