

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**CABINET****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6 MAY 2009 AT 1000 HOURS
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Douglas Reid, Iain Linton, John MacKay, Jim Buchanan, Hugh Ross, Robert McDill, Barney Menzies, Kathy Morrice and 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; Robin Gourlay, Head of Facilities Management; Chris McAleavey, Head of Housing; David Mitchell, Head of Legal, Procurement and Regulatory Services; Eddie Fraser, Head of Service: Community Care; Kay Gilmour, Head of Service: Community Support; Andrew Sutherland, Head of Service: Schools; and Lynn Young, Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Jim McCaffrey, Head Teacher, Hillside School; Linda McAulay, Depute Head Teacher and Louise Welsh and Stacey Campbell, James Hamilton Academy.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Jim Todd and Jim Roberts; and Church Representative Bill McGregor.

CHAIR: Councillor Douglas Reid, Leader of the Council.

CHAIRS REMARKS

1. The Chair welcomed Councillor Barney Menzies, to his first Cabinet meeting and anticipated his positive contribution to the work of the Cabinet. The Chair also welcomed Jim McCaffrey, Head Teacher, Hillside School and Linda McAulay, Depute Head Teacher, Louise Welsh and Stacey Campbell, James Hamilton Academy.

LIFELONG LEARNING**PRESENTATIONS BY JAMES HAMILTON ACADEMY, KILMARNOCK AND
HILLSIDE SCHOOL, CUMNOCK IN CONNECTION WITH THE SCOTTISH
EDUCATION AWARDS FOR 2009**

- 2E. The Cabinet received presentations from Jim McCaffrey, Head Teacher, Hillside School, and Linda McAulay, Depute Head Teacher and pupils Louise Welsh and Stacey Campbell, James Hamilton Academy in connection with the Scottish Education Awards for 2009.

The Chair thanked Jim McCaffrey, Linda McAulay, Louise Welsh and Stacey Campbell for their excellent presentations.

16+ LEARNING CHOICES

- 3E.** There was submitted a report dated 29 April 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval, using Scottish Government funding, to enhance the 16+ Learning Choices Team by the temporary (23 months) appointment of an education professional with a designated responsibility to lead and manage the 16+ Learning Choices Programme.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made to date in the 16+ Learning Choices Programme and to appoint an educational professional with a responsibility to lead and manage the programme on behalf of the Council;
- (ii) they be kept informed of future developments; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

UPDATE ON THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE ON THE EXTENSION OF THE SCHOOL NURSING SERVICE IN EAST AYRSHIRE SECONDARY SCHOOLS (Item 4E, Page 555, 07/12)

- 4E.** There was submitted a report dated 20 April 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which provided feedback on the consultation on the proposed development of "Holistic Health Clinics" in non-denominational Secondary Schools in East Ayrshire.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) that given the positive and supportive response at Parent Council sessions and the return of only 3 objections (one in part), to approve the development of holistic health clinics in all of the non-denominational schools in East Ayrshire; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

PROPOSED SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2010/2011 (Item 8, Page 795, 03/07)

- 5E.** There was submitted a report dated 21 April 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval to consult with educational establishments, Parent Councils, Chamber of Commerce, Churches and the Teachers' Unions on the proposals detailed in the report.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to note that the Head of Service: Schools would ensure that the table in Appendix 3 of the report would clarify that the information from other Councils related to either proposed or agreed dates whichever was relevant;
- (ii) that the document, as amended, attached to the report be issued for consultation;
- (iii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services produce a further report outlining the results of the consultation process; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

PAYMENT TO PARTNER PROVIDERS

- 6E.** There was submitted a report dated 21 April 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the minimum level of payment to partner providers for the academic session 2009/10.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the level of £1,687 per place for partner providers; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ARDBEG COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTRE (Item 1E, Page 460, 07/12)

- 7E.** There was submitted and noted a report dated March 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which provided an update on Ardbeg Community Education Centre since it had been declared surplus to operational requirements in August 2008.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE (Item 2, Page 600, 07/12)

- 8E.** There was submitted a report dated 28 April 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Head of Finance and Asset Management which advised of the progress made with regard to specific key projects in the Capital Investment Programme, which included options to take the programme forward.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the development of detailed designs in relation to the merger of Witchhill and Woodstock School on the Park School site, and that the budget would be adjusted to accommodate the revised specification;
- (ii) to note that the refurbished New Cumnock Primary School would not include community facilities at present, and that the final costs would be dependent upon the outcome of any additional flood risk mitigation required;
- (iii) having noted the outcome of the option appraisal exercise, that, dependent upon the outcome of the necessary public consultation, a new school be built to accommodate the co-location of Patna and St Xavier's Primary Schools, which would include consideration of the incorporation of shared community facilities to replace some standalone facilities;
- (iv) that subject to the statutory public consultation process, the Darvel Primary School Extension should include the integration of the existing Nursery School and that the budget for the project be adjusted to accommodate this;
- (v) to approve the development of detailed designs in relation to providing outdoor athletic facilities for Kilmarnock with interior training facility and enhanced internal arrangements and that the budget be adjusted to accommodate the enhanced specification;
- (vi) to note the proposals in respect of the new changing pavilions and that the projects for Netherthird and Knockentiber be progressed as quickly as possible;
- (vii) in future, where information on indicative designs for new builds are to be put on public display, that appropriate local Elected Members also receive a copy simultaneously;

- (viii) to ensure that capital expenditure is accelerated whenever possible; and
- (ix) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

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

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

TELECARE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

9. There was submitted a report dated April 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the progress made with the implementation of Telecare Services in East Ayrshire.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to note the positive contribution the Telecare Partnership Arrangements made to the community care infrastructure;
- (ii) to the proposed work programme for 2009/10 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION

CHARGES FOR ROADS SERVICES (Item 16, Page 335, 07/12)

10. There was submitted a report dated 23 April 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which sought approval for revised charges relating to Road permits, permissions and services provided by the Council for implementation on 1 June 2009, and which noted that a review of Car Parking and Car Parking Enforcement Charges would be undertaken once the review of the study for the Decriminalised Parking was complete.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the revised charges for permits, permissions and services as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (ii) to note that a review of Car Parking and Car Parking Enforcement Charges would be undertaken following completion of the review of the study for Decriminalised Parking; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES

FORMER BELLSFORD CHILDREN'S UNIT

11. There was submitted a report dated 11 March 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which requested that Cabinet declare surplus to requirements the Social Work property at 50 Richardland Road, Kilmarnock.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) that the property at 50 Richardland Road, Kilmarnock be declared surplus to the requirements of the Department of Educational and Social Services;
- (ii) that the property be referred to the Executive Head of Finance and Asset Management for disposal or re-allocation in accordance with Council policy; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**EAST AYRSHIRE VOLUNTEER CENTRE - APPLICATION
FOR GRANT FUNDING**

- 12.** There was submitted a report dated 15 April 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of a grant application for 2009/10 from the Volunteer Centre.

Cabinet having noted that the second sentence within paragraph 3.1 of the report should read "The grant requested is to help with recurring costs" agreed:-

- (i) to approve a grant of £12,000 for financial year 2009/10 for the East Ayrshire Volunteer Centre; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

SKILLSEEKERS ALLOWANCES 2009/10

- 13.** There was submitted a report dated 20 April 2009 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which sought approval (i) to increase the Skillseeker training allowance to align it with that paid currently by North and South Ayrshire Councils; (ii) to recruit 25 Administration Skillseeker trainees for placement in Council service as per the 2009/2010 National Training Programmes Contract with Skills Development Scotland; and (iii) for the provision of suitable work experience and mainstream training opportunities for young people under the Council's Corporate Parenting Agenda.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to approve the increase to the Skillseeker Training Allowance of £5 per week from 1 April 2009;
- (ii) to approve the recruitment of 25 Administration Skillseekers for 2009/2010;
- (iii) to the guaranteed provision of Skillseekers training places for Looked After and Accommodated and Young Care System leavers; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**CORE FUNDING PAYMENTS TO EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS,
SUBSCRIPTIONS TO EXTERNAL BODIES AND FUNDING FOR SPECIAL
PROJECTS IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2009/2010 (Item 8, Page 567, 07/12;
Item 15, Page 684, 07/12; Item 8.2, Page 593, 07/12)**

- 14.** There was submitted a report dated 27 April 2009 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which sought approval to make payments to external bodies/partnerships and special projects in the financial year 2009/2010.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to the allocations to external partnerships and special projects in accordance with the proposals detailed in Sections 3 and 4 and the appendices attached to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

- 15.** 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 item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act”.

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

HOUSING SERVICES: BEST VALUE SERVICE REVIEW (PARA 1) (Item 4, Page 220, 07/12)

- 16.** There was submitted a report dated 23 April 2009 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services which advised of the findings of the Housing Best Value Service Review.

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) to note the findings of the Best Value Service Review of the Housing Service;
- (ii) to approve the recommendations which arose from the review as detailed in paragraph 6 of the report;
- (iii) to approve the Service Improvement Action Plan as detailed in Section 15 of the Appendix to the report;
- (iv) to note that the proposals contained in the report were subject to consultation with the Trade Unions; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1130 hours.