

Three Towns and Arran Committee
31 October 2001

SALTCOATS, 31 October 2001 - At a Meeting of the Three Towns and Arran Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 1.30 p.m.

Present

John Sillars, Margaret Munn, David Gallagher and David Munn.

In Attendance

A Beattie, Principal Officer (Children & Families Services) and S. Bates, Local Manager (Social Services); A. Smith, Divisional Manager (Housing Services) (Property Services); I. Frame, Area Officer (Community Education) and J. Brady, Adviser (Educational Services); S. King, A. Sobieraj and D. McCaw, Corporate and Democratic Support Officers (Chief Executive's)

Also In Attendance

Chief Inspector J. Johnstone (Strathclyde Police); and Assistant Divisional Officer P. Nelis (Strathclyde Fire Brigade).

Chair

Mr. Sillars in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Peter McNamara and Alan Munro.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 12 September 2001, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed.

2. Community Safety

2.1 Report by Strathclyde Police

Submitted report by Strathclyde Police advising of the level of recorded crime within the Three Towns and Arran Committee's Boundaries.

Noted.

2.2 Report by Strathclyde Fire Brigade

Submitted report by Strathclyde Fire Brigade on Fire Incidents within the Committee's boundaries during the periods 1 to 31 July and 1 to 31 August 2001.

Noted.

3. Scrutiny Reports

3.1 Educational Services: Services for Children 0-5 Years

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on the current position and proposals for the development of the service for children aged 0-5 years and their families.

Noted.

3.2 Social Services: Children & Families (Services)

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Social Services) on changes to service priorities in residential care, day care and family placements.

Noted.

3.3 Property Services: Voids

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Property Services) on the number of voids received since 1 April 2001 and on the average number of weeks to re-let.

Considerable discussion ensued relative to the complex reasons for the number and duration of voids and noted that the Council was working to address this issue through a corporate approach to the regeneration of housing estates.

The Committee expressed their continued concern as to the number and duration of voids and agreed (a) to advise the Corporate Director (Property Services) of their concerns; and (b) that he be asked to report directly to members on the actions which are being taken and will be taken to address these area of ongoing concern.

4. Community Development Grants Scheme

4.1 Analysis of Grants

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the Community Development Grants to 17 September 2001, including details of the balance of £3,513.80 available for disbursement.

Noted.

4.2 Applications for Grant Aid

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Educational Services) on applications for grant aid from the Community Development Grants Scheme for 2001/2002.

The Committee agreed to make the following awards:-

Organisation	Award
Isle of Arran Pipe Band	£600
Saltcoats Celebrations Committee	£800 underwrite
Pirnmill Mini Youth Club	£300

5. Ardrossan Common Good Fund: Request for Financial Assistance

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on an application for financial assistance from the Ardrossan Common Good Fund by Ardrossan Christmas Decorations Committee.

The Committee agreed to make an award of £1,000.

The Meeting ended at 2.25 p.m.