

APPENDIX I

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

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

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER 1996 AT 1402
HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

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

ATTENDING: Bernadette Docherty, Senior Depute Director of Social Work; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Bernard Chisholm, Educational Psychologist; Hugh Carswell, Service Officer (Children & Families); and Ian Gemmell, Administration Officer.

APOLOGY: Councillor Jimmy Boyd.

CHAIR: Councillor Jane Darnbrough, Chair.

**DRAFT GUIDANCE ON CHILDREN AND THEIR NEEDS - SUPPORTING
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

1. There was submitted a report dated 17 November 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the content of the draft guidance produced by the Scottish Office on "Children and their Needs - Supporting Children and Families" as part of the series of draft guidelines and regulations produced to support the implementation of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 and recommending action which required to be taken as a result.

It was agreed that the Director of Social Work:-

- (i) consult, through preparation of the Children's Service Plan, with Heads of other Departments of the Council to reach agreement on a shared understanding of "children in need"; and
- (ii) consult on this matter, as part of the early stages of the preparation of the Council's Children's Service Plan, with other relevant agencies.

SCOTTISH TRADE UNION CONGRESS: SCOTTISH FAMILY POLICY CHARTER

2. There was submitted a report dated 18 November 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on a request from the Scottish Trade Union Congress that East Ayrshire Council agree to sign the Scottish Family Policy Charter by 1 December 1996; and to consider approving a donation of £100 to the STUC to assist with the cost of publicising the Charter.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to authorise the signing on behalf of East Ayrshire Council of the Scottish Family Policy Charter; and

- (ii) to authorise payment of a donation of £100 to the Scottish Trade Union Congress to assist with the cost of publicising the above mentioned Charter.

CHARGING POLICY FOR RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE

- 3. There was submitted a report dated 16 November 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on current vacancies within the residential child care units of East Ayrshire, and recommending that a charge be set for the use of these facilities by Councils outwith Ayrshire.

It was agreed to recommend to Council:-

- (i) that Authorities outwith Ayrshire should be charged for the use of placements within residential children's units in East Ayrshire with effect from 1 April 1997; and
- (ii) that the rate for such placements during the financial year 1997/98 be set at £550 per week.

IMPLEMENTATION OF PART ONE OF THE CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995

- 4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 November 1996 (circulated) on the implementation of Part I of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 on 1 November 1996, and providing information on the content of this legislation and its implications for the Social Work Department.

Councillor McIntyre joined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

YOUTH SUPPORT PROJECT (Item 2, Page 563)

- 5. There was submitted a joint report dated 20 November 1996 (circulated) by the Directors of Social Work and of Education on the growth package agreed by Policy and Resources Committee on 4 March 1996 of a proposal for a joint project between the Education and Social Work Departments designed to meet the needs of young people at risk of being taken into residential care and to provide alternatives through a new partnership between the Education and Social Work Departments.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposals contained in the report and refer the personnel issues to the Director of Personnel for appropriate action;
- (ii) to remit the matter of non teaching staffing implications to the Personnel Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration, subject to consultation with the Trade Unions concerned;
- (iii) that the Directors of Social Work and of Education develop the next phase of the project, which would involve targeting the southern part of the Council's area; and
- (iv) that the Directors of Social Work and of Education provide further information to this Sub-Committee in due course on the outcomes of the project's activity within the Council's Children's Service Plan.

The meeting terminated at 1450 hours.