

EAST AYRSHIRE SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26 AUGUST 1999 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillor David Macrae, East Ayrshire Council; Bernadette Docherty, Senior Depute Director of Social Work; Gwen Barker, Manager, Social Inclusion; David Hewet, Executive Officer/Senior Policy Adviser, Development Services Department; Fiona Dickson, Integrated Strategy Officer/Leisure Policy Officer, Community Services Department; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Derek Yuille, Ayrshire and Arran Primary Care Trust; George Fraser, Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Employment Initiative Limited; Stuart McKenzie, Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Housing Partnership; Jim Thomson, Strathclyde Police; Sheila White, East Ayrshire Business Partnership; Marion Welsh, Business Representative; and Matt Donnelly and Edward Torrance, Local Committee Representatives.

ATTENDING: Anne Fairbairn and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officers.

APOLOGIES: Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive; Steve Shanta, Enterprise Ayrshire; and Grace Moore, Health Promotion Specialist, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board.

CHAIR: Councillor David Macrae, East Ayrshire Council.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair advised that Dr Allan Gunning, Chief Executive of Ayrshire and Arran Primary Care NHS Trust had accepted an invitation to become a member of the Committee and in addition welcomed substitute Derek Yuille, Ayrshire and Arran Primary Care, to the meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. The Chair agreed to vary the order of business to allow Item 4 on the Agenda to be considered in place of Item 3 and vice versa.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 June 1999 (circulated) were submitted and approved as a correct record. The Group was advised that with regard to the Social Inclusion Partnership operational arrangements, the Officer Core Group would report directly to the Social Inclusion Partnership Group and that Fiona Lees had written to partner agencies inviting nominations by the middle of September, of an appropriate Officer to serve on the Group.

MATTERS ARISING

3. There were no matters arising.

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT SOCIAL INCLUSION
PARTNERSHIP FUND TO 30 JULY 1999 (PERIOD 4)**

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 18 August 1999 (circulated) by the Director of Finance advising Members of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the services within the remit of the Social Inclusion Partnership Group for the period ended 30 July 1999 (Period 4).

MEMBERSHIP OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP GROUP

5. There was submitted a report dated 18 August 1999 (circulated) by the Chief Executive of East Ayrshire Council updating the Committee on the appointment of new members invited to participate on the Strategic Partnership Group and recommend to Members the involvement of additional partner agencies.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Principals of Kilmarnock and Ayr Colleges be invited to participate on the Strategic Partnership Group;
- (ii) to note the process for Community Representatives from Local Committees being invited to participate;
- (iii) that the Chief Executive of East Ayrshire Council continue to pursue the involvement of a major private sector company on the Strategic Partnership Group; and
- (iv) to note that a letter had been received from Scottish Executive seeking the involvement of voluntary sector representatives and Officers to explore locally such membership for the Group.

STRATEGIC PLANNING TIMESCALES

6. The Chair advised the meeting that to ensure that social inclusion is planned and co-ordinated strategically, agencies are requested to advise the Partnership Group of their strategic planning timescales.

The Government via its national Social Inclusion Strategy, had emphasised the need for joint planning to tackle the broad range of issues faced by individuals and communities.

The Government had also stated that they will require evidence from agencies that their existing budgets are being targeted appropriately and used to tackle issues of social exclusion.

To allow the Strategic Partnership Group to take an overview of social inclusion activities throughout East Ayrshire and for greater co-ordination in planning, agencies are asked to identify the timescale for the production of their major planning cycles.

It was agreed that:-

- (i) Members provide details of strategic planning timescales to the Manager, Social Inclusion, by 30 September 1999; and
- (ii) on receipt of these timescales, this information be collated into a report for presentation to the future Strategic Partnership Group meeting.

RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION UPDATE - COALFIELD AREA SIP

7. There was submitted a report dated 18 August 1999 (circulated) by the Chief Executive of East Ayrshire Council to inform of the internal appointments made to the Partnership Support Team from East Ayrshire Council and also to advise Members of the outcome of the interviews held for the Integrated Strategies Officer, Monitoring/Evaluation and Research Officer and the timetable for the recruitment of further Partnership staff.

Following discussion it was agreed to:-

- (i) note the internal appointments made to the Partnership Support Team by East Ayrshire Council;
- (ii) note the appointment of the Integrated Strategies Officer;
- (iii) request the Head of Personnel Services of East Ayrshire Council and the Executive Officer review the post of Monitoring/Evaluation and Research Officer and take the necessary steps to ensure the employment of an appropriate Officer; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

COALFIELD COMMUNITIES FEDERATION OF COMMUNITY GROUPS

8. There was submitted and noted a report dated 18 August 1999 (circulated) by the Chief Executive of East Ayrshire Council advising of progress in relation to the establishment of a Coalfield Communities Federation of Community Groups and presenting to Committee for information their draft Constitution, appended to the report.

COALFIELD AREA SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

9. There was submitted a report dated 18 August 1999 (circulated) by the Chief Executive of East Ayrshire Council providing Members with information on the status of project implementation plans and proposing a system for approving such plans.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to establish four Sub-Groups to review project implementation plans;
- (ii) that the Chair of the Strategic Partnership Group sign off finalised project plans;
- (iii) that the Chief Executive bring to the next meeting of the Strategic Partnership Group a finalised Implementation Plan for all projects; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1530 hours.