

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7 JUNE 1999 AT 1400 HOURS IN  
THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,  
KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Jane Darnbrough, Stephanie Young, Jim Raymond, Daniel Coffey, Robert Stevenson, John Weir, Drew McIntyre, David Macrae, Iain Linton, Alex Walsh, Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly, Tommy Farrell, William Menzies and Robert Taylor.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Bernadette Docherty, Senior Depute Director of Social Work; Mary Fegan, Depute Director of Social Work (Community Care); Allan Y MacDougall, Depute Director of Social Work (Finance and Resources); Graham Kerr, Public Relations Officer; David Mitchell, Senior Solicitor; Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer; Morven Gemmill, Manager (Independent Living Services); Martin Clark, Service Unit Manager; and Melanie Macleod, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Katie Hall, Ann Hay, Julie Faulds and Jimmy Carmichael.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Jane Darnbrough, Chair.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS**

1. The Chair welcomed to the meeting new Elected Members and, in particular, Councillor Alex Walsh in his role as the new Vice-Chair to the Social Work Committee. On behalf of the Committee, the Chair also extended congratulations to the former Chair of the Committee in his new role as Provost.

It was also noted that an apology had been submitted by the Director of Social Work, who, due to a meeting with the new Scottish Parliament Minister for Health and Depute Minister for Community Care, had been unable to attend the Social Work Committee meeting.

**WHITE PAPER - AIMING FOR EXCELLENCE - MODERNISING SOCIAL WORK  
SERVICES IN SCOTLAND**

2. There was submitted and noted a report dated 1 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which advised of the White Paper "Aiming for Excellence - Modernising Social Work Services in Scotland" published by the Secretary of State for Scotland in March 1999.

**JOINT OLDER PEOPLE'S STRATEGY (Item 6, Page 3932)**

3. There was submitted a report dated 1 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which sought approval for the Joint Older People's Strategy.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Joint Older People's Strategy;
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work implement the strategy within existing resources; and

- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**AYRSHIRE AND ARRAN MENTAL HEALTH FRAMEWORK (STRATEGY FOR PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA AND OLDER PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH DIFFICULTIES) - DEVELOPMENT FUNDING (Item 5, Page 4377)**

4. There was submitted a report dated 1 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the proposed allocation of growth funds for Community Care within the Social Work budget and which sought approval for the implementation of recommendations contained within the report.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the recommendations contained in paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6 of the report for referral to the Policy and Resources Committee; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**MODERNISING COMMUNITY CARE - ACTION PLAN AND ASSOCIATED COMMUNITY CARE DEVELOPMENTS (Item 13, Page 4017)**

5. There was submitted a report dated 1 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the Scottish Office document "Modernising Community Care - An Action Plan" and associated Community Care developments and which sought approval to refer the related staffing implications to the Policy and Resources Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the action plan proposal outlined in paragraph 7 of the report;
- (ii) that the staffing proposals noted in the Appendix to the report be referred to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**REORGANISATION OF SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT - UPDATE ON PROGRESS AND SUBSEQUENT ALTERATIONS TO STRUCTURE (Item 4, Page 4246)**

6. There was submitted a joint report dated 23 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work and Head of Personnel Services on progress in respect of the Social Work Department's restructuring and which sought agreement to refer to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval some alterations to the previously agreed structure.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit consideration of the grade of the Manager (Resources) post to the Head of Personnel;
- (ii) to remit the proposals in respect of two Team Leaders within the Criminal Justice Section and deletion of Support Services Office Managers to the next meeting of the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**ADAPTATIONS SERVICE - PROGRESS REPORT (Item 7, Page 4186)**

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 1 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the progress to date in relation to the consolidated Adaptations Service.

**ADAPTATIONS SERVICE - STAFFING ADJUSTMENTS (Item 7, Page 4186)**

8. There was submitted a joint report dated 1 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work and the Director of Homes and Technical Services which sought approval for staffing adjustments within the Aids and Adaptations Service.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to refer to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration the staffing recommendations contained within paragraph 4.1 of the report in terms of proposals for five additional members of staff; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**KILMAURS PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (Item 13, Page 4017)**

9. There was submitted a report dated 1 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on progress within the Kilmaurs Partnership Development previously reported to the Housing Committee and which sought approval to refer the staffing implications to the Policy and Resources Committee.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to refer to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration the proposed establishment of the post of Co-ordinator;
- (ii) to note that proposals for staffing levels for Social Care staff would be presented to a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**DISPOSAL OF BENTINCK CENTRE, KILMARNOCK**

10. There was submitted a report dated 1 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which advised that premises at the Bentinck Centre, Kilmarnock, were surplus to Departmental requirements.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to declare the premises at the Bentinck Centre, Kilmarnock, surplus to Social Work Departmental requirements;
- (ii) to refer the matter to the Director of Development Services for consideration and further action; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**CALL ALARMS IN RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR OLDER PEOPLE -  
CHANGE IN FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS (Item 4, Page 4015)**

11. There was submitted and noted a report dated 1 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on a change in the funding arrangements for the replacement of Call Alarms in Residential Accommodation for Older People.

**SECTION 12 REPORT AND WAIVING/ABATEMENT OF CHARGES REPORT**

12. There was submitted a report dated 24 May 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the levels of assistance provided under Section 12 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 and Section 22 of the Children's (Scotland) Act 1995 during 1997/98 and 1998/99 and which advised of charges to service users which had been waived or abated in 1998/99.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the levels of assistance given during 1997/98 and 1998/99;
- (ii) to note the charges waived or abated during 1998/99; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1520 hours.