

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE : 24 MAY 2001

HEALTH IMPROVEMENT FUND

Report by Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To advise Committee of the department's positive achievement in securing funding via the Health Improvement Fund, which will develop healthy living opportunities for people with learning disabilities across Ayrshire.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Scottish Executive review of services to people with learning disabilities "The Same As you" was reported to Social Work Committee on 9 November 2000 (Item 12, Page 1370) and to Policy and Resources Committee on 5 October 2000 (Item 19, Page 1294). This document sets out the direction for improving and developing services for people with learning disabilities and their families/carers, including health services.

- 2.2 In September 2000, the Scottish Executive advised health boards in Scotland of the creation of a Health Improvement Fund, using the revenues accruing from high tobacco taxation. The aim of the fund is to improve Scotland's health through investment in new work within the following priority areas : -

- i) Promoting the well being of children;
- ii) Improving the diet of children;
- iii) Improving the sexual health of young people;
- iv) Improving lifestyles.

- 2.3 A total of £3.512 million was made available to Ayrshire and Arran Health Board for the four year period 2000 – 2001 to 2003 – 2004. A breakdown of this expenditure can be made available to Elected Members.

- 2.4 Ayrshire and Arran Health Board convened a workshop on 30 January 2001 for all interested stakeholders to advise of the process for making application to the fund. subsequently, stakeholders were invited to submit detailed proposals by 15 February 2001.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 A proposal was submitted by East Ayrshire Council, developed in partnership with Ayrshire and Arran Primary Care Trust. A range of interested stakeholders were also involved and consulted in developing the proposal.

- 3.2 This proposal aims to support young people and adults with learning disabilities by creating a team which will : -
- i) raise awareness of the needs of people with learning disabilities to ensure effective health screening.
 - ii) work with young people with learning disabilities to improve their understanding of healthy living, sexual health and positive mental health.
 - iii) provide training to people with learning disabilities and other stakeholders to increase understanding of positive health.
 - iv) Work closely with health, education, social work and other professionals during the key transition period when children with disabilities leave school and enter adult services. This aspect of the work will be reflected in an implementation plan which we intend to develop alongside this group of service users and their families.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 A prioritisation day was convened by Ayrshire and Arran Health Board to consider the range of proposals made, at which the Council was represented by the Depute Chief Executive.
- 4.2 The Healthy Living Initiative outlined in this report was prioritised, and East Ayrshire Council was asked to liase with North Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council to develop the service on an Ayrshire wide basis. This has subsequently been agreed, and following approval by Ayrshire and Arran Health at the Board Meeting on 29 March 2001, funding of £430,000 over a three-year period has been awarded.
- 4.3 East Ayrshire Council will claim the funding on behalf of the Ayrshire local authorities, and will take a lead role in co-ordinating this new initiative. Negotiations are still taking place with Ayrshire and Arran Health Board about the phasing of the funding, however, it is anticipated that the project will be based in East Ayrshire with each of the local authority areas having a dedicated project worker.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The proposals reflect national and local policy objectives in developing services for people with learning disabilities.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The proposal outlines the following staffing arrangements:

POST	GRADE	SALARY SCALE	SALARY MIDPOINT	NUMBER OF POSTS	COST	TOTAL COST
Project Co-ordinator	AP4/5	£18,378 - £22,959	£20,669	1	£20,669	£24,699
Project Workers	AP1/2	£13,164 - £15,717	£14,441	3	£43,323	£51,987
Clerical Assistants	GS3	£12,624 - £13,164	£12,894	1	£12,894	£15,408

TOTAL **£92,094**
+19.5%
Oncosts £10,000
£102,094

7.2 The funding from Ayrshire and Arran Health Board will be made available over a three year period, and therefore these posts will be filled on a temporary basis, and subject to review in the final year of funding. It is not possible to make the posts permanent given the temporary nature of funding, although secondments from health or the local authorities could be considered.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is recommended that Social Work Committee : -

- i) agrees the proposals set out in the report and refers the staffing implications to the Personnel and Property Sub Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration;
- ii) requests the Director of Finance to allocate the additional monies to the Health Board account of the Social Work budget when finally determined; and
- iii) otherwise note the contents of this report

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational and Social Services
18 April 2001
Enc (0)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. The Same as You?: A Review of Services for People with Learning Disabilities (Scottish Executive, 2000)

2. Letter from Scottish Executive to Chief Executive, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board dated 7 September 2000 advising of the creation of the Health Improvement Fund.
3. Healthy Living Initiative: Health Improvement Fund Application by East Ayrshire Council (February 2001)

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AGENDA