

APPENDIX I

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

**CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUB-COMMITTEE
OF THE SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 23 OCTOBER 1996
AT 1400 HRS IN THE MEETING ROOM. COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Jane Darnbrough, Drew McIntyre, Irene Reeves, Ronald Brailsford, Alan Campbell, Jim O'Neill, Kathleen Hall, Jimmy Boyd and Tommy Farrell.

ATTENDING: Bernadette Docherty, Senior Depute Director of Social Work; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Donal Flannery, Principal Officer (Criminal Justice); Lesley Gibson, Principal Officer (Children and Families); and Melanie Macleod, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGY: Councillor Gordon Cree.

CHAIR: Councillor Jane Darnbrough, Chair.

**SCOTTISH OFFICE CIRCULAR SWSG12/96: COMMUNITY SERVICE BY
OFFENDERS - PUBLIC AWARENESS, ENVIRONMENTAL WORK AND HOURS**

1. There was submitted a report dated 7 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on changes to Community Service proposed by the Scottish Office Circular SWSG12/96, its implications for East Ayrshire Community Service Scheme, and proposals for action.

The Sub-Committee heard a presentation by Donal Flannery on the background of the Community Service Scheme within East Ayrshire including details of the organisation of work placements; risk assessment; and the issue of supervision. It was noted that a synopsis of the presentation would be provided for information to all Elected Members.

It was agreed to approve the undernoted action in response to the proposals contained in the Scottish Office Circular SWSG12/96:-

- (i) to note the new legislation doubling minimum hours of Community Service from 40 to 80 hrs and the increase in the maximum hours from 240 to 300 hrs;
- (ii) to note that work placements should be physically demanding and that projects directed towards environmental improvement should be encouraged;
- (iii) to note that the nature and range of community service placements within East Ayrshire meet the Government's requirements;
- (iv) that, while large scale projects were viewed as a positive part of the placement strategy, the Council's first priority would be to ensure that services were provided to East Ayrshire communities and individuals;

- (v) to note the requirement to consult with Victim Support (Scotland) and East Ayrshire Social Work Community Services Scheme's additional commitment to liaise with local divisions of Victim Support;
- (vi) that East Ayrshire Social Work Community Service Scheme would pursue opportunities as they arose to promote positively the activities of the Scheme within the local media;
- (vii) that appropriate projects would be identified by signs bearing the Council's name and logo and the phrase "East Ayrshire Social Work Department Community Service Scheme - Serving the Community";
- (viii) that the requirement to have vehicles used by the Community Service Scheme marked as such would be met by the use of a temporary sign capable of being attached to the rear window of the vehicle providing the information referred to in (vii) above; and
- (ix) that the requirement that, where protective clothing was necessary, it was clearly and visibly marked with the wording "Community Service Scheme", would be met by the words "East Ayrshire Social Work Department Community Service Scheme" printed onto the breast pocket of overalls worn by offenders and supervising staff's protective clothing carrying the same wording, with the addition of the word "Supervisor".

"A SECURE REMEDY: A REVIEW OF THE ROLE, AVAILABILITY AND QUALITY OF SECURE ACCOMMODATION FOR CHILDREN IN SCOTLAND"

2. There was submitted a report dated 10 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the content of "A Secure Remedy: A Review of Secure Accommodation for Children in Scotland", compiled by the Social Work Services Inspectorate.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the Director of Social Work consult with the Director of Education on the recommendations contained within the above review document;
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work ensure these matters were addressed as part of the preparation of the Council's Children's Service Plan; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1445 hrs.