

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL LIAISON MEETING WITH THE ELDERLY FORUM STEERING GROUP

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 1998 AT 1412
HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillor James Boyd

ATTENDING: Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work; Gwen Barker, Service Manager, Social Work Department; John Pickering, Area Housing Manager; Janice Harrison, Support Worker, Social Work Department; Martin Clark, Service Officer; Social Work Department; and Anne Fairbairn, Administrative Officer, together with Jessie Graham, Irvine Valley Elderly Forum; Catherine Brown, Irvine Valley Elderly Forum; Oswald Swindlehurst, Muirkirk Elderly Forum; George Gillon, Cumnock Elderly Forum; William Cooke, Muirkirk Elderly Forum; William Shaw, Muirkirk Elderly Forum; Nancy Morley, North West Kilmarnock Elderly Forum; Jessie Duffy, North West Kilmarnock Elderly Forum; Norah McCabe; Winnie Campbell, South Kilmarnock Elderly Forum; and Alan Faulds, South Kilmarnock Elderly Forum.

IN ATTENDANCE: Karen Darling, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board.

APOLOGIES: Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive.

CHAIR: Councillor James Boyd, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting and extended a special welcome to the Irvine Valley Elderly Forum who were attending their first Meeting. The Chair in his introductory remarks emphasised the need to listen to what the Forums were saying and learn to work together to achieve joint aims.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The Minutes of the previous meeting (circulated) were submitted and approved.

MATTERS ARISING

2. The following matters arose from the Minute.

2.1 DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATIONS

It was agreed that the presentations scheduled to be heard at this meeting, which included services for older people in relation to roads and transportation and the remit of the Community Services Department with regard to the elderly, be carried forward to the next meeting.

2.2 HEALTH RELATED ISSUES

It was reported that a meeting had been held in connection with the Cumnock Hospital when assurances had been given that the best possible deal was being negotiated and that East Ayrshire Council would be advised when negotiations had been completed.

2.3 NOMINATIONS FOR INSPECTION AND REGISTRATION ADVISORY GROUP

It was reported that three nominations had been received.

2.4 TRANSPORT ISSUES

It was reported that a presentation would be given by the Passenger Transport Executive.

In addition the Director of Social Work advised that nine new buses have been provided by the Social Work Department since the inception of East Ayrshire Council and those were constantly being updated.

STRATEGY FOR OLDER PEOPLE - A JOINT PRESENTATION BY MARTIN CLARK, SERVICE OFFICER (QUALITY AND STANDARDS), SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT AND KAREN DARLING, COMMISSIONER FOR ELDERLY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, AYRSHIRE AND ARRAN HEALTH BOARD

3. There was submitted a briefing paper (circulated) by the Director of Social Work indicating that the Strategy for Older People comprises the detail of the Older People's Section published within Joint Community Care Plan 1998-2001.

Thereon, there followed a presentation by Martin Clark outlining the development of the Strategy primarily in conjunction with Ayrshire and Arran Health Board and also in partnership with the Community Health Care (NHS) Trust, North Ayrshire and Arran (NHS) Trust, South Ayrshire Hospital (NHS) Trust, Scottish Homes, Elderly Forum Representatives, Private and Voluntary Residential Providers and Nursing Home Providers.

The presentation also detailed the Older People's Strategy with particular reference to the numbers, age categories and estimated percentage increase by the year 2001.

The Strategy demonstrated East Ayrshire Council's commitment to providing services to enable older people to remain in their own home or tenancy as long as it is safe and reasonable to do so.

While the Strategy proposed developing some new services, it also built on the current service provision outlining ways in which the quality of services could be further improved.

In addition the Council is also committed to working in partnership with the independent sector which includes Residential and Nursing Home, Home Care and Day Care Providers.

The proposed areas of development which might assist older people in East Ayrshire were also highlighted and included exploring possible localised laundry services and further developments of rehabilitation services, providing improved chiropody services, reviewing information about services, developing and publishing information on standards of service, reviewing Day Care services and Residential services,

improving Respite Provision, reviewing Home Care services, introducing new services the Community Hospital in Cumnock might provide, and establishing 2 proposed Very Sheltered Housing Complexes, one in Galston and one in Kilmarnock which would be funded by the Health Board and Social Work Department as resources became available.

Karen Darling, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board, then outlined current services for 1997/98 in relation to older people's physical and mental health, community services and resource transfer.

The meeting heard that Ayrshire and Arran Health Board's strategic aims included tackling inequalities, improving health, developing Primary Care and Care in the Community together with reshaping hospital services.

To achieve these aims Ayrshire and Arran Health Board have plans to include Very Sheltered Housing, reviewing Local Authority services in respect of Residential Home Care and Day Care facilities, criteria for Continuing Care, Nursing in Residential Care, developing equipment and encouraging joint Registration.

Having heard the presentations and having responded to questions raised it was agreed that Ayrshire and Arran Health Board survey the premises presently occupied by the Chase project with a view to relocating the podiatry service in a location which would be more easily accessible.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

4. The Meeting heard a presentation by Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work regarding the Social Inclusion Partnership Programme which indicated that the Secretary of State for Scotland had announced on 8 May 1998 that the 12 priority partnership areas designated in November 1996 would evolve into Social Inclusion Partnerships (SIPs) and new Social Inclusion Partnerships would be set up.

As a result of this, the Scottish Office on 28 July 1998, invited councils and other agencies to submit expressions of interest in the new SIP by 30 September 1998 which would encompass the Government's approach to social exclusion, namely co-ordination, prevention and innovation with the key characteristics of SIPs being that these focussed on the most needy member of society; co-ordinate and fill gaps between the existing programmes; promote social inclusion; and seek to prevent people becoming socially excluded. It was intended that the new SIPs should begin operation in April 1999.

To ensure that issues of social exclusion are addressed and social inclusion promoted, the meeting heard it was crucial that the public, private and voluntary sectors worked together and it was proposed that a new SIP be established in East Ayrshire to ensure the commitment in participation of all relevant local partners; the development of a long term strategy which was challenging but achievable; and the involvement of the local community at the heart of the process.

The presentation highlighted the fact that the Scottish Office had indicated that the selection process for the new SIPs would be open and transparent and take place in two stages, stage one being the submission of expressions of interest and stage two being the submission of a Social Inclusion Partnership proposal.

The presentation was concluded by reference to the groups and organisations which would be consulted with a view to them submitting issues of particular interest to themselves while attempting to ensure their involvement in the process.

It was agreed to note that the result of East Ayrshire Council's submission would be known before the end of November.

EAST AYRSHIRE SHELTERED HOUSING MUIRKIRK

5. Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work advised the meeting that he had visited Muirkirk and had been impressed by the standard of the Sheltered Housing including the communal facility and had identified some capacity within the physical environment for expanding services.

The situation at Menzies Court, Cumnock where the Very Sheltered Housing Complex is situated when it was suggested that elderly people requiring lunch could be facilitated within the Complex and in addition this unit could co-ordinate the Warden service and Home Care services.

CHARGING POLICY/CRITERIA FOR RESIDENTIAL AND NURSING HOME PROVISION

6. There was submitted a report (tabled) dated 18 November 1998 by the Director of Social Work outlining:-
- (i) How to access a nursing home or residential home;
 - (ii) The differences between nursing homes and residential homes;
 - (iii) Who manages homes;
 - (iv) Paying for nursing or residential home care; and
 - (v) Inspection reports.

Having heard the Director and following discussion it was agreed to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1600 hours.

**TO RETURN TO PREVIOUS PAGE
PLEASE PRESS THE BACK BUTTON
AT THE TOP LEFT OF THE PAGE**