

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16 MARCH 1999 AT 1000 HOURS
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors James Boyd, Drew McIntyre, Jim O'Neill, Kathleen Hall, Ann Hay, Daniel Coffey, David Macrae, Eric Ross, James Kelly, David Sneller and John Smith.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work; Bernadette Docherty, Senior Depute Director of Social Work; Mary Fegan, Depute Director of Social Work (Community Care); Ian Gemmell, Head of Anti-Poverty Unit; David Mitchell, Principal Solicitor; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Margaret McManus, Principal Officer (Finance and Resources); Pam Noonan, Assistant Principal Officer (Community Care); Phil Whitehead, Finance Manager (Community Care); Alex McPhee, Senior Accountant; Martin Clark, Service Officer (Community Care); Anna Aitken, Service Officer (Information and Research); Lorraine Russell, Accountancy Assistant; Melanie Macleod, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Gordon McCredie, Irene Reeves, Gordon Cree, Wilma Doyle, Jane Darnbrough, Robert McDill and Eric Jackson.

CHAIR: Councillor James Boyd, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. As part of ongoing staff development, the Chair welcomed to the meeting Lorraine Russell, Accountancy Assistant within the Finance Department.

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTE

2. There was submitted and approved both as a correct record and in respect of any recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Minute (circulated) as contained in Appendix I of these Minutes.

- 2.1 **CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUB-COMMITTEE OF 24 FEBRUARY 1999 - APPENDIX I**

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - SOCIAL WORK TO 29
JANUARY 1999 (PERIOD 11)**

3. There was submitted a joint report dated 26 February 1999 (circulated) by the Directors of Social Work and of Finance on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the Social Work Department for the period ended 29 January 1999 (period 11).

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Social Work continue to implement appropriate management action to ensure that the target projected actual was achieved; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

Councillor Ross joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT 1968 - SECTION 10 PAYMENTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

4. There was submitted a report dated 9 March 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on applications received from voluntary organisations for Section 10 funding in 1999/2000 and which made recommendations for the approval of payments.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the undernoted grant awards be made:

NAME OF ORGANISATION	GRANT AWARD
Ayrshire Council on Alcohol	£25,840
Cessnock Club	£1,000
Childline Scotland	£1,200
Cumnock and Doon Valley Furniture Scheme Kilmarnock and Loudoun Furniture Redistribution Scheme	£16,000
Cumnock & Doon Valley Women's Aid	£30,020
Dementia Services Development Centre	£560
ENABLE - Legal Services	£270
Family Mediation	£4,000
Kilmarnock Women's Aid/Centre	£175,000
Marriage Counselling Ayrshire	£400
Rape Counselling and Support	£50,000
SACRO	£2,000
Scottish Child Law Centre	£600
Scottish Low Pay Unit	£2,500
Strathclyde Gay and Lesbian Switchboard	£150

- (ii) that the undernoted applications for grant be refused:

NAME OF ORGANISATION	REASON FOR REFUSAL
Barnardos Scotland	A direct service to be funded directly by Children and Families budget.
British Rentinitis Pigmentosa Society	
Cumnock & Auchinleck Credit Union Steering Group	Service to be contained within the Coalfield Social Inclusion Partnership
Deafblind UK	Does not meet assessment criteria.
Lesbian and Gay Forum	
Multiple Sclerosis	
One Parent Families in Scotland	
One Plus: One Parent Families	
Partners in Advocacy	
Patna Day Centre (Community Meals)	
PHACE West	Does not meet the assessment criteria.
Say Woman	
Scottish Old Age Pensioner's Association	
Scottish Pensioner's Forum	
Scottish Women's Aid	
SCUDA	
SENSE	
St Margaret of Scotland Adoption Society	
Strathclyde Carers Forum	
Strathclyde Elderly Forum	
The Council for Music in Hospitals	
Trust A Carers Connection	
Who Cares? Scotland	

- (iii) that the following applications for grant be continued for consideration to a future meeting of the Committee pending further information in respect of each application, viz:- East Ayrshire Victim Support and Victim Support Scotland;

- (iv) to note that the following applications would be considered by the Policy and Resources Committee, viz:- Scottish Human Rights Centre, Scottish Refugee Council and West of Scotland Community Relations Council; and
- (v) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**A FRAMEWORK FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES - AYRSHIRE AND ARRAN
JOINT STRATEGY UPDATE (Item 2, Page 2687)**

5. There was submitted a report dated 9 March 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the recommendations made in the Mental Health Strategy (Adults) and the Strategy for People with Dementia and Older People with Mental Health Disabilities, both prepared by Ayrshire & Arran Mental Health Framework Project Teams for the period 1999/2004.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the recommendations of the Mental Health Strategy (Adults) as outlined in Section 4 of the report;
- (ii) to approve the recommendations of the Strategy for People with Dementia and Older People with Mental Health Disabilities, as outlined in Section 4 of the report; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

**UPRATING OF APPROVED NURSING AND RESIDENTIAL HOME RATES AND
RESPITE CARE CHARGES 1999/2000 (Item 6, Page 3007)**

6. There was submitted a report dated 18 February 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which sought approval for the uprating of the Council's rates for voluntary and private nursing and residential care home placements, in line with the DSS benefit uprating in 1999/2000; the establishment of weekly charges for residential care in establishments operated by the Council; and an increase in respite care charges.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to agree the approved rates for the private and voluntary sector noted in Appendix III of this Minute;
- (ii) to agree the undernoted approved rates for Council accommodation:

TYPE	1998/99	1999/2000
Residential Accommodation for Older People	£320	£320
Residential Accommodation for People with learning disabilities.	£434	£434

- (iii) to increase the rate for respite care in 1999/2000 to £52.00 (in East Ayrshire Council establishments) and £111.40 (in private and voluntary residential and nursing homes);
- (iv) to note the application of the CoSLA agreement on the setting of Supplementation rates in 1999/2000;

- (v) to note that the date in Section 3.1 of the report should read "19 April 1999"; and
- (vi) otherwise to note the content of the report.

SOCIAL WORK STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 1997/98

7. There was submitted and noted a report dated 9 March 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on information contained in the Accounts Commission Publication "Comparing the Performance of Scottish Councils - Social Work 1997/98", with particular reference to East Ayrshire.

Councillor McIntyre left the meeting during discussion of this item.

SUMMER SUPPORT SCHEMES AT WITCHHILL AND HILLSIDE SCHOOLS (Item 2, Page 3287)

8. There was submitted a joint report dated 9 March 1999 (circulated) by the Directors of Social Work and of Education on the evaluation of the Summer Support Schemes at Witchhill and Hillside Schools and which sought approval to run a similar programme in 1999.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the summer schools programme;
- (ii) to refer the matter of the appointment of APT&C Staff to the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee regarding the appointment of APT&C Staff;
- (iii) to authorise the Director of Social Work, in conjunction with the Director of Education, to operate a Summer Schools Scheme in subsequent years and make arrangements accordingly; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

Councillor McIntyre re-joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

THE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO "THE CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDS REVIEW" - CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEVELOPMENT FUND (Item 4, Page 3841)

9. There was submitted a report dated 9 March 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the grant allocation to East Ayrshire Council in relation to the development of children's services and which sought approval for the proposals to be submitted to the Scottish Office describing the intended use of this finance.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the priorities identified in the Plan, for forwarding by the Director of Social Work to the Scottish Office;
- (ii) that with the funding approved by the Council for 1999/2000, the following posts be progressed, viz:- one family placement supervisor, one children's rights officer, one GS1/2, one qualified social worker, one service officer and two social work assistants;
- (iii) that the Director of Social Work refer the matter of the recruitment detailed in (ii) above to the Personnel and Property Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee; and

- (iv) otherwise to note the content 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 items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Paragraph of Schedule 7A of the Act as shown against each item.

DEATH OF CHILD LOOKED AFTER BY EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (PARA 5)

11. There was submitted a report dated 9 March 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the death of a young person, MS, who was looked after by East Ayrshire Council.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Social Work bring forward a further report once a response on the matter has been received from the Secretary of State; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the content of the report.

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTE

12. There was submitted and approved both as a correct record and in respect of any recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Minute (circulated) as contained in Appendix II of these Minutes.

12.1 SOCIAL WORK COMPLAINTS REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE OF 5 MARCH 1999 - APPENDIX II

REPORT FROM THE SOCIAL WORK COMPLAINTS REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE (PARAS 1 AND 3)

13. There was submitted a report dated 9 March 1999 (circulated) by the Social Work Complaints Review Sub-Committee in respect of its findings and recommendations on complaint number 1/99.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the recommendation of the Sub-Committee, namely that, in respect of head of complaint No 2, it be remitted to the Director of Social Work to satisfy himself that appropriate arrangements were in place to mitigate against such delays in following up approaches from clients, as was accepted to have occurred in the case in question; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the findings of the Sub-Committee.

The meeting terminated at 1102 hours.