

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21 MARCH 2000 AT 1000 HOURS
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Jane Darnbrough, Brian McNeil, Stephanie Young, Jim Raymond, Daniel Coffey, Robert Stevenson, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, Alex Walsh, Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly, Julie Faulds, Robert Taylor and Jimmy Carmichael.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor John Knapp.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work; Bernadette Docherty, Senior Depute Director of Social Work; Allan Y McDougall, Depute Director of Social Work; Kate McVey, Solicitor to the Council; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; David Morgan, Public Relations Officer; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Susan Taylor and Martin Clark, Service Unit Managers; Melanie Barbour, Solicitor; and Melanie Macleod, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Ann Hay, David Macrae, Iain Linton, Tommy Farrell and William Menzies.

CHAIR: Councillor Jane Darnbrough, Chair.

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. There was submitted and approved, both as a correct record and in respect of any recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Minutes (circulated) as contained in the Appendix to these Minutes.

1.1 SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE OF 11 FEBRUARY 2000

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - SOCIAL WORK TO 14
JANUARY 2000 (PERIOD 10)**

2. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 1 March 2000 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance and of Social Work on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the Social Work Department for the period ended 14 January 2000 (Period 10).

CAPITAL PLAN 2000/2001

3. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which recommended the Capital Plan allocation for the Social Work Department in 2000/2001 and the implied commitment for the two subsequent years.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed Capital Plan outlined in Section 3 of the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work report to the Committee on the progress of the implementation of the Capital Plan on a regular basis; and

- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL SOCIAL WORK CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES

4. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which sought approval for the Council's Social Work Child Protection procedures.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Child Protection Procedures for East Ayrshire Council Social Work Service; and
- (ii) that the Child Protection Procedures document be circulated, for information, to libraries within East Ayrshire and to the Clerk of the Peace for circulation to appropriate Justices; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FOR ADULTS WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY (Item 2, Page 411 1999/02)

5. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on proposals to develop a range of community-based accommodation and support options for adults with a learning disability.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the approach outlined in Section 4 of the report in respect of the development of community-based services for adults with a learning disability to facilitate the hospital reprovion programme;
- (ii) to approve the proposal outlined in Section 5 of the report in respect of the provision of support to four individuals with learning disabilities by Hansel Alliance within the individual tenancies provided by Horizon Housing Association;
- (iii) that the Director of Finance incorporate the additional funding of £105,200 detailed in Section 6.2 of the report in the Social Work Department's Revenue Budget for 2000/2001 within the Health Board Revenue Account; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

INSPECTION UNIT ANNUAL REPORT 1998/99

6. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the requirement for the publication of an Annual Report of the work of the Social Work Inspection Unit and which sought approval for the Annual Report of the Inspection Unit for 1998/99.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Social Work Department Inspection Unit Annual Report for 1998/99;
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work circulate the Annual Report to organisations and groups with a relevant interest and make appropriate arrangements for publicity; and

- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**REGULATING CARE AND THE SOCIAL SERVICES WORKFORCE - A
CONSULTATION PAPER (Item 2, Page 99 1999/02)**

7. There was submitted a joint report dated 14 March 2000 (circulated) by the Directors of Social Work and of Education on draft comments on a consultation paper published to the Scottish Executive on "Regulating Care and the Social Services Workforce".

It was agreed to approve the draft comments made to the Scottish Executive in respect of the document "Regulating Care and the Social Services Workforce".

SOCIAL DAY CARE IN MUIRKIRK AND NEW CUMNOCK

8. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which sought approval for the development of social day care for older people in Muirkirk and New Cumnock and the referral to the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee of staffing proposals.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposals detailed in Section 3 of the report;
- (ii) to note the funding arrangements set out in report and agree that the Director of Finance incorporate the additional funding in the Social Work Revenue Budget 2000/2001 from 1 July 2000 within the Health Board Revenue Account;
- (iii) to refer the staffing proposals as outlined in Section 4 of the report to the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee, for consideration; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

SOCIAL WORK STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 1998/99

9. There was submitted and noted report dated 23 February 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the information contained in the Accounts Commission Publication "Comparing the Performance of Scottish Councils - Social Work 1998/99" with particular reference to East Ayrshire.

**"LOST IN CARE" REPORT OF THE TRIBUNAL OF INQUIRY INTO THE ABUSE
OF CHILDREN IN CARE IN WALES**

10. There was submitted and noted a report dated 14 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the conclusions and recommendations of the report "Lost in Care" and on action already taken within East Ayrshire in relation to Children's Services.

**DISPOSAL OF TWO HOUSES AT THE GLEBE CENTRE, KILMARNOCK (Item 19,
Page 552 1999/02)**

11. There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which sought approval for the disposal of two houses at the Glebe Centre, Kilmarnock.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the houses be declared surplus to departmental requirements;
- (ii) that the matter be referred to the Director of Development Services for further action; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

REALLOCATION OF OFFICE AT BARRHILL ROAD SITE, CUMNOCK

- 12.** There was submitted a report dated 14 March 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which sought approval to acquire the use of part of the offices at Barrhill Road, Cumnock as operational premises for the Criminal Justice Service Unit.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the acquisition of part of the offices at Barrhill Road, Cumnock as operational premises for the Criminal Justice Service Unit;
- (ii) that the matter be referred to the Director of Development Services for action; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

- 13.** The Committee resolved that, under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

REPORT ON THE DEATH OF A TENANT IN LONGPARK HOSTEL

- 14.** There was submitted a report and executive summary dated 10 March 2000 (circulated) by the Solicitor to the Council on the findings of an investigation into the death of tenant and which provided recommendations in relation to the management and operation of Longpark Hostel.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that, in the light of the findings of the investigation, it be remitted to the Directors of Social Work and of Homes and Technical Services to carry out a review to examine the following areas, viz:-
 - (a) the Allocation and Housing Policy at Longpark Hostel, including the provision of a suitable warden/caretaker service and the monitoring/supervision arrangements;
 - (b) the potential requirements for Social Work Services provision for tenants of Longpark Hostel;
 - (c) the possibility of extending/enhancing the use of the Community Alarm service for Hostels; and
- (ii) that a similar review, as required, be carried out for the other Hostels in Council ownership;

- (iii) that the Directors of Social Work and of Homes and Technical Services submit a report to the next meeting of the Committee on the outcome of the review process;
- (iv) that the Executive Summary to the report be made available for public information; and
- (v) otherwise to note the content of the report.

Councillor Raymond left the meeting during discussion of this item.

The meeting terminated at 1136 hours.