

Liaison Meeting between the Irvine, Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area  
Committee and the Community Planning Partners  
15 January 2004

**Irvine, 15 January 2004** - At a Meeting of the Irvine, Kilwinning, Dreghorn and Springside Area Committee and Community Planning Partners at 11.45 a.m.

**Present**

Councillors Ian Clarkson, Thomas Barr, Jack Carson, Stewart Dewar, Drew Duncan, John Moffat, David O'Neill and Donald Reid (North Ayrshire Council); Sgt. Caroline Ferguson (Strathclyde Police); A.D.O. Garry Milne (Strathclyde Fire Brigade); and Pauline Fyfe, (North Ayrshire Local Health Care Co-operative).

**In Attendance**

J. Currie, Head of Cleansing, Grounds Maintenance & Transport (Property Services), M. Smyth, Community Safety Co-ordinator (Legal and Protective), M. McKeown and A. Little, Corporate and Democratic Support Officers (Chief Executive's).

**Also In Attendance**

B. Walker, Manager of North Ayrshire Volunteer Centre.

**Chair**

Councillor Clarkson in the Chair.

**Apologies for Absence**

Councillors Jacqueline Browne, Jane Gorman and Margaret McDougall (North Ayrshire Council), Ian Baird (Communities Scotland) and Sinclair Molloy (Ayrshire and Arran Acute Hospitals Trust).

**1. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Liaison Meeting held on 9 October 2003, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

**2. Presentation: North Ayrshire Volunteer Centre**

Brenda Walker, Manager of North Ayrshire Volunteer Centre, Saltcoats made a presentation on the work of the Volunteer Centre since it was established in October 1999.

The main functions of the Centre are to increase the number of people involved in volunteering, broaden the range of people volunteering, generate more positive attitudes to volunteering and to raise the profile of volunteering at local and national policy level.

The Centre provides guidance, support and training to people who wish to be volunteers and currently has over 700 people registered for volunteering activities. The Centre has worked closely with the Council in the preparation and implementation of the Council's Volunteering Policy. The Policy was finalised in 2001 and has been used as an example of best practice by Volunteer Development Scotland and the Scottish Executive. A new 'Strategy for Volunteering' outlining how all agencies should take volunteering forward, and how volunteering should impact on policies and initiatives will be launched shortly by the Scottish Executive.

Noted.

### **3. Vandalism and Graffiti**

Submitted report by the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Protective), North Ayrshire Council, on the work of North Ayrshire Community Safety Forum in relation to tackling vandalism and graffiti.

The Community Safety Forum, led by Strathclyde Police, acts as the Community Safety Thematic Group within the new Community Planning Partnership structure. The Forum's Strategy and Action Plan has identified the need to conduct an audit and to establish initiatives with partners to reduce the current levels of vandalism and graffiti in North Ayrshire. In order to prioritise these issues the Forum proposes that a Multi-Agency Action Plan be developed.

Vandalism and graffiti issues, including abandoned vehicles, litter, fly-tipping, dog fouling and discarded needles, were discussed. The meeting was advised that the Council continues to work with the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA), Strathclyde Police and Strathclyde Fire Brigade to ensure the swift removal of abandoned vehicles.

The Liaison Meeting agreed (a) to support the approach being taken by the Community Safety Forum in developing a Multi-Agency Action Plan to reduce vandalism and graffiti; and (b) that the Council's Head of Cleansing, Grounds Maintenance and Transport make a presentation to a future meeting on measures being employed to tackle vandalism and graffiti throughout North Ayrshire.

The meeting ended at 12 50 p.m.