

APPENDIX I

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 23 APRIL 1997 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Gordon Cree, Ronald Brailsford, Alan Campbell, Eric Ross, Jimmy Boyd and Tommy Farrell.

ATTENDING: Bernadette Docherty, Senior Depute Director of Social Work; Lesley Gibson, Principal Officer (Children and Families); James Lally, Senior Administrative Officer; Eileen McConville, Service Officer (Children and Families); and Melanie Macleod Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Jane Darnbrough, Irene Reeves, Jim O'Neill and Kathleen Hall.

CHAIR: Councillor Jimmy Boyd, Vice-Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair referred to Councillor Darnbrough's absence due to illness and, on behalf of the Sub-Committee, took the opportunity to wish her a speedy recovery.

UPDATE ON PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995 (Item 4, Page 1661)

2. There was submitted a report dated 25 March 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work, advising of progress made to date in implementing the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 and seeking approval for the operational arrangements required.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the organisational arrangements put in place to move towards implementation of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, as outlined in Paragraph 3 of the report;
- (ii) to approve the participation of East Ayrshire in the Looked After Children pilot project;
- (iii) to approve the method of determining the Council's definition of Children in Need, as described in Paragraph 4 of the report;
- (iv) to approve the process for revising the Social Work Department's child protection measures described in Paragraph 5 of the report;
- (v) to note the training strategy put in place by the Social Work Department; and
- (vi) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**PROCEDURE FOR EMERGENCY CHILD PROTECTION MEASURES (Item 1,
Page 372)**

3. There was submitted a report dated 7 April 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work, advising of the new emergency child protection measures introduced as a result of the implementation on 1 April 1997 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 and seeking approval for the instruction provided to Social Work staff for implementing these new orders.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the new emergency child protection measures introduced on 1 April 1997 as a result of the implementation of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995;
- (ii) to approve the instructions provided to Social Work staff on the procedures for implementing these new orders; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of this report.

SUMMER SUPPORT PILOT PROJECT: HILLSIDE SCHOOL, CUMNOCK

4. There was submitted joint report dated 27 March 1997 (circulated) by the Directors of Education and of Social Work on the proposed implementation of a pilot summer support project for families with children with complex and multiple learning difficulties.

Having noted that the figure of £10,883.48 cited in paragraph 4.1 of the report in reference to the total cost of nine Nursery Nurses, should be amended to read £10,833.48, it was agreed:

- (i) that the proposal outlined operate as pilot project during the summer of 1997, subject to approval by the Director of Personnel;
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work provide a progress report on the efficiency and effectiveness of the provision, with a recommendation for future development; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

IMPLEMENTATION OF YOUTH SUPPORT PROJECT (Item 5, Page 1661)

5. There was submitted a joint report dated 16 April 1997 (circulated) by the Directors of Education and of Social Work requesting approval to implement further and extend the Youth Support Project.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the extension of the Youth Support Project as described in the report;
- (ii) to approve the interim management arrangements proposed, namely, that the Psychologist leading this project be released from casework for 0.5 FTE of his time, with a responsibility element of £2,500 (maximum) being met by the Education Department;
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work report further on the progress of present projects and of future developments; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RECRUITMENT AND SUPPORT OF CHILDREN'S CARERS

6. There was submitted report dated 20 February 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work, recommending improved arrangements for the recruitment and support of East Ayrshire's Children's Carers by incorporating the former Foster Care and Community Parents.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the arrangements for the Children's Carers Scheme for East Ayrshire Council;
- (ii) to approve the provision of two additional posts of Family Placement Supervisors graded QSW and eligible for a 7.5% irregular hours supplement in recognition of the evening work required, together with the payment of the same irregular hours supplement to the Resource Worker, already in post;
- (iii) that the Director of Social Work liaise with the Director of Personnel Services regarding the staffing implications of the report and to arrange consideration of the same by the Personnel Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee and by the Trade Unions;
- (iv) that the Director of Social Work monitor the implementation of the Scheme and report on progress to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee; and
- (v) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1440 hours.