

APPENDIX I

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

**SOCIAL WORK COMPLAINTS REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIAL
WORK COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5 JUNE 2000 AT 1400 HOURS IN
MEETING ROOM 1, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Lindsay Stirrat and Councillors Alex Walsh and Ann Hay.

ATTENDING: David Mitchell, Principal Solicitor; and Melanie Macleod, Administrative Officer.

CHAIR: Lindsay Stirrat (Independent Chair).

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

1. The Sub-Committee resolved that, under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

CONSIDERATION OF COMPLAINT NO 1/00

2. There were submitted and noted written submissions by the Complainers (who were in attendance and unrepresented with one witness) and the Director of Social Work (represented by the Head of Inspection, Registration and Complaints Unit with two witnesses).

Having obtained the agreement of both parties, the Sub-Committee agreed, in terms of late submissions, to consider, from the Complainers, a letter dated 6 June 2000 from the General Practitioner to the Complainers and an extract of case notes dated 22 September 1998 to 16 October 1998 and, from the Director of Social Work, a Department of Social Work memorandum dated 2 June 2000.

The Complainers presented their case, including the leading of evidence from one witness called on behalf of the Complainer. The representative of the Director of Social Work had the opportunity to ask questions of the Complainers and witness called.

ADJOURNMENT

3. It was unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 1540 hours for 5 minutes.

RECONVENTION

4. The meeting reconvened at 1545 hours with the same Members, Officials and the Complainers present and in attendance.

FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF MATTER

5. Thereafter, the representative of the Director of Social Work, in the presence of the Complainers, presented the Department of Social Work's case, including the leading of evidence from two witnesses called on behalf of the Social Work Department. The Complainers were afforded the opportunity to ask questions of the witnesses called.

The Complaints Review Sub-Committee then had the opportunity to ask questions of both parties.

Thereafter, the Complainers and the representative of the Director of Social Work had the opportunity to sum up their case to the Complaints Review Sub-Committee without introducing any new information or matters.

The Complainers and the representative of the Director of Social Work then withdrew and the Social Work Complaints Review Sub-Committee proceeded to deliberate in private, taking advice from the Officers appointed to assist the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee did not formally uphold the complaint and agreed that its detailed findings and recommendations be submitted in a separate report to the next meeting of the Social Work Committee.

The meeting terminated at 1820 hours.