

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 23 MAY 1996 AT 1000 HOURS  
IN THE MEETING ROOM, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jimmy Boyd, Drew McIntyre, Irene Reeves, Gordon Cree, Ronald Brailsford, Jane Darnbrough, Jim O'Neill, Kathleen Hall, Bob Beattie, Daniel Coffey, David Macrae, Robert McDill, David Sneller, Tommy Farrell and Eric Jackson.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Chris McAleavey, Senior Depute Director of Housing; Jim Dickie, Director of Social Work; Bernadette Docherty, Senior Depute Director of Social Work (Children, Families and Criminal Justice); Douglas Bulloch, Depute Director of Social Work (Community Care); Alan McDougall, Depute Director of Social Work (Finance and Resources); and Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Wilma Doyle, Alan Campbell, Eric Ross, Jim Kelly and John Smith.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Jimmy Boyd, Chair.

**CONSIDERATION OF WEEKLY MAINTENANCE RATES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE  
PLACED IN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS (Item 6, Page 734)**

1. There was submitted a report dated 10 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work, providing an update on the results of further negotiations in respect of the weekly maintenance rates for young people resident in residential schools.

It was agreed that payment for all young people from East Ayrshire resident in Kibble, St John's, St Mary's Kenmure, St Phillips and the Good Shepherd Centre should be on the spot purchase rate for the period April to June 1996, as detailed below, and that the Director of Social Work continue negotiations with the schools to reach agreement on a rate for East Ayrshire Council.

Good Shepherd Centre:	Block	£959.95
Bishopton	Spot	£1,066.64
Kibble:	Block	£927.64
Paisley	Spot	£1,030.72
St John's:	Block	£959.98
Glasgow	Spot	£1,066.64

St Mary's Kenmure:	Block	£1,502.92
Bishopbriggs	Spot	£1,669.92
St Phillips:	Block	£953.20
Plains	Spot	£1,059.11

Councillor Hall joined the Meeting during discussion of the above item.

### **HOUSING ADAPTATIONS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (Item 2, Page 682)**

2. There was submitted a joint report (circulated) by the Director of Housing and Social Work, seeking approval for the detailed arrangements for operating, assessment and service provision arrangements for the adaptation service previously approved by the Council.

It was noted that the Director of Social Work and the Director of Housing would collaborate on establishing a service standard for the provision of aids and adaptations, assessment, service provision and division of responsibilities on behalf of the Council for approval by the Council.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to authorise the Directors of Social Work and Housing to operate the arrangements set out at Sections 3 and 4 of the report;
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Social Work to conclude operational arrangements with Housing Associations consistent with the framework; and
- (iii) that the Directors of Social Work and of Housing report on a regular basis on the operation of these arrangements for the further consideration of Committee, including information on the number of people waiting within categories A<sub>1</sub> B and C.

### **CARERS (RECOGNITION AND SERVICES) ACT 1995**

3. There was submitted a report dated 16 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work, regarding the implementation from 1 April 1996 of the Carers (Recognition and Services) Act 1995.

It was agreed to note the issues raised within the report and that the Director of Social Work would report to Committee at a later date on the arrangements made within East Ayrshire to meet the requirements of the Act.

### **LOCAL AUTHORITY USER AGREEMENTS: PROGRESS REPORT**

4. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the series of user agreements which had been proposed for unitary authorities to continue on an agency basis, the provision of services to clients using specialist

services formally operated and funded by Strathclyde Regional Council. The report described the services to be provided and the progress in operationalising each user agreement.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the local authority user agreements described in the report in respect of the following facilities/services:- (a) Newfield Resource Centre, Renfrew; (b) Balrossie Residential School, Kilmalcolm; (c) Kerelaw Residential School, Stevenston; (d) Kerelaw Secure Unit, Stevenston; (e) Child Psychology Service, Ayrshire Councils; (f) Blindcraft Industries, Glasgow; (g) Social Work Standby Service; (h) Outdoor Resource Centre, Glasgow; (i) Frognal Respite Service, Troon; (1) Resource Centre for Visually Impaired People, Glasgow; (k) Sign Language Interpreting Services, Glasgow; and (1) Travelling People's Liaison Officer;
- (ii) to note the review proposals for the local authority user agreements;
- (iii) that the Director of Social Work provides an updated report on intended changes to the local authority user agreements noted within the report;
- (iv) to withdraw from the user agreements by the end of the current financial year for (a) Outdoor Resource Centre, Glasgow; (b) Resource Centre for Visually Impaired People, Glasgow; and (c) Sign Language Interpreting Services, Glasgow, and intimate the Council's intention to terminate the agreements by 30 June 1996;
- (v) that in respect of those services detailed above where East Ayrshire Council propose to withdraw from the user agreements, the Director of Social Work bring forward proposals for local arrangements for those services; and
- (vi) that the Director of Social Work provide all Members with details of the Liaison Officer for Travelling People.

**SOCIAL WORK CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS  
AND INITIAL REPORT (Item 2, Page 604)**

5. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the proposed monitoring arrangements for capital programme projects and providing an initial report on current progress.

The report covered the following capital programme projects;- (a) Affleck House Upgrade; (b) Auchinleck Area Centre; (c) Children's Homes Upgrading - Phase II; (d) Homes for Older People Upgrading - Phase I; and (e) Seatbelt Retro Fit.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the monitoring arrangements detailed in Section 3.1 of the report;

and

- (ii) to note the current position of Social Work capital projects.

### **SOCIAL STRATEGY: INITIAL ACTION PLAN**

6. There was submitted a report dated 10 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work, outlining the main elements of the Social Work Department's approach to implementation of the Council's Social Strategy.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that under paragraph 3.4 of the report which detailed, Aim 4: to encourage the development of a society based on equality and equal opportunities, the report include a reference in the second paragraph of that section, to people who were visually impaired;
- (ii) to endorse the action items noted within the report, as amended, as a basis for the Social Work Department's implementation of the Social Strategy;
- (iii) that a review report on progress be submitted to the Social Work Committee to be held on 14 November 1996; and
- (iv) that the Director of Social Work bring forward reports in early course on the other major corporate strategies, i.e. Environmental Strategy, Regeneration Strategy and Equal Opportunities Strategy.

### **ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY**

7. There was submitted a report dated 16 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work providing details of a briefing which took place on 7 March 1996 in relation to (i) an outline Anti-Poverty Strategy for East Ayrshire Council; (ii) identifying the Welfare Rights and Money Advice Services provided by the Social Work Department; and (iii) recommending the production of an Anti-Poverty Strategy for East Ayrshire for consideration by Council.

It was agreed that the Director of Social Work, Departments, prepare an Anti-Poverty Strategy for consideration by the Policy and Resources Committee.

### **COMMUNITY CARE FUNDING 1996-97**

8. There was submitted a report dated 16 May 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the Community Care staffing, funding and service resources which transferred to East Ayrshire Council, and seeking approval for a framework for developing staffing and services.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the general approach to Community Care funding set out at Sections 4 to 7 of the report;
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Social Work to conclude agreements with Planning Partners on the implementation of Community Care developments in 1996/97;
- (iii) to remit to the Director of Personnel Services for submission to the Personnel Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee, to consider the proposed establishment of the identified additional posts as detailed below:-

**North Division** - Three posts (Social Worker and/or Occupational Therapist) and one post of G51/2.

**Central Division** - Three posts (Social Worker and/or Occupational Therapist) and one post of G51/2.

**South Division** - One post of GS1/2;

- (iv) to authorise the Director of Social Work to proceed to the selection of appropriate provider organisations for the services set out in Schedule 2 in terms outlined in paragraph 7.5 of the report;
- (v) to authorise the Director of Social Work and Head of Legal Services to conclude contracts with the selected provider organisations for services at Schedule 2 setting out the terms of Council funding, service specifications and monitoring arrangements;
- (vi) that the Director of Social Work report further to Committee in relation to Community Care funding later in this financial year; and
- (vii) that future reports should provide complete organisations' names, and that no abbreviated initial formats be used to refer to these organisations in the first instance.

The Meeting terminated at 1150 hours.