

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****EDUCATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 31 JANUARY 2006 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Tommy Farrell, Jim O'Neill, Stephanie Young, Brian Reeves, Daniel Coffey, Drew McIntyre, Iain Linton, John Campbell, John Knapp, Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, George Smith, Jimmy Kelly, Neil McGhee, Eric Ross, Elaine Dinwoodie and Jimmy Carmichael; Church Representatives: Bill McGregor, John McHugh and Dr Ivy Barclay; Teacher Representative: Iain Harvey; and Parent Representative: George Hammersley.

**ATTENDING:** John Mulgrew, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services; Jackie Donnelly, Executive Head of Social Work; David Mitchell; Head of Administrative and Legal Services; Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support; Graham Short, Head of Service: Quality Improvement; Euan Couperwhite, Head of Resource Support; John McCarney, Head of Service: School Support; Chris Johnstone, Education Finance Manager; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Andrew Kennedy, Business Manager, Onsite Services; Janie Allen, Principal Officer, Early Years; and Gillian Hamilton, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Maureen McKay, Willie Coffey, Provost Jane Darnbrough and Councillor Elaine Stewart.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Tommy Farrell, Chair.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS**

1. Following a request from the Chair, it was agreed to withdraw Item 16 - Onsite Services Best Value Review from the Agenda.

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT EDUCATION TO 11 DECEMBER 2005 (PERIOD 9)**

2. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 11 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services and the Executive Head of Finance which advised Members of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the Education Services for the period ended 11 December 2005 (Period 9).

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT ONSITE SERVICES UNIT TO 11 DECEMBER 2005 (PERIOD 9)**

3. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 6 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services and the Executive Head of Finance which advised of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the Onsite Services Business Unit for the period ended 11 December 2005 (Period 9).

**DESTINATIONS OF SCHOOL LEAVERS  
(Item 9, Page 1231, 03/07)**

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 9 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed Members of the destinations of leavers from East Ayrshire Schools 2004/2005, as published on the National Priorities web-site.

**ACHIEVEMENT AGAINST NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND STANDARDS AND  
QUALITY REPORT FOR 2005 (Item 7, Page 1510, 03/07)**

5. There was submitted a report dated 16 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for (i) the submission of the standard annual report to the Scottish Executive on the progress made by the Authority in overtaking the National Priorities in Education; and (ii) the publication of the annual Standards and Quality Report covering 2005.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the report as the basis for the mandatory submission to the Scottish Executive on National Priorities;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services write to Head Teachers, Teachers and School Boards highlighting the progress that had been made against the National Priorities in Education and local improvement objectives in 2005;
- (iii) to approve the publication of the Standards and Quality Report for 2005;
- (iv) to note that a report dealing with the specific elements of Standards and Quality Reporting that related to Social Services had been considered by the Social Work Committee; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**PRIORITY TO IMPROVEMENT 2006 (Item 10, Page 1231, 03/07)**

6. There was submitted a report dated 24 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a new set of local improvement objectives to cover the calendar year 2006.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the report as the basis for the Authority's statutory local improvement objectives for 2006;
- (ii) to note that some objectives would require co-ordination with other mandatory processes; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**CHILD PROTECTION REFORM PROGRAMME UPDATE  
(Item 21, Page 1674, 03/07)**

7. There was submitted a report dated 9 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which updated the Committee on progress in the Child Protection Reform Programme.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress made with regard to the Child Protection Reform Programme;
- (ii) that the Chief Social Work Officer provide a further update on the Child Protection Reform Programme for the Education Committee in September 2006;
- (iii) to note that the report had also been considered by the Social Work Committee; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

#### **QUALITY FRAMEWORK FOR CHILD PROTECTION**

8. There was submitted a report dated 16 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised Members of the development of a national document describing a process of self evaluation in the area of Child Protection.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve a self evaluation exercise based on the national indicators;
- (ii) to note the development of national inspections in this area of provision;
- (iii) to note that the report had also been considered by the Social Work Committee; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

#### **RECORDS OF NEEDS AND APPEALS (Item 10, Page 1797, 03/07)**

9. There was submitted a report dated 24 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed Members of the latest developments in relation to Records of Needs and Appeals Procedures and sought approval for certain changes in arrangements resulting from these changes.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the change to the Scheme of Delegation described in Paragraph 5.1 of the report;
- (ii) to note the changes to the arrangements for Appeal Committee proceedings that would apply to placing requests for children where issues of co-ordinated support planning were in dispute; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

#### **NETHERTHIRD COMMUNITY CAMPUS: CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS (Item 20, Page 1364, 03/07)**

10. There was submitted a report dated 12 December 2005 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval to consult on proposals to provide a new Netherthird Community Centre on the existing Community Centre Campus.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the consultation arrangements set out in the report; and

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

**REVISED EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE ADMISSIONS POLICY**  
**(Item 7, Page 1361, 03/07)**

11. There was submitted a report dated 5 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought agreement to implement the proposed revisions to the Early Education and Childcare Admissions Policy and asked the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to remit approval of the Policy to Council.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to recommend to Council approval of the revised Early Education and Childcare Admissions Policy;
- (ii) to approve the recommendation to increase the childcare charge from £2.50 per hour to £2.60 per hour from 1 April 2006; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**PROGRESS REPORT ON PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT BILL**  
**(Item 4, Page 1509, 03/07)**

12. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of progress on the Scottish Executive initiative to improve parents' involvement in schools and the latest stages of consultation.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services develop a draft Constitution for consideration by each Parent Council;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services report the results of consultation on Head Teacher and Depute Head Teacher appointments;
- (iii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services provide further progress reports as required; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**CAREERS SCOTLAND ENHANCED RESOURCE PILOT**

13. There was submitted a report dated 23 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of a pilot programme to enhance the resources provided by Careers Scotland to two schools within East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to support the initiative to further support young people in Auchinleck and Kilmarnock Academies;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services provide an annual report on the project; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**PROPOSED SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2007/2008  
(Item 6, Page 1509, 03/07)**

14. There was submitted a report dated 6 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval to consult with educational establishments, School Boards, the Chambers of Commerce, Churches and the Teachers' Unions on the proposed school holiday arrangements for 2007/2008.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the proposed school holiday arrangements for 2007/2008 be issued for consultation;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services produce a further report outlining the results of the consultation process; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**HEAD TEACHERS IN INDUSTRY INITIATIVE**

15. There was submitted a report dated 11 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of the development of secondment opportunities for senior educational leaders in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the developments detailed in the report;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services provide a progress report on the initiative in due course; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**AWARDING OF CONTRACTS**

16. There was submitted and noted a report dated 9 January 2006 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which provided, for information, details of tenders which had been accepted in respect of the Education Service as detailed in Appendix I to these Minutes.

**LETTING POLICY FOR COMMUNITY USE: ADDITIONAL CHARGING  
CATEGORY (Item 9, Page 1361, 03/07)**

17. There was submitted a report dated 23 February 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval to add a new category of charge in relation to the Letting Policy as a result of the opening of synthetic playing surfaces.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the implementation of the new category of charge detailed in the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS  
FOR THE TEMPORARY DECANT OF PUPILS FROM MAUCHLINE PRIMARY  
SCHOOL AND NURSERY CLASS DURING THE PPP CONSTRUCTION PHASE  
(Item 3, Page 1795, 03/07)**

18. Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor McIntyre, moved:-

- (i) that Primary School aged pupils of Mauchline Primary School and their associated staff be decanted from current buildings and relocated within alternative accommodation at Auchinleck Academy, Auchinleck Primary and Greenmill Primary School during the refurbishment and extension work to existing school accommodation under the Building Learning Communities Schools PPP Project;
- (ii) that during this period, the nursery class pupils be decanted to Catrine Nursery School;
- (iii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services make the necessary property and transport arrangements and advise staff and parents of these works; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Teacher Representative Iain Harvey, seconded by Councillor Daniel Coffey, moved as an amendment:-

- (i) that the proposals detailed in the report be remitted back to the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services for further consideration.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 15 votes to 5.

**SOCIAL WORK INSPECTION AGENCY REPORT: INSPECTION INTO THE CARE  
AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN EILEAN SIAR (Item 8, Page 1797, 03/07)**

19. There was submitted a report dated 10 January 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which (i) provided Members with further information in relation to the Social Work Inspection Agency (SWIA) report on the care and protection of children in Eilean Siar; (ii) detailed the position in East Ayrshire in relation to that report's recommendations; and (iii) highlighted the main areas of work that needed to be completed in 2006 to satisfy all of the recommendations.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the response to the recommendations from the Eilean Siar report;
- (ii) to note that the report had also been considered by the Social Work Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1102 hours.

**APPENDIX I**

<b><u>CONTRACT</u></b>	<b><u>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
Window Replacement to Elevations 1-20 Kilmarnock Academy, Elmbank Drive, Kilmarnock, including addendum to tender for works to New Farm Loch Community Centre and James Hamilton Academy	Thermashield Insulation Ltd., Glasgow	£481,553.67
Proposed alterations to S & R Wing to form Youth Strategy Base, Cumnock Academy, Cumnock	Syncro Ltd., Paisley	£142,350.69
Demolition of school buildings and associated landscaping works at St Joseph's Academy (Cumnock Campus), Auchinleck Road, Cumnock	Nicholson Contracts Ltd., Glasgow	£81,527.25
Window replacement to corridor, corridor fire exit door/screen corridor 1, main elevation to Bellsbank Primary, Craiglea Crescent, Dalmellington	Radbury of Ayr Ltd., Ayr	£78,441.98
Supply and delivery of fresh/organic food	Stair Organic Growers, Mauchline (Lot 3); J Pieroni & Sons Ltd, Ayr (Lot 7); Clyde Organics, Lanark (Lot 4); Afton Glen Meats, New Cumnock (Lots 1 & 8); Corrie Mains Free-Range Ltd., Mauchline (Lot 6); Dunlop Dairy, Stewarton (Lot 5); Green City Wholefoods, Glasgow (Lot 2)	Schedule of Rates
IT Based Educational Support for Looked After Children Service	Learning Curve Software Ltd., Edinburgh	£142,000
Window replacement to St Patrick's Primary School, Well Road, Auchinleck	Thermashield Insulation Ltd., Glasgow	£236,492.54

<b><u>CONTRACT</u></b>	<b><u>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
Window replacement to Bellsbank IFE, Craiglea Crescent, Dalmellington	J & S McFadyen Ltd., Carluke	£52,998.75
Hurlford Primary School, New Fire Alarm and Intruder Alarm Installation	Electronic Installation Management Ltd., Irvine	£23,259.93