

EAST AYRSHIRE SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 JUNE 1999 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillor David Macrae, East Ayrshire Council; Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council; Bernadette Docherty, Senior Depute Director of Social Work; Gwen Barker, Manager, Social Inclusion; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Steve Shanta, Manager, Skills and Inclusion, Enterprise Ayrshire; George Fraser, Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Employment Initiative Ltd; Grace Moore, Health Promotion Specialist, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board; Stuart McKenzie, Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Housing Partnership; William Campbell, Divisional Commander, Strathclyde Police; Matt Donnelly and Edward Torrance, Local Committee Representatives.

ATTENDING: James Lally, Senior Administrative Officer and Anne Fairbairn, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Sheila White, Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Business Partnership and Marion Welsh, Business Representative.

CHAIR: Councillor David Macrae, East Ayrshire Council.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. The Chair agreed to vary the order of business to allow item 7 on the agenda to be considered in place of item 4 and vice-versa.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

2. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 March 1999 (circulated) were submitted and approved as a correct record.

MEMBERSHIP OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GROUP

3. There was submitted a report dated 9 June 1999 (circulated) by the Chief Executive of East Ayrshire Council advising of the current membership of the Strategic Partnership Group and recommending to members the involvement of additional partners and the proposed interim arrangements for community involvement on the Strategic Partnership Group.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the interim arrangements for the involvement of Local Community Representatives and that accordingly each of the seven Local Committees be invited to nominate a representative to serve on the group and a substitute to attend meetings in the nominated representatives absence;
- (ii) that the Chief Executive of the Ayrshire & Arran Primary Health Care NHS Trust should be invited to participate in the group;
- (iii) that it be remitted to the Chief Executive of East Ayrshire Council in consultation with the East Ayrshire Business Partnership to explore options

- for a large private sector company being invited to participate in the group; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the content of the report.

BUDGETARY CONTROL PROCEDURES

4. There was submitted a report dated 14 June 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Finance, East Ayrshire Council outlining budgetary control procedures to be implemented in order to ensure that East Ayrshire Council as a Social Inclusion Partnership grant recipient, met the requirement of standard terms and conditions of grant, as prescribed by the Scottish Office Development Department.

During discussion of the above report, the contribution of East Ayrshire Council, both in terms of direct financial support and in terms of staff time, was acknowledged and the group expressed their thanks to the Council for its support.

The importance of examining audit procedures in relation to projects was also highlighted and it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the proposed budgetary control procedures in relation to the Social Inclusion Partnership grant, pending the final approval of implementation plans; and
- (ii) to note the interim measures currently in place in relation to the Council's permission to spend prior to that date.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ON LIFESTYLE

5. There was submitted an Executive Summary of the Ayrshire and Arran Adult Health and Lifestyle Survey 1998 (tabled).

The meeting heard Grace Moore explain that health and lifestyle surveys were an established approach to gathering information on the health related knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of the population.

She further explained that the Executive Summary contained information on personal and social issues, general health, physical activity, health services, women's health, food, alcohol, tobacco, sexual health and illegal drug use and that the information obtained from the survey, the first of its kind to be carried out in Ayrshire and Arran for 10 years, would provide a rich source of raw information which could be used to underpin the work of the Social Inclusion Partnership and to allow more detailed examination of information in respect of individual social groups and community based surveys to be initiated.

Discussion then ensued regarding how the Executive Summary could be progressed together with receiving suggestions as to how the information contained within the Executive Summary could be disseminated to groups and organisations. It was noted that the Social Inclusion Strategic Partnership Group and equal opportunities forums including the Elderly Forum, Women's Forum, Ethnic Minorities and Disability Forum together with the East Ayrshire Council on Voluntary Organisations would provide an appropriate mechanism for disseminating information on the lifestyle survey to community groups.

The Chair commented on the value of the report and its content emphasising that it provided a good baseline indicator for the future and it was agreed to request Grace

Moore to submit a report to a future meeting of the Partnership Group on how the issues identified above could be progressed.

SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

6. There was submitted a report dated 10 June 1999 (circulated) by the Chief Executive of East Ayrshire Council proposing a number of arrangements to support the operation of the Social Inclusion Partnership.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the proposed arrangements to be submitted to East Ayrshire Council's Policy and Resources Committee on the establishment of Area Teams covering Kilmarnock and the Northern Area and Irvine Valley Local Committee areas;
- (ii) to note the willingness of partner agencies to become involved in the area teams and that it be remitted to Fiona Lees to write to partner agencies to request the identification of appropriate staff to participate as team members;
- (iii) to approve the proposed arrangements for the preparation of community action plans including consultation with Local Committees on agreed schemes;
- (iv) to note that the recruitment and selection process was underway for the posts of the Monitoring and Research Officer and Integrated Strategies Officer and that William Campbell and George Fraser, following nomination, had agreed to participate in the selection process;
- (v) to approve the establishment of an Officer Core Group to support the work of the Social Inclusion Strategic Partnership Group and that it be remitted to Fiona Lees to write to partner agencies to invite the nomination of an appropriate officer to serve on this group; and
- (vi) otherwise, to note the terms of the report.

DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND REVISED FUNDING PROFILE

7. There was submitted a report dated 9 June 1999 (circulated) by the Chief Executive of East Ayrshire Council seeking approval for the Implementation Plan and Revised Funding Package for the Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnership Programme.

Concerns were raised regarding the East Ayrshire Works Project and the difficulties which would be encountered if they were unable to have confirmed the commitment for a further years funding. The concerns were noted and a commitment given to considering the projects future funding needs.

Discussion then took place regarding the importance of performance monitoring arrangements and the need to develop such arrangements. It was noted that in this regard further guidance, following the result of a consultation exercise into good practice in this area, was expected from the Scottish Office and that a report thereon would be submitted to a future meeting of this group.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the Draft Implementation Plan;
- (ii) to endorse the Revised Funding Package; and

- (iii) request the Director of Finance of East Ayrshire Council to provide regular budgetary control statements to the Strategic Partnership Group-

TIMETABLE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- 8. The Group gave consideration to dates for future meetings and it was agreed:-
 - (i) to note that East Ayrshire Council's meeting calendar was currently being prepared;
 - (ii) that meetings of the Group should be timetabled within East Ayrshire Council's meeting calendar to take place initially bi-monthly with further meetings scheduled for August, October and December this year and that thereafter meetings be held on a quarterly basis; and
 - (iii) that once finalised, members of the Group should be advised of arrangements for future meetings.

The meeting terminated at 1505 hours.