

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **SPECIAL POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

#### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 1996 AT 0930 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, LONDON ROAD CENTRE, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors David Sneller, Drew McIntyre, Irene Reeves, Wilma Doyle, Jane Darnbrough, Jim O'Neill, Kathleen Hall, Bob Beattie, Daniel Coffey, David Fulton, Kim Nicoll, Eric Ross, Jimmy Kelly, Jimmy Boyd, Tommy Farrell and Eric Jackson

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive, Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive, William Stafford, Director of Community Services, Stephen Chorley, Director of Development Services, James Dickie, Director of Social Work, Robert McLeary, Head of Property, Anne-Marie Carr, George Fraser, Margaret McManus and Ian Gemmell (Support Unit).

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Douglas Reid, Ronald Brailsford, Robert Stirling and George Turnbull.

**CHAIR:** Councillor David Sneller, Chair.

#### **1. MEMBER/OFFICER WORKING GROUPS - STRATEGY REPORT**

There was submitted a report dated 15 February 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive which requested the Committee to approve the appendices comprising Draft Strategy Statements prepared by Member/Officer Groups, and which proposed arrangements for the development of action plans and procedures for monitoring and evaluation.

The Chief Executive advised that the Member/Officer Working Groups which had been established on 24 August 1995 to examine and formulate strategy reports for East Ayrshire Council in relation to Economic Development, Social Support and Regeneration and the Environment had now prepared draft statements, reflecting as core values Quality, Equality, Access and Partnership had now prepared their finalised draft reports. The Chief Executive also advised that a continuous monitoring and evaluation process was required in relation to all of the strategy statements and that this responsibility could be allocated to local committees and service committees who would call for appropriate progress reports, to be submitted subsequently to the Policy and Resources Committee.

Having heard the Chief Executive, it was agreed:-

- (i) that the core values of quality, equality, access and partnership, underpinning all aspects of the operation of the Council and planning and delivery of services be endorsed;
- (ii) approve the Draft Strategy Statements prepared by the Member/Officer Groups subject to minor amendment as follows:

### **All Strategy Statements**

- Incorporate an introductory paragraph stating the reasons for the preparation and development of the Strategy Statement.

### **Social Strategy**

Page 3 - "Issues for Action" - amend this section to reflect the need to address rural and urban deprivation;

Substitute the word "powerlessness" for "empowerment";

Page 19 - Sub-section "People with Disabilities" - the Director of Social Work to amend paragraph 1 by deleting the reference to the 3% quota and substituting an appropriate form of words;

Page 20, sub heading "Black and Ethnic Minorities", re-phrase this section and provide a clear direction on how any problems in this area may be overcome;

Pages 26 and 27, amend the term "Area Committees" to "Local Committees";

Section 3, include Moscow and Waterside within the Northern Area Committee section and with regard to Kilmarnock North, include Ward 2.

### **Economic Strategy**

- Page 4, "Opportunities for Investment - Quality Infrastructure" -the Director of Development Services to review and revise this section, with particular reference to paragraph 14 picking up on the issues regarding the need for improved infrastructure and the development and promotion of the rail network in addition to various conservative type projects such as the Laigh Milton Viaduct;
- Page 5, conservation list to be amended to include Newmilns and Galston;
- Page 10, add in monitoring and evaluation section.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the monitoring and evaluation arrangements proposed for the Social Strategy and agree to the implementation of such arrangements for each one of the Council's corporate policies;
- (ii) that Local Committees be requested to make arrangements for wider consultation on the Council's corporate policies and to receive feedback on the continuing appropriateness of their individual aspects in the light of changing circumstances;
- (iii) that all Local and Service Committees, as part of a process of continuous monitoring and evaluation and annual review of the continuing relevance of the Council's Strategic Policies, report back to the Policy and Resources Committee at the end of the first year of operation of East Ayrshire Council in the April 1997 committee cycle;
- (iv) to receive at an early meeting of the Committee a draft Strategy Statement from the Member/Officer Group on Equal Opportunities; and
- (v) to request the Chief Executive to bring forward a report on quality - economy, efficiency and effectiveness to the next meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee.

**2. THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (PROPERTY TRANSFER) (SCOTLAND) ORDER 1995 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROPERTY COMMISSION (SCOTLAND) ORDER 1995**

There was submitted a report dated 14 February 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services advising on implications of the Property Order's timescale and providing an update on the current position regarding the disaggregation of the property of Strathclyde Regional Council.

Having heard the Head of Property and in answer to Members questions, it was agreed to note the contents of the report and approve the actions taken and proposed in respect of the Local Authorities (Property Transfer) (Scotland) Order 1995.

The meeting terminated at 1015 hours.