

**EAST AYRSHIRE COALFIELD AREA SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP
BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20 JUNE 2002 AT 1400 HOURS IN
THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNCIL OFFICES, LUGAR**

PRESENT: Heather Knox, Director of Estates and Facilities, Ayrshire and Arran NHS Primary Health Care Trust; Councillor Julie Faulds, East Ayrshire Council; Sheila White, Co-opted Member; Chief Inspector Hugh McKnight, Strathclyde Police; Bob Gardiner, Ayr College; Dave Wilcock, Kilmarnock College; Jim Burns, Action Team Manager, Kilmarnock Job Centre; Joyce Black, Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire; Jenny Griffin, Assistant Director of NCH; Ciss McCreadie, Development Worker, East Ayrshire Council for Voluntary Organisations; and Community Representatives: Edward Torrance, Caroline McBride, Billy Lees, Tony Foote, Ian Smith, Ronnie Hamilton, Jack Campbell and John Weir.

ATTENDING: Gwen Barker, Manager Social Inclusion; Karl Doroszenko, Policy and Projects Manager; Kirsten Nichols, Accountant; Colin McKee, Senior Planning Officer; Susan Jones Planning Officer; Helen Sinclair, Service Development Officer; Ann Robertson, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer; and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer, East Ayrshire Council.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Elaine Dinwoodie, Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources, East Ayrshire Council; and Community Representative Billy Crawford.

CHAIR: Heather Knox, Director of Estates and Facilities, Ayrshire and Arran Primary Health Care Trust; Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Vice-Chair welcomed Jenny Griffin, Assistant Director of NCH to her first meeting.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. There was submitted (circulated) and agreed as a correct record, the Minutes of previous meeting held on 7 March 2002.

MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Staffing Report

Noted that the post of Social Inclusion Co-ordinator had been re-advertised internally across Partner Members and that Ian Smith, would represent the Coalfield Communities Federation on the Interview Panel to be convened shortly.

3.2 Tackling Drug Mis-Use

Noted that the Scottish Executive had confirmed in writing the success of the SIP's bid for Phase 2 of the Tackling Drug Mis-use Fund.

3.3 Finance Report

Noted that a report on the Employment Working Group's Consultancy had been put out to consultation and comments were expected shortly.

RESTORING COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME

4. There was submitted a report dated 12 June 2002 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which provided an update on the results arising from the Feasibility Study on the Restoring Communities Programme and on the proposed Dalmellington Community Environmental Improvement Project. Thereafter, a presentation was made by Paul Houghton of Ryden Associates and Susan Jones, Planning Officer, East Ayrshire Council.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to take forward the Restoring Communities Project with Auchinleck initially as the main focus of activity;
- (ii) to note the recommendations made by the Ryden Consultants;
- (iii) to seek support from Partner Agencies to participate in the Restoring Communities Initiative;
- (iv) to the proposed Dalmellington Projects and remit the Council's Policy and Projects Section to pursue further funding on the SIP's behalf;
- (v) to request a review of the salary grading of the post of Project Co-ordinator to ensure that an appropriate calibre of candidate was attracted to the position; and
- (vi) to "ring-fence" an additional £18,000.00 from the 2002/03 SIP Core Budget to allow for the appointment of the Project Co-ordinator within this financial year.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP FUND TO 2 JUNE 2002 (PERIOD 2) AND FINAL OUT-TURN SUMMARY STATEMENT FOR THE SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP TO 31 MARCH 2002

5. There was submitted and noted a report dated 12 June 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Finance, East Ayrshire Council, which advised of the final out-turn for the year for services within the remit of the East Ayrshire Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnership Board for the year ended 31 March 2002 and reported on the current budgetary control position for the year 2002/03 for the period ended 2 June 2002 (Period 2).

FINANCE REPORT

6. There was submitted a report dated 12 June 2002 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which advised on a range of financial issues relating to the projects and programmes within the sphere of responsibility of the Social Inclusion Partnership Board.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the funding allocations made in respect of the Social Inclusion Partnership project development budget as detailed within the report;
- (ii) to endorse the match fund allocations against European funding applications for CONDUIT and Job Rotation;

- (iii) to endorse the allocation of up to £10,000 to the Public Transport Corridor Initiative, subject to confirmation of final project costs;
- (iv) to approve the allocation of resources to projects as follows:-
 - Ayrshire Key Fund - ring-fence £10,000 from the core budget for 2002/2003; and
 - Cumnock and Doon Valley Gift Furniture Scheme - to allocate £14,000 towards a replacement van for the organisation;
- (v) to receive a report on the implementation of the Ayrshire Key Fund at a future meeting;
- (vi) to note the proposals for spend against the Empowering Communities Budget;
- (vii) to note that £18,000.00 had been "ring-fenced" in respect for the post of the Restoring Communities Project Co-ordinator and that the unallocated balance would now be £56,379.00;
- (viii) to request that a report be made to a future meeting on a review of the transport network to include possibilities for future expansion of the existing public transport network to link the SIP area to adjacent travel to work areas in Ayrshire and Lanarkshire; and
- (ix) to establish an assessment group comprising Ian Smith, Sheila White, the Manager Social Inclusion, supported by the Funding Officer (SIP) with delegated powers to consider and make recommendations on applications to the Ayrshire Key Fund.

Billy Lees declared a direct non-financial interest in the above item in respect of the Cumnock and Doon Valley Gift Furniture Scheme.

PEOPLE'S PANEL REPORT

7. There was submitted a report dated 12 June 2002 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which advised of the progress in relation to East Ayrshire Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP) People's Panel.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to the recruitment methods detailed within the report and to remit the Manager Social Inclusion to progress these issues;
- (ii) to the establishment of a series of Focus Groups;
- (iii) to remit the Manager Social Inclusion to convene the first event;
- (iv) to note that Partner Members were willing to assist with the circulation of recruitment material and to request that the Manager Social Inclusion consider circulating recruitment material to Community Councils and Community Associations and the three supermarkets within the area; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

YOUNG PEOPLE - ACTIVE CITIZENS

8. There was submitted a report dated 12 June 2002 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which advised of work currently underway to ensure that young people were actively involved in shaping services, both at a local and national level, and

which highlighted proposals to enhance these programmes to ensure that young people were aware of and involved in the Social Inclusion Agenda.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) that the Board adopts the principles contained within the East Ayrshire's Children's Charter;
- (ii) that the Board remits the Manager Social Inclusion to work up a project proposal to encourage young people to become active citizens;
- (iii) that a paper on these proposals be submitted to a future meeting; and
- (iv) to request that the Manager Social Inclusion consider linking the active citizens initiative to a Junior People's Panel and to report back on proposals to a future meeting.

At this point in the meeting support staff directly employed by the SIP Board were asked to leave the meeting in view of the confidential nature of the staffing report to be discussed by the Board at Item 9.

STAFFING REPORT - CONFIDENTIAL

9. There was submitted (tabled) a report dated 20 June 2002 by the Manager Social Inclusion which presented the results of the staffing review and sought Members endorsement for the proposed amendments to the staff structure.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the staffing proposals contained within the report, subject to consultation with the relevant Trades Union;
- (ii) to remit the Manager Social Inclusion to carry out the required discussions with the relevant funding bodies, as necessary;
- (iii) to carry out all necessary tasks, in consultation with the Implementation Group to ensure that the recommendations arising from the staffing review were fully implemented; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The support staff were then re-admitted to the meeting and the confidential reports were collected back in by the Administrative Officer.

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING - CUMNOCK SWIMMING POOL

10. There was submitted a report dated 12 June 2002 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which advised of the application for funding received in respect of Cumnock Swimming Pool and which sought the approval for SIP funding for this initiative.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) in principle, to support the Swimming Pool development;
- (ii) to make an award of £264,000 subject to all other funders confirming their financial allocations and a full project implementation schedule being presented to the Implementation Group for consideration;
- (iii) to agree to a financial breakdown of £30,000 in 2002/03 and £234,000 in 2003/04 and to revert back to the profile of £34,000 - 2002/03; £134,000 -

2003/04; and £100,000 - 2003/04 if the Coalfield SIP is successful in securing further funding beyond 2004; and

- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ANNUAL REPORT 2001/02

11. There was submitted a report dated 12 June 2002 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which requested endorsement of the Annual Report due to be submitted to Communities Scotland by 30 June 2002.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the Annual Report for submission to Communities Scotland by 30 June 2002;
- (ii) to remit the Manager Social Inclusion to commission the production of the Annual Report in an interesting and attractive format which can be widely circulated within the Coalfield Area; and
- (iii) to remit the Manager Social Inclusion to consider the appropriateness of placing an advert to focus on the achievements of the Coalfield SIP Board Annual Report 2001/02 within local papers.

PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT

12. There was submitted a report dated 12 June 2002 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which advised of progress made by projects meeting their agreed targets for 2001/02 and of the agreed targets set for 2002/03.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made by the projects against their set targets for 2001/02;
- (ii) to approve the implementation of targets for 2002/03; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

13. The Chair advised that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 19 September 2002.

The meeting terminated at 1600 hours.