

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**POLICY & RESOURCES (DECENTRALISATION) SUB-COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18 JANUARY 1996 AT 1000 HRS
IN THE MEETING ROOM, LONDON ROAD CENTRE, KILMARNOCK**

- PRESENT:** Councillors David Fulton (Chair), Andrew McIntyre, Wilma Doyle, Ronald Brailsford, Jane Darnbrough, Kathleen Hall, Robert Beattie, Kim Nicoll, James Kelly, David Sneller and Eric Jackson.
- ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Barbara Haughan, Director of Support Services; Douglas Campbell, Head of Public Relations and Marketing; James Lally, Support Unit.
- APOLOGY** Councillor Tommy Farrell

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT - PUTTING THE COMMUNITY FIRST

1. There was submitted a report dated 10 January 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive requesting the approval of the consultation document, Putting the Community First, and recommending the arrangements for the consultation process.

It was agreed:

- (i) that in Section 6.2 of the consultation document Waterside be included within the boundary of the Northern Area Local Committee;
- (ii) otherwise to approve the terms of the consultation document, Putting the Community First, on the basis that it be used as a consultation document inviting comments and views on the Council's proposals for its preliminary decentralisation scheme in year one;
- (iii) that the document be circulated to all Community Councils and to community and voluntary organisations with an invitation that they submit any views or comments they may have by 29 February 1996;
- (iv) that the document be made available from existing District and Regional Council offices and libraries within the boundary of East Ayrshire and from East Ayrshire Council's office at London Road;
- (v) to note that special arrangements would be made to have the document recorded on tape for those who are visually impaired;

- (vi) to note that a reply slip would be included with the document to assist the consultation process; and
- (vii) that the closing date for responses should be 29 February 1996 and that a report on the outcome of the consultation process be submitted to the meeting of the Sub-Committee to be held on 5 March 1996.

Councillors Hall and Brailsford joined the meeting during discussion of the above item prior to a decision being taken.

Councillor Sneller left the meeting during discussion of the above item, prior to a decision being taken.

Councillors Nicoll and Brailsford left the meeting at this point.

COMMUNITY FIRST SURVEY: UPDATE

2. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services containing the initial results of the Community First survey undertaken in December 1995.

It was agreed to note the report and that a final report on the survey containing a much greater level of detail on its findings would be submitted to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

INFORMATION AND ADVICE SERVICES: PUBLIC ACCESS OFFICES

3. There was submitted a report dated 10 January 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive highlighting those communities where, following 1 April 1996, local Council offices would progressively become available, delivering an extended service. In addition the report proposed that in respect of those communities where there was not currently any level of provision, the Sub-Committee undertake, in due course, a programme of local visits and examinations with the appropriate local Member and involving local consultation, to determine how information and advice services might best be delivered.

It was agreed that:

- (i) the approach as detailed in the report, for those communities where there was not currently any level of provision, be implemented in respect of the future prioritisation of information and advice services;
- (ii) it be remitted to the Chief Executive to bring forward a programme of dates for local consultation visits; and
- (iii) it be remitted to the Policy and Resources Committee to consider the provision of local office accommodation within the development of the Council's property strategy.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEME

4. There was submitted a report dated 8 January 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Support Services to bring Members up to date with the situation regarding a Community Council scheme for East Ayrshire and the implications for the Council's decentralisation scheme.

It was agreed that it be remitted to the Director of Support Services, to report, in due course, to the Policy and Resources Committee, proposals for a Community Council scheme for East Ayrshire.

DECENTRALISATION TIMETABLE

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 11 January 1996 (circulated) by the Chief Executive updating the Sub-Committee on the progress made in response to the timetable for decentralisation.

The meeting terminated at 1059 hours.