

APPENDIX

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2000 AT 1415 HOURS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LUGAR

PRESENT: Councillor Jane Darnbrough; Private Sector Representatives Lindsay Stirratt and Maureen Morris; Voluntary Sector Representatives Archie Henderson and George Nutman; and User/Carer Representatives Babs Gallacher, Moira Young and Winnie Campbell.

ATTENDING: Bernadette Docherty, Senior Director of Social Work; Bill Duncan, Head of Inspection, Registration and Complaints; and Melanie Macleod, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillor John Weir and David Macrae; and User/Carer Representatives Maria Brady, Mamie Quinn, Norah McCabe, Peter Neely, and Allan Faulds.

CHAIR: Councillor Jane Darnbrough, Interim Chair.

MEMBERSHIP AND CHAIRING OF THE SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. There was submitted a report dated 31 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which provided information on membership arrangements in respect of the Committee, the appointment of new Members and arrangements for the future chairing of the Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the appointment of User/Carer Representative Winnie Campbell to the Committee following the resignation of User/Carer Representative Amy Kinnaird;
- (ii) to note that the period of appointment of current members of the Social Work Inspection Unit Advisory Committee had been extended to May 2002;
- (iii) to recommend the appointment, on an interim basis, of Councillor Jane Darnbrough as Chair of the Social Work Inspection Unit Advisory Committee; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

2. The Chair, at her discretion and in terms of Standing Order 15.1, agreed to alter the order of business and consider Item 5 on the Agenda after consideration of Agenda Item 2.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3. There were submitted for information and noted, the Minutes of the Social Work Inspection Unit Advisory Committee of the Social Work Committee of 25 June 1999 (circulated).

WHITE PAPER "AIMING FOR EXCELLENCE"

4. There was submitted a report dated 7 January 2000 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on progress on the implementation of the White Paper "Aiming for Excellence".

It was agreed:-

- (i) that it be remitted to the Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Chair to respond to the Consultation Paper on behalf of the Committee in the following terms:-
 - (a) that the view be expressed that two, rather than one, be the minimum number of annual inspections carried out under the proposed arrangements;
 - (b) that the importance of retaining local accountability, including the role of current Advisory Committees, be emphasised;
 - (c) that inspections be carried out by a minimum of two inspectors;
 - (d) that good practice and the experience of local inspectors should be retained;
 - (e) that the proposed body be accessible to the general public;
 - (f) that the Committee's concerns regarding the length of the proposed implementation timetable be noted;
 - (g) that National Standards, while a positive development, should be devolved to local level;
 - (h) that the Committee's concerns regarding the likely impact of the proposals on the cost to units of inspection fees, be noted; and
 - (i) that staff consultation be highlighted as an important consideration in the course of implementing proposals; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

LIAISON BETWEEN LOCAL AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES ON INSPECTION - WEST OF SCOTLAND

5. The Committee heard a verbal report on the outcome of a meeting arranged by East Renfrewshire Council between Members of Advisory Committees in the West of Scotland and Mr Roddy Macdonald of the Community Care Division of the Scottish Executive held on 3 February 2000.

It was noted that, among the concerns expressed by Advisory Committees in attendance at the meeting, the following were emphasised, viz:- the relatively short consultation timetable, staffing considerations, the maintenance of local accountability in the light of the application of National Standards, proper

management of the transition period, the possible loss of good practice and the importance of the role of Advisory Committees.

ANNUAL REPORT 1998/99

6. There was submitted a draft Annual Report (circulated) by the Director of Social Work for consideration.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that it be remitted to the Director of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Chair, to summarise the views expressed by the members of the Advisory Committee on its work over the past year and future role, for inclusion in the Annual Report; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

INSPECTION REPORTS

7. There were submitted and, unless otherwise stated, noted various reports (circulated) by the Director of Social Work as detailed in respect of inspections undertaken at the undernoted premises:-

- 7.1 **BALMORAL ROAD CENTRE, KILMARNOCK** - Inspection dated 4 March 1999.
- 7.2 **BUTE HOUSE, CUMNOCK** - Inspection dated 30 April 1999.
- 7.3 **CARRICK VIEW, AUCHINLECK** - Inspection dated 18 May 1999.
- 7.4 **CATRINE ENABLE** - Inspection dated 11 May 1999.
- 7.5 **CESSNOCK GARDENS, HURLFORD** - Inspections dated 21 January 1999 and 10 March 1999.
- 7.6 **DALDORCH SCHOOL, CATRINE** - Inspections dated 22 and 23 June 1999.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that a presentation on the subject of autism and the work of Daldorch School would be made to a future information session of the Advisory Committee; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

- 7.7 **DEAN HOUSE, KILMARNOCK** - Inspection dated 13 May 1999.

Declaration of Interest

Moira Young and George Nutman declared an interest in the following item of business, left the meeting and took no part in the discussion.

- 7.8 **DUNSELMA, FENWICK** - Inspection dated 14 April 1999.
- 7.9 **GLEBE HOUSE, DALMELLINGTON** - Inspections dated 10 June and 14 June 1999.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Darnbrough declared a non-pecuniary interest in 7.10 below.

- 7.10 **HOWARD HOUSE, KILMARNOCK** - Inspection dated 8 January 1999.
- 7.11 **HURLFORD ENABLE** - Inspection dated 16 June 1999.
- 7.12 **HURLFORD RESOURCE CENTRE** - Inspection dated 25 November 1998.

- 7.13 **KNOWEVIEW, DALMELLINGTON** - Inspection dated 11 March 1999.
- 7.14 **KNOWEVIEW, DALMELLINGTON** - Inspections dated 1 July and 1 September 1999.
- 7.15 **ROSS COURT, GALSTON** - Inspection dated 13 April 1999.
- 7.16 **SPRINGHILL HOUSE, KILMARNOCK** - Inspection dated 1 March 1999.
It was also noted that the inspection had been carried out on a joint basis with Ayrshire and Arran Health Board.
- 7.17 **THORNTOUN LIMITED, CROSSHOUSE** - Inspection dated 27 April 1999.
- 7.18 **DOONBANK HOUSE, PATNA** - Inspection dated 24 February 1999.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

8.1 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed to note that members of the Advisory Committee would be advised of arrangements for the next meeting at an early date.

8.2 RESIGNATION OF AMY KINNAIRD

It was agreed that it be remitted to the Head of Inspection, Registration and Complaints to write to Amy Kinnaird on behalf of the Advisory Committee to convey the Committee's appreciation and thanks for her work as its Chair.

The meeting terminated at 1535 hours.