

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**CABINET****MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE 2008 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Douglas Reid, Iain Linton, John MacKay, Hugh Ross, Jim Todd, Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, Jim Roberts and Kathy Morrice; Church Representative John McHugh; Teacher Representative Iain Harvey; and Parent Representative David Fraser.

ATTENDING: Fiona Lees, Chief Executive; Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support; Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services; William Stafford, Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services; Alex McPhee, Executive Head of Finance and Asset Management; Bill Walkinshaw, Head of Democratic Services; David Mitchell, Head of Legal, Procurement and Regulatory Services; Alan Neish, Head of Planning and Economic Development; Euan Couperwhite, Head of Resource Support; Andrew Sutherland, Head of Schools and Christine Baillie, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Jim Buchanan; and Church Representatives Bill McGregor and Dr Ivy Barclay.

CHAIR: Councillor Douglas Reid, Chair.

LIFELONG LEARNING**RECOGNISING WIDER ACHIEVEMENT**

- 1E.** There was submitted a report dated 12 June 2008 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of a Collaborative Enquiry Project aimed at recognising wider achievement proposed to be undertaken in East Ayrshire and to be supported by Learning Teaching Scotland (LTS) and which gave information on other related developments.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the project to be undertaken in Doon Academy in partnership with Kilmarnock College;
- (ii) to invite the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to report on progress in due course; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Iain Linton joined the meeting during discussion of the above item.

DEVELOPING CPD ACTIVITIES FOR LEARNING AND TEACHING LITERACY

- 2E.** There was submitted a report dated 12 June 2008 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of details of a Development Project aimed at undertaking a small scale action research project through practical classroom application proposed to be undertaken at Auchinleck Academy and supported by Learning Teaching Scotland (LTS).

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the project to be undertaken in Auchinleck Academy;
- (ii) to invite the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to report on progress in due course; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**DEPARTMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACTION PLAN 2008/09 (Item 12,
Pages 319, 320, 07/11)**

- 3E.** There were submitted reports by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services and Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought Cabinet approval for their respective 2008/09 Health and Safety Action Plans as undernoted (all circulated).

The non-elected members participated in discussion and determination of the Department of Educational and Social Services' Health and Safety Action Plan only (Item 3.1E).

3.1 GENERAL

In addition to specific matters relating to Departmental Action Plans, Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) following advice from the Chief Executive, to note that the review and update of the Council's Corporate Stress Management Policy would be completed by December 2008 and reported thereon; and
- (ii) to note that existing feedback arrangements in terms of progress on the Council's Corporate Health and Safety Action Plan included 6 monthly progress reports to Cabinet with additional relevant information being provided on the Councillors' Information Portal.

3.2E EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed 2008/09 Educational and Social Services Health and Safety Action Plan, as appended to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

3.3 CORPORATE SUPPORT

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed 2008/09 Corporate Support Health and Safety Action Plan, as appended to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

3.4 NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposed 2008/09 Neighbourhood Services Health and Safety Action Plan, as appended to the report; and

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

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

4. Cabinet resolved "That under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act".

REVIEW OF RINGFENCED FUNDING

- 5E. There was submitted a report dated 9 June 2008 (circulated) by the Executive Head of Finance and Asset Management which described the process involved in reviewing funding where ringfencing had been removed in the Local Government Finance Settlement 2008/2009 to 2010/2011 and which sought approval from the recommendations arising.

The non-elected members participated in the discussion and determination on the Lifelong Learning Portfolio Section of this report only.

Cabinet agreed, having noted that the total proposed saving in Appendix 1 of the report should be £996,173:-

- (i) to support the reduction of ringfenced resources within the Lifelong Learning Portfolio as indicated in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (ii) to support the reduction of ringfenced resources within the Environment and Regeneration, Community Wellbeing and Management and Resources Portfolios as indicated in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (iii) to request the Executive Head of Finance and Asset Management to bring forward options for reinvestment of the £996,173 released to a future meeting of the Cabinet; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Church Representative John McHugh, Parent Representative David Fraser and Teacher Representative Iain Harvey left the meeting at this point.

EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAMME: BID FOR EUROPEAN FUNDING

6. There was submitted a report dated 16 June 2008 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which updated Members on the Community Planning Partnership's (CPP) bid for funding of employability programmes from the European Structural Fund (ESF) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and which sought Cabinet approval for the establishment of a permanent core team to manage and co-ordinate the activities of the Council led skills development and employability service.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to the establishment of a comprehensive Skills Development and Employability Service as detailed in the report;
- (ii) to the revenue budgets referred to at paragraph 5.2 of the report being vired from Personnel to Planning and Economic Development Services; and

- (iii) to the match funding held centrally referred to at paragraph 5.4 of the report being drawn down by Corporate Support in both 2008/09 and 2009/10.

The meeting terminated at 1050 hours.