

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13 NOVEMBER 1997 AT 1000 HOURS, IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors James Boyd, Gordon Cree, Wilma Doyle, Ronald Brailsford, Jane Darnbrough, Jim O'Neill, Kathleen Hall, Daniel Coffey, David Macrae, Robert McDill, Eric Ross, David Sneller and John Smith.

ATTENDING: Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work; Bernadette Docherty, Senior Depute Director of Social Work; Mary Fegan, Depute Director of Social Work; Allan Y McDougall, Depute Director of Social Work; David Mitchell, Acting Head of Legal Services; Alex McPhee, Senior Accountant; Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer; Gwen Barker, Service Officer (Strategy and Information); Tom Harris, Public Relations Manager; Karen McLaughlin, Training Manager; Colin Hastings, Trainee Accountant; Melanie Macleod, Administrative Officer; and Christine Baillie, Administrative Assistant.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Drew McIntyre, Alan Campbell, Bob Beattie, Tommy Farrell and Eric Jackson.

CHAIR: Councillor Jimmy Boyd, Chair.

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. There were submitted and approved both as correct records and in respect of any recommendations contained therein the undernoted Minutes (circulated) as contained in Appendices I and II of these Minutes.
 - 1.1 **CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUB COMMITTEE OF 22 OCTOBER 1997** - Appendix I
 - 1.2 **COMMUNITY CARE SUB-COMMITTEE OF 24 OCTOBER 1997** - Appendix II.

BEST VALUE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - MEMBERSHIP (Item 3.1.19, Page 2664)

2. As agreed at the Council meeting held on 6 November 1997, the Committee considered the appointment of a named representative from the Committee, together with a named substitute, to serve on the Best Value Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee.

It was agreed that the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Social Work Committee be appointed as the Social Work Committee's named representative and nominated substitute respectively on the Best Value Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee and that the Director of Support Services be advised accordingly.

**1997/98 BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - SOCIAL WORK
(PERIOD 7)**

3. There was submitted and noted a report dated 30 October 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Finance on the current budgetary control position and the projected outturn for the year for the Social Work Department for the Period ended 10 October 1997 (Period 7)

COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN - UPDATE ON PROGRESS

4. There was submitted a report dated 7 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on progress made on overtaking the targets in East Ayrshire Council's corporate plan.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the Director of Social Work submit further reports to the Committee in due course on progress in relation to the Corporate Plan;
- (ii) that the report be remitted to the Policy and Resources Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Sneller joined the meeting during discussion of the above item.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 5 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the completion of the Social Work Annual Training Programme which gave advice on the planned completion of a Social Work Training Plan.

URBAN PROGRAMME (Item 4, Page 2543)

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 5 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on three voluntary urban programme projects supervised by the Social Work Department and which gave advice of the projects' progress in meeting their identified aims and objectives.

It was agreed:

- (i) that it be remitted to the Director of Social Work to submit urban programme reports for consideration at the next cycle of meetings of the relevant Local Committees;
- (ii) that it be remitted to the Director of Social Work to report to the Committee on an annual basis in respect of Urban Programme Projects; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**CRITICAL ISSUES FOR SOCIAL WORK IN THE NEW MILLENIUM - PAPER BY
THE ASSOCIATION OF DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL WORK**

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 3 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the contents of a paper produced by the Association of Directors of Social Work (ADSW) entitled "Social Work into the Millenium (SWIM)".

It was agreed:

- (i) to endorse the comments made by the Chief Executive to the Social Affairs Forum of CoSLA in respect of the paper by the Association of Directors of Social Work on "Social Work into the Millenium (SWIM)"; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

AYRSHIRE MAJOR INCIDENTS SUPPORT AND COUNSELLING PROVISION

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 4 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the joint arrangements made by the three Ayrshire Local Authorities and the Community Health Care Trust to provide a support and counselling service in the event of a major emergency.

ABSENCE MANAGEMENT REPORT 1996/97 AND PART YEAR 1997/98

9. There was submitted a report dated 4 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the absence rates for Social Work employees in the financial year 1996/97 and in the two quarters to date in 1997/98 and which made recommendations on the supplementary absence management system to be adopted by the Department.

Having noted that, in the table at Item 3.2 of the report, the percentage in respect of medically certified absences for Manual Workers should read 9.29%, it was agreed:

- (i) to note the absence rates contained within the report;
- (ii) to approve the supplementary departmental procedure outlined in paragraph 4 of the report;
- (iii) that the Director of Social Work report on absence rates and absence management to the Social Work Committee on a quarterly basis, including details of any observed trends in respect of geographical areas;
- (iv) that the Director of Social Work conduct discussions with the relevant Trade Unions in respect of this matter; and
- (v) otherwise to note the content of the report.

AWARDING OF TENDERS

10. There was submitted and noted a report dated 10 November 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services which provided for information details of tenders awarded as follows:-

<u>CONTRACT</u>	<u>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Supply and delivery of 5 Minibuses	Arnold Clark, Kilmarnock	£110,460.00
Supply and delivery of 2 Welfare buses	Kerr & Smith, Cumnock	£91,238.00

The meeting terminated at 1143 hours