

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 3 APRIL 1997 AT 1000 HRS IN
THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Jimmy Boyd, Irene Reeves, Gordon Cree, Wilma Doyle, Ronald Brailsford, Jane Darnbrough, Jim O'Neill, Bob Beattie, Daniel Coffey, David Macrae, Robert McDill, Eric Ross, David Sneller, John Smith and Tommy Farrell.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work; Allan Y McDougall, Depute Director of Social Work; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Kay Gilmour, Principal Officer (Community Care); Tom Harris, Public Relations Manager; Diane Page, Service Officer (Community Care); Ian Gemmell, Welfare Rights & Money Advice Development Officer; and Melanie Macleod, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Drew McIntyre, Alan Campbell and Eric Jackson.

CHAIR: Councillor Jimmy Boyd, Chair.

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. There were submitted and approved, both as correct records and in respect of recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Sub-Committee Minutes (circulated) as contained in Appendices I to III of these Minutes.

1.1 CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUB-COMMITTEE OF 12 MARCH 1997 - Appendix I.

1.2 COMMUNITY CARE SUB-COMMITTEE OF 14 MARCH 1997 - Appendix II.

1.3 SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF 20 MARCH 1997 - Appendix III.

1.3.1 MEMBERSHIP (ITEM 2.1 PAGE 2007)

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the resignation of Mrs Janet Smith from the Social Work Inspection Unit Advisory Committee; and
- (ii) to remit to the next meeting of the Council the appointment of a substitute Carer/User Representative to the Advisory Committee.

THREE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN 1997/98 - 1999/2000 (ITEM 2, PAGE 1885)

2. There was submitted a report dated 25 March 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work recommending a three year Social Work Capital Plan.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed Capital Plan as outlined in the Appendix to the report;
- (ii) to note that proposed priorities in respect of Child Care Unit and Community Care Unit refurbishment would be circulated to Members at an early date; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**SOCIAL WORK CUTS PACKAGE - IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS
(ITEM 2, PAGE 1885)**

3. There was submitted a report dated 26 March 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the arrangements for the implementation of the Social Work Budget Cuts Package recommended by the Special Meeting of the Social Work Committee on 26 February 1997 and subsequently agreed by the Special Meeting of the Council on 6 March 1997.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the arrangements for the implementation of the savings package as set out in Section 2 of the report;
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Social Work to apply the amended charging policy in respect of the harmonisation of charges for Community Care services to be effective from 1 April 1997;
- (iii) that Netherthird Residential Children's Unit be selected for closure and that a further report on the relocation of children and staff from Netherthird, together with the reinvestment of funds from the closure, be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee;
- (iv) to note that reports summarising the outcome of the Department's Income Maximisation exercise would be submitted to a future meetings of the Committee on a regular basis;
- (v) to note that, in respect of the increase in charges for Community Care services, the scale of charges would be presented in the form of a continuous scale (Appendix IV of this Minute); and
- (vi) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Ross joined the meeting during discussion of the above item.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

4. At this point in the meeting, the Chair welcomed David Forbes, Service Manager, Finance & Resources who was attending the meeting as part of the ongoing Staff Development programme.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES ACTION PLAN - PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND
PROGRESS REPORT (ITEM 9, PAGE 1504)**

5. There was submitted a report dated 25 March 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work recommending the adoption of Performance Indicators to monitor the success in implementing the Social Work Department's Equal Opportunity Action Plan and reporting on progress made by the Departmental Action Team.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the performance indicators in respect of Employment, Service Delivery and the Wider Community as detailed in Appendix A of the report;
- (ii) to note that a further report on progress in respect of this matter would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ANTI-POVERTY UNIT MONITORING AND EVALUATION
PROJECT**

6. There was submitted a report dated 25 March 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work seeking approval to the involvement of East Ayrshire Council in a major Evaluation Project to identify models for monitoring and evaluating Anti-Poverty Strategies.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that East Ayrshire Council confirm its involvement as one of the participants in the Local Government Anti-Poverty Unit's Monitoring and Evaluation Project;
- (ii) to authorise the Director of Social Work to make the necessary financial arrangements in terms of an annual subscription of £2,000 from funds available within the Social Work Budget;
- (iii) that the Director of Social Work provide regular reports to Committee regarding progress in respect of the project;
- (iv) to authorise the involvement of Council staff in relation to the project;
- (v) that Members of the Council be involved in the project as appropriate; and
- (vi) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Brailsford left the meeting during discussion of the above item.

**ISSUE OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES - REGISTRATION AND VARIATIONS TO
REGISTRATIONS - 1 SEPTEMBER 1996 TO 28 FEBRUARY 1997**

7. There was submitted a report dated 25 March 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work advising the Committee, in accordance with the Issue of Registration Certificates procedure, of new registrations and variations to registrations to residential and day care establishments.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the changes in respect of the following establishments, namely:-

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Details</u>
Key Housing, Kilmarnock	Change of Chairperson
Glebe House, Dalmellington	Change of Manager
Nightingale House, Auchinleck	Change of Manager; and
(ii) to note that, in respect of future changes of this kind, the name of the individual concerned would be contained within the report for information.	

CONSULTATION ON THE ADVISORY GROUP REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE DRUGS PREVENTION INITIATIVE IN SCOTLAND

8. There was submitted a report dated 25 March 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on East Ayrshire Council's response to the Advisory Group Report 1996 on the Review of the Drugs Prevention Initiative in Scotland.

It was agreed to support the response made on behalf of the Council.

Councillor Brailsford rejoined the meeting during discussion of the above item.

THE SCOTTISH OFFICE - CONSULTATION "INITIATIVE ON ROUGH SLEEPING: GUIDELINES FOR SCHEMES"

9. There was submitted a joint report dated 25 March 1997 (circulated) by the Directors of Social Work and Housing updating the Committee on the joint reply by the Directors of Housing and Social Work in response to the request by the Scottish Office to comment on the consultation paper "Initiative on Rough Sleeping : Guidelines for Schemes".

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Social Work report on further developments in respect of this matter; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

10. The 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 item of business on the ground that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 9 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

CROSSHOUSE HOSPITAL - HOME FROM HOSPITAL SCHEME

11. There was submitted a report dated 26 March 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the current status of negotiations with Ayrshire & Arran Health Board regarding the funding of the Crosshouse Home from Hospital Scheme and recommending further action to be taken on the basis of the outcome of future negotiations.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Social Work continue discussions with Ayrshire & Arran Health Board to seek a significant contribution from the NHS towards the cost of the Crosshouse Home From Hospital Scheme;

- (ii) that the Director of Social Work withdraw the Home From Hospital Scheme for North Ayrshire Residents from 3 April 1997;
- (iii) that the Chair of the Social Work Committee write to the Chair of Ayrshire & Arran Health Board in respect of the Board's previously expressed intention to work in partnership with the Council and expressing the Council's concern at the failure to determine a satisfactory agreement on the funding of the Crosshouse Home From Hospital Scheme;
- (iv) that the Director of Social Work, on the basis of no successful outcome of discussions with Ayrshire & Arran Health Board by the end of April 1997, withdraw the Home From Hospital Scheme from Crosshouse Hospital; and
- (iv) that the Director of Social Work submit a further report to Committee on the outcome of this matter.

The meeting terminated at 1152 hours.