

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 1998 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors James Boyd, Drew McIntyre, Gordon Cree, Ronald Brailsford, Jane Darnbrough, Jim O'Neill, Ann Hay, David Macrae, Robert McDill, Eric Ross, John Smith and Eric Jackson.

ATTENDING: Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Douglas Bulloch, Director of Social Work; Bernadette Docherty, Senior Depute Director of Social Work; Mary Fegan and Allan McDougall, Depute Directors of Social Work; Alan McKnight, Depute Director of Housing; Kate McVey, Head of Legal Services; Margaret McManus, Principal Officer; Alex McPhee, Senior Accountant; Bill Duncan, Head of Inspection, Registration and Complaints Unit; Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer; Anna Aitken, Service Officer (Information); Graham Kerr, Public Relations Officer; and Alex Hewetson, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Irene Reeves, Wilma Doyle, Kathleen Hall, Daniel Coffey, James Kelly, David Sneller and Tommy Farrell.

CHAIR: Councillor James Boyd, Chair.

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

1. There were submitted and approved both as a correct record and in respect of any recommendations contained therein, the undernoted Minutes (circulated) as contained in Appendices I and II of these Minutes.
- 1.1 **SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF 14 AUGUST 1998 – APPENDIX I.**
- 1.2 **COMMUNITY CARE SUB-COMMITTEE OF 21 AUGUST 1998 – APPENDIX II.**

MEMBERSHIP OF SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

2. It was agreed that Mr Allan Faulds, Ms Norah McCabe and Ms Mamie Quinn be appointed to fill the three current vacancies on the Social Work Inspection Unit Advisory Committee of the Social Work Committee and that Ms Winnie Campbell be appointed to the Advisory Committee in the event of a further vacancy arising.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT – SOCIAL WORK TO 17 JULY 1998 (PERIOD 4)

3. There was submitted a joint report dated 26 August 1998 (circulated) by the Acting Director of Finance and the Director of Social Work on the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the Social Work Department for the period ended 17 July 1998 (Period 4).

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval, in terms of Section 5.3 of the Council's Financial Regulations, the virement of resources in respect of the resource allocation currently budgeted within payments to other bodies in respect of home support and day care projects totalling £280,000;
- (ii) that the Director of Social Work identify and implement appropriate management action to reduce as far as possible the overall overspend in the 1998/99 budget within the Department of Social Work; and
- (i) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

CAPITAL COSTS FROM REVENUE BUDGET 1998/99

4. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which sought the re-allocation of revenue funds to meet capital costs for the upgrading of residential units and information technology equipment.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to remit to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval, in terms of Section 5.3 of the Council's Financial Regulations, the transfer of £91,700 from the Department of Social Security transfer budget, agreed as a growth item on the 1998/99 budget exercise, to fund improvements to the residential and day care units identified in an Appendix to the report and to upgrade IT equipment and software; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

ABSENCE MANAGEMENT REPORT TO 3 JULY 1998 (Item 9, Page 3433)

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 2 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the absence rates for Department of Social Work employees for the quarter ended 3 July 1998.

TRANSPORT – LEASE OF NEW VEHICLE

6. There was submitted a report dated 1 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which sought approval to lease a new 17 seater minibus for use by the Department of Social Work Community Youth Support Team.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the lease of a new 17 seater minibus for use by the Department of Social Work Community Youth Support Team; and
- (ii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

SECTION 10, SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT 1968 – CLAIMANTS HOUSING ADVICE AND INFORMATION NETWORK (CHAIN)

7. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on an application for Section 10 funding from the Claimants Advice and Information Network (CHAIN).

It was agreed to refuse the application by CHAIN for Section 10 Grant funding on the grounds that it did not provide a unique or different service from current Council, or

Council funded activities, had a small referral base and limited experience in representing people at tribunals.

Councillor McIntyre left the meeting during discussion of this item.

INSPECTION UNIT ANNUAL REPORT 1997/98

8. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the requirement for the publication of an Annual Report on the work of the Social Work Department Inspection Unit and which sought approval for the content of the second Annual Report of the Inspection Unit.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the requirement for the publication of an Annual Report on the work of the Social Work Department Inspection Unit;
- (ii) to approve the Annual Report for 1997/98 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (iii) to approve the proposed Performance Indicators for 1998/99 as detailed in the Annual Report;
- (iv) to authorise the publication of the Annual Report;
- (v) to publicise its availability in consultation with Public Relations; and
- (vi) that the Annual Report would be distributed to the categories of organisations and groups listed in Appendix 2 to the report.

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

DISPOSAL OF BUILDING – 53 ERIFF ROAD, BELLSBANK, DALMELLINGTON

9. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which sought approval to declare the premises at 53 Eriff Road, Bellsbank, Dalmellington, surplus to the operational requirements of the Department of Social Work.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to declare the premises at 53 Eriff Road, Bellsbank, Dalmellington, surplus to the operational requirements of the Department of Social Work;
- (ii) to refer the matter to the Director of Support Services for disposal; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

DISPOSAL OF THE GLEBE RESOURCE CENTRE, KILMARNOCK

10. There was submitted a report dated 4 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work which sought approval to declare the Glebe Resource Centre, Kilmarnock, surplus to the operational requirements of the Department of Social Work, upon the completion and occupation of the Balmoral Road Centre, Kilmarnock.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to declare the Glebe Resource Centre, Kilmarnock, surplus to the operational requirements of the Department of Social Work, upon the completion and occupation of the Balmoral Road Centre, Kilmarnock; and

- (ii) to refer the matter to the Director of Support Services for disposal, when the aforementioned terms under ((i) above) had been met.

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEMBER/OFFICER GROUP - AIDS AND ADAPTATIONS

11. There was submitted a joint report dated 4 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work and Director of Housing which sought authority to establish a Member/Officer Group to identify current issues in the provision of aids and adaptations and to consider options for service improvement.

The Chair advised of an addition to the end of Paragraph 3.1 of the report, viz:- 'in consultation with the Chair of the Policy and Resources Committee'.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that a Member/Officer Group be established in the terms described in Paragraphs 3 (as amended) and 4 of the report;
- (ii) to remit to Council to appoint Members to serve on the Member/Officer Group (two Members of the Social Work Committee (Administration), two Members of the Housing Committee (Administration) and two Members of the Opposition); and
- (iii) that the Member/Officer Group would report its findings to the Policy and Resources Committee at the earliest opportunity.

SCOTTISH HOMES SOUTH AND WEST REGIONAL PLAN 1998/2001 (Item 8, Page 3615)

12. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 2 September 1998 (circulated) by the Directors of Housing and of Social Work on the content of the Scottish Homes South and West Regional Plan 1998/2001.

SOCIAL WORK STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 1997/98

13. There was submitted and noted a report dated 2 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on the Social Work Statutory Performance Information which was submitted to the Accounts Commission as detailed in the Appendix to the report.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

14. 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 grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 11 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

REPLACEMENT FOR RESIDENTIAL CARE PROVISION

15. There was submitted a report dated 2 September 1998 (circulated) by the Director of Social Work on proposals for restructuring of residential care for children and young people and for the re-provisioning of residential care for adults with learning disabilities to a tenancy model.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that residential provision provided by the Social Work Department to children, young people and adults with learning disabilities be developed in accordance with the proposals detailed in Paragraphs 5 and 6 of the report; and
- (ii) that the Committee would receive subsequent reports on the proposed arrangements for implementation of these proposals.

The meeting terminated at 1149 hours.