

EAST AYRSHIRE COALFIELD AREA SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2001 AT 1410 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, DALMELLINGTON AREA CENTRE

PRESENT: Councillors David Macrae, Elaine Dinwoodie, Julie Faulds and Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources, East Ayrshire Council; Joyce Black, representing Scottish Enterprise (Ayrshire); Sheila White, Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Business Partnership; Lynda Hamilton, representing Director of Public Health, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board; Chief Inspector Hugh McKnight, Strathclyde Police; Bob Gardiner, Ayr College; Dave Wilcock, Kilmarnock College; Jim Burns, Action Team Manager, Employment Service; Ciss McCreadie, Development Worker, East Ayrshire Council of Voluntary Organisations; and Community Representatives: Caroline McBride; Billy Lees; Billy Crawford; Ronnie Hamilton; Jack Campbell; and John Weir.

ATTENDING: Gwen Barker, Manager Social Inclusion, East Ayrshire Council; Janie Allen, Principal Officer, Educational and Social Services, East Ayrshire Council; Kirsten Nichols, Accountant, East Ayrshire Council; and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer, East Ayrshire Council.

APOLOGIES: Heather Knox, Director of Estates and Facilities and Geraldine O'Donnell, Corporate Services Manager, Ayrshire and Arran Primary Health Care Trust; and Community Representatives Edward Torrance and Ian Smith.

CHAIR: Councillor David Macrae, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Mrs Linda Van Heerden, Head of Business Studies and IT Springs College, South Africa who was on a Management Exchange Programme with the British Council and South African Government as an observer to the meeting.
- 1.2 The Chair agreed to take Item 3 Children's Service Plan and Childcare Partnership as the next item on the Agenda.

CHILDREN'S SERVICE PLAN AND CHILDCARE PARTNERSHIP

- 2.1 The Board received a presentation by the Principal Officer, Early Years, East Ayrshire Council, which comprised of the content and implementation of East Ayrshire Council's second Children's Services Plan, "Inspiring Young People".

Following discussion it was agreed:-

- (i) to note that the proposed family centre for the Cumnock/Auchinleck area was now considered to be better located within Cumnock with outreach services being provided to Auchinleck;
- (ii) that the Manager Social Inclusion would arrange for a designated officer to represent the SIP and to be tasked with ensuring the effective communication and co-ordination of developments in relation to Childcare issue and to liaise with the East Ayrshire Childcare Partnership;

- (iii) that the SIP be represented at all East Ayrshire Childcare Partnership meetings to support the Social Inclusion perspective being reflected in its priorities and planning;
- (iv) that the Manager Social Inclusion would arrange for the East Ayrshire Childcare Partnership to be represented at all SIP planning events to ensure SIP planning is informed by pertinent childcare issues and priorities;
- (v) that the Administrative Officer ensure that copies of SIP Board papers and minutes be forwarded to the East Ayrshire Childcare Partnership Officer after each Board meeting to ensure that the Childcare Partnership is aware of all initiatives and activities funded/supported by the SIP Board; and
- (vi) to note that designated officers would keep each other informed of emerging issues from both Partnerships in relation to Childcare and would brief their Line Managers as appropriate.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3. There was submitted (circulated) and agreed as a current record, the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 21 June 2001.

3.1 MATTERS ARISING

3.1.1 Funding Issues

Noted that the Manager Social Inclusion was in the process of undertaking the necessary development work in assessments of applications where the decision had been deferred in the funding issues report;

3.1.2 Action Planning

Noted the launch of the East Ayrshire Community Learning Partnership was undertaken on 11 September 2001.

3.1.3 Progress Report

Noted that the Manager Social Inclusion reported that the Chair had written to Margaret Curran, MSP, Deputy Minister for Social Justice to invite her to attend the Conference to launch the Annual Progress Report for 2000/2001.

3.1.4 Annual Report - 2000/2001

Noted that the Manager Social Inclusion had commissioned the production of the Annual Report in an interesting and attractive format and it was intended for copies to be issued shortly to Board Members.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT: SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP FUND TO 26 AUGUST 2001 (PERIOD 5)

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 7 September 2001 (circulated) by the Director of Finance, East Ayrshire Council, which advised of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for services within the remit of the East Ayrshire Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnership for the period ended 26 August 2001 (period 5).

DRAFT STRATEGY DOCUMENT

5. There was submitted a report dated 11 September 2001 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which presented to Members for their consideration and comment a Draft Strategy for the SIP.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the general principles contained within the document as detailed within the report;
- (ii) to request Members to forward any comments/alterations they may have on the document to the Manager Social Inclusion by 15 October 2001; and
- (iii) to remit to the implementation groups to sign off the document as necessary.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

6. There was submitted a report dated 10 September 2001 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which presented to Members a Draft Expenses Procedure in respect of loss of earnings, childcare and carers' expenses for Community Representatives for their consideration.

Following discussion it was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the expenses procedure and allowances as undernoted:-
 - SIP will provide childcare where appropriate. If childcare cannot be provided childcare expenses at a rate of up to £5 per hour can be claimed.
 - Community Representatives with caring responsibilities who wish to contribute to SIP activity can claim expenses up to a rate of £6 per hour.
 - in line with the current system in place for Children's Panel Members, the following rates are proposed to cover loss of earnings:

Time Period	Amount
A - up to 4 hours	£24.29
B - 4 hours and over but not exceeding 24 hours	£48.57
C - over 24 hours	Aggregate of £48.47 plus a total amount as specified in A and/or B as appropriate

- (ii) to note that East Ayrshire Council would, where possible, allow paid leave for its employees who are Community Representatives on the SIP to attend each SIP Board meeting and 2 training events per annum. Additional time off would require to be negotiated at Departmental level. All paid leave would be subject to the exigencies of the service;
- (iii) to request all Partner Agencies to give consideration to the introduction of a similar system;
- (iv) to request that Manager Social Inclusion write to the relevant employers highlighting the positive contribution made by Community Representatives to

- the Partnership and to seek employers' support for their continued participation;
- (v) that all expense claims required to be submitted on a SIP expenses claim form and authorised by the Manager Social Inclusion. Receipts required to be attached to claim forms, where possible;
 - (vi) that the SIP could not be held responsible for ensuring the quality of childcare or carers used;
 - (vii) to note that it is the responsibility of those receiving expenses to ensure that they declare the income and investigate any implications for tax or benefits purposes;
 - (viii) that the system be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that it is effective and meets the needs of the Community Representatives participating in the SIP activity; and
 - (ix) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

FORWARD PLAN

7. There was submitted a report dated 10 September 2001 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which presented to Members proposals for project development to 2004.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the package of projects as detailed as Appendix I to this minute;
- (ii) to approve the indicative budget allocation for 2002/03 which amounted to £165,000 which could be met from the unallocated budget for 2002/03;
- (iii) to remit to the Manager Social Inclusion in conjunction with the relevant partners to take forward proposals for project development to 2004; and
- (iv) that the Manager Social Inclusion be granted authority to book the Lochside Hotel as an appropriate venue to hold the conference to launch the Annual Progress Report for 2000/2001 and that the costs be met from within existing resources.

FUNDING REPORT

8. There was submitted a report dated 11 September 2001 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which reported on a range of funding issues pertinent to the Coalfield SIP.

Following discussion it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the decisions made by the Manager Social Inclusion on a range of small projects funded from the SIP Development Budget as detailed within the report;
- (ii) to note the decisions made by the Implementation Group as detailed in the report;
- (iii) to approve the allocation of funding from the SIP Core Budget as detailed within the report;
- (iv) Welcomed the preparation of a Guide to Applying Successfully to Trusts and Funds (circulated), prepared in partnership by East Ayrshire Council, the East

Ayrshire Coalfield Area Social Inclusion Partnership Board and the East Ayrshire Council for Voluntary Organisations which was launched on 19 September 2001 and that further packs were available by contacting East Ayrshire Council's External Funding Officer; and

- (v) to extend thanks to all Partners for preparation of the Funding Guide.

STAFFING REPORT

9. There was submitted a Staffing Report dated 17 September 2001 (circulated) by the Manager Social Inclusion which advised the Board of the impending departure of the Integrated Strategies Officer to take up the post of Community Planning Officer within East Dunbartonshire Council and which requested that changes be made to the current job description and post designation prior to advertising, to reflect current priorities and operating arrangements.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to extend the Board's best wishes to Fiona Dickson in her new post;
- (ii) to approve the change of focus on the post as detailed within the report;
- (iii) to request that the Implementation Group be remitted to carry out the required actions to ensure the post is advertised timeously; and
- (iv) to request that the Manager Social Inclusion undertake a further review of workloads, remits and responsibilities of staff and to report the need for further realignment to the next Board meeting.

ACTION TEAM FOR JOBS

10. The Action Team for Jobs Project Manager advised that, since 12 July 2000 when the Government announced the establishment of the East Ayrshire Action Team Pathfinder Project which targeted the postcode areas of KA18-3 (Muirkirk, Logan, Lugar, Netherthird and Craighens), one thousand people had been provided with assistance and to date 527 people had been assisted into work or training. The Action Team Manager advised that following consultation with Government Ministers, the Department of Work and Pensions had now added the following postcode areas within the SIP Board area, which would become operational from 15 October 2001: KA18-4 and KA6-7 (New Cumnock, Dalmellington, Drongan, Patna, Stair, Rankinston and Dalrymple).

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to welcome the extension of the Employment Services' Pathfinder Action Team for Jobs within the SIP Board Area;
- (ii) to request that the Action Team for Jobs Manager provide the Administrative Officer with details of the frequency and venues of Action Team for Jobs surgeries being held within the SIP area for onwards transmission to Board Members; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the position.

The meeting terminated at 1520 hours.

APPENDIX 1

THEME: COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Target Area/Group	Issue	Partners	Indicative Funding Package SIP 2002/03
New Cumnock Young people	Establish a quality youth work facility within the New Cumnock area.	EAC NERVE SIP	£30,000
Dalrymple Young people	Establish a quality youth work initiative within the Dalrymple area	EAC SIP	£30,000
Bellsbank Children and young people	Enhance existing provision within the Bellsbank area, as need determines.	Bellsbank Adventure Playground EAC SIP	To be advised
Dalmellington All residents	Conversion of Doon Academy to enhance community access to sport/leisure facilities.	EAC SIP	To be advised
Cumnock Auchinleck Families	To establish a family centre within the Cumnock/Auchinleck area.	EAC SIP	To be advised
Netherthird All residents	To explore the opportunities for community management of Netherthird community centre	EAC SIP	To be advised
Coalfield Area All residents	To further enhance the alternatives to addiction work carried out by the SIP.	Bridge Project EAC SIP	To be advised
Coalfield Area Young people	To encourage young people to be active citizens and participate in the work of the SIP.	EAC yipworld.com SIP	£25,000
Coalfield Area All residents	To promote access to leisure/recreational facilities and encourage community participation through the establishment of a discount/reward card.	EAC New Community School SIP	To be advised
Coalfield Area Young people	Building on the success of the "sportsfest" project deliver a programme targeted at encouraging 12-15 year olds to actively participate/excel in sport	EAC SIP	To be advised
Coalfield Area All residents	To establish a key fund across Ayrshire with localised management of the Coalfield Area budget managed by the SIP	SEA All Ayrshire SIP's	£30-£50,000 to be confirmed.

THEME: PEOPLE INTO WORK

Target Area/Group	Issue	Partners	Indicative Funding Package SIP 2002/03
Coalfield Area All residents within targeted communities	To provide a scheme which compliments the work of the Jobs Action team by providing practical and flexible assistance to enable unemployed individuals who live out with the areas covered by the Jobs Action Team to move into work.	EAC Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire (SEA) East Ayrshire Employment Init. SIP	£20,000 Reallocate funding previously approved for the Personal Development Fund.
Coalfield Area All residents	To respond flexibly to inward investment opportunities. Supporting the development of a skilled workforce and dynamic infrastructure.	EAC SEA Jobs Action Team SIP	To be advised

THEME: LIVING IN A QUALITY ENVIRONMENT

Target Area/Group	Issue	Partners	Indicative Funding Package SIP 2002/03
Auchinleck	To carry out environmental improvements to Auchinleck main street as part of an comprehensive improvement action plan	EAC SIP	To be advised
Dalmellington & environs	To carry out final environmental improvement work and pilot the creation of a neighbourhood action team	EAC SIP	£30,000
Muirkirk	To consider an environmental improvement programme in line with the Muirkirk prospectus	EAC SEA SIP	To be advised
Netherthird/ Cumröck	To explore the options for environmental improvements linked to the proposed community management initiative	EAC SIP	To be advised

