

## **EAST AYRSHIRE NORTH SOCIAL INCLUSION INITIATIVE BOARD**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16 AUGUST 2001 AT 1405 HOURS IN THE PARK SUITE, KILMARNOCK FOOTBALL CLUB, RUGBY PARK, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors David Macrae; Jane Darnbrough and Willie Coffey, East Ayrshire Council; Heather Knox, Director of Estates and Facilities; and Geraldine O'Donnell, Corporate Services Manager, Ayrshire and Arran Primary Healthcare Trust; Margaret McWilliam, Ayrshire & Arran Health Board; Superintendent Alistair McKie, Divisional Commander, Strathclyde Police; Ciss McCreadie, East Ayrshire Council for Voluntary Organisation; and Community Representatives Gerard Cassidy, Jimmy Miller, Beryl Graham and Linda Thomson.

**ATTENDING:** Douglas Campbell, Head of Corporate Development and Communications; Gwen Barker, Manager Social Inclusion; Kirsten Nichols, Accountant, Finance Department; Andy MacDonald, Service Unit Manager; Matthew Lowther, Health Development Manager; and Robert Beaton, Administrative Officer, East Ayrshire Council.

**APOLOGIES:** Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources, East Ayrshire Council; Margaret Davison, Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire; Jim Burns, Action Team Manager; and Community Representatives Matt Donnelly and Peggy Shaw.

**CHAIR:** Councillor David Macrae, Chair.

#### **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. There was submitted (circulated) Minutes of the previous meeting held on 24 April 2001 and agreed as a correct record.

#### **BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - UPDATE ON CURRENT POSITION**

2. Having heard the Accountant from East Ayrshire Council's Finance Department advise that there was still £65,000 available in the Challenge Fund and £20,000 available from Enterprise Ayrshire and that as of 23 April 2001 there had been no expenditure set against this fund, the position was noted.

#### **PLANNING SESSION - UPDATE**

3. There was submitted a report dated 7 August 2001 which advised of actions taken as a result of the Board's planning day in June and sought approval for a future project development.

Following discussion, the Board agreed:-

- (i) to note that developments arising from the issues identified within the report were the subject of separate reports to the Board meeting;
- (ii) to request that the Manager Social Inclusion report to the next meeting on actions taken to implement initiatives designed to tackle the following issues: preparation of an area profile; aftercare for people experiencing addiction problems; and establishment of a federation of community groups;

- (iii) that a future report be presented on the review of funding requirements of existing projects;
- (iv) to note that the Ayrshire Drugs and Alcohol Team were undertaking an Action Profile of evidence and need and Community Representatives were invited to take part and further details could be obtained from the Manager Social Inclusion; and
- (v) to note the intention to hold another planning day in February 2002 and prior to this, to request that the Manager Social Inclusion arrange a follow up session with Community Representatives;

#### **PUBLIC INFORMATION**

4. There was submitted (circulated) a report dated 6 August 2001 by the Manager, Social Inclusion which sought approval to utilise funds to produce a range of public information that will raise community's understanding and awareness of social inclusion in the north area.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the proposals as detailed within the report;
- (ii) that £3,000 be allocated towards the cost of developments designed to improve public information on Social Inclusion which could be met from within the budget of the North Social Inclusion Initiative;
- (iii) to remit the Manager Social Inclusion to take forward these proposals;
- (iv) to request that the Manager Social Inclusion circulate the draft text for public information leaflet to Board members for comments prior to finalisation.

#### **COMMUNITY LEARNING**

5. There was submitted (circulated) a report dated 1 August 2001 by the Manager Social Inclusion which advised of planned activities to promote strategic thinking and action planning in respect of community learning and to encourage participation and ownership in the process.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the developments detailed within the report to ensure a co-ordinated approach to community learning; and
- (ii) to consider the action plan prepared as a result of these sessions at a future Board meeting and to incorporate progress of the Inspectorate visit to the North West Community Learning Pilot Project within the report.

#### **BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES FUND**

6. There was submitted (circulated) a report dated 6 August 2001 by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources, East Ayrshire Council which updated members on the consultation process for the new Better Neighbourhood Services Fund (BNSF).

Following discussion, it was agreed:

- (i) to welcome the acceptance by the Scottish Executive of East Ayrshire Council's proposals for targeting the Better Neighbourhood Services Fund within the North West Kilmarnock and Shortlees/Riccanton; and
- (ii) to note the arrangements for the BNSF consultation exercise would be double-checked and augmented where appropriate.

#### **CHILDREN'S CHANGE FUND - TACKLING DRUGS**

7. There was submitted (circulated) a report dated 6 August 2001 by the Director of Educational and Social Services, East Ayrshire Council which advised of proposals to develop a range of initiatives utilising the Children's Change Fund (Allocation for Tackling Drugs).

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the report;
- (ii) to endorse the approach detailed within the report in relation to tackling drugs and Board members were invited to advise the Service Unit Manager of any further comments.

#### **COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME**

8. There was submitted and noted (circulated) a report dated 3 August 2001 by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources of East Ayrshire Council which advised of the proposed work programme for the Community Health Improvement Project's new mobile resource the "Chip Van" for 2001/2002.

#### **PROPOSED ANTI-POVERTY INITIATIVES**

9. There was submitted (circulated) a report dated 6 August 2001 by the Manager Social Inclusion which sought approval to utilise funds to promote a range of anti-poverty initiatives that would address issues in relation to money and welfare benefit advice.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the proposals detailed within the report;
- (ii) to approve the necessary funding of £2,000 towards this initiative;
- (iii) to remit to the Manager Social Inclusion to progress this initiative in conjunction with the core partners; and
- (iv) to request the Manager Social Inclusion consult community representatives on potential locations of information stalls.

#### **EMPLOYMENT REPORT**

10. There was submitted (circulated) a report dated 1 August 2001 by the Manager Social Inclusion which advised of existing programmes operating to support/assist unemployed people into work and advised of actions being taken to ensure a consistency of approach across the Authority.

Following discussion, it was agreed:-

- (i) to note the positive work carried out by the Jobs Action Team and its efforts to expand the delivery of this programme as detailed within the report;
- (ii) to endorse the proposal to establish a complimentary initiative to ensure a consistency of approach across the area, as detailed within the report;
- (iii) to approve up to £10,000 from the Challenge Fund budget being utilised to support the re-packaging and implementation of this development, if required; and
- (iv) to remit to the Manager Social Inclusion, in conjunction with core partners, to take forward this initiative.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

11. Having heard the Chair, it was agreed to note that the next meeting will be held on Thursday 8 November 2001 at 1400 hours.

The meeting terminated at 1530 hours.

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