

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**EDUCATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF METING HELD ON TUESDAY 30 JANUARY 2007 AT 1000 HRS
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Tommy Farrell, Maureen McKay, Jim O'Neill, Brian Reeves, Douglas Reid, Drew McIntyre, Iain Linton, John Campbell, Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, George Smith, Jimmy Kelly, Neil McGhee, Eric Ross and Elaine Stewart; Church Representatives Bill McGregor and Dr Ivy Barclay; and Teacher Representative Iain Harvey.

ATTENDING: Graham Short, 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; Euan Couperwhite, Head of Resource Support; John McCarney, Head of Service: Schools Support; Chris Johnston, Financial Services Manager; Andrew Kennedy, Onsite Business Manager; Kenneth McKinlay, Principal: Quality Improvement; and Jennifer Morrison, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Stephanie Young and Willie Coffey, Provost Jane Darnbrough and Councillors John Knapp and Elaine Dinwoodie; and Church Representative John McHugh.

CHAIR: Councillor Tommy Farrell, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair welcomed Laurie Risk currently on work experience placement with Legal Services.

SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

2. There were submitted and approved as a correct record, the undernoted Sub-Committee Minutes (circulated), viz:-
 - 2.1 **CHAIR'S SUB-COMMITTEE OF 18 DECEMBER 2006** - Appendix I.

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT -
EDUCATION TO 10 DECEMBER 2006 (PERIOD 9)**

3. There was submitted a joint report dated 11 January 2007 (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 Educational Services for the period ended 10 December 2006 (Period 9).

It was agreed:

- (i) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services provide information at the next meeting in respect of the previously allocated additional funding from the Policy and Resources Committee; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Douglas Reid joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

**ACHIEVEMENT AGAINST NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND STANDARDS
AND QUALITY REPORT FOR 2006**

4. There was submitted a report dated 10 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the submission of the standard Annual Report to the Scottish Executive on progress made by the Authority in the National Priorities in Education and its publication as the Educational Services section within the Departmental Standards and Quality Report for 2006.

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 which had been made against National Priorities in Education and Local Improvement Objectives in 2006;
- (iii) to approve the inclusion of the National Priorities Report as the Education section within the Departmental Standards and Quality Report 2006; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

DESTINATIONS OF SCHOOL LEAVERS

5. There was submitted a report dated 19 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the destinations of leavers from East Ayrshire schools in 2005/06 as published by the Scottish Executive.

It was agreed:

- (i) to invite the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to continue to provide an annual report on leavers' destinations and to provide an update in due course on the Authority's NEET Strategy; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**CONSULTATION ON GUIDANCE ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH
PARENTS MAY CHOOSE TO EDUCATE THEIR CHILDREN AT HOME**

6. There was submitted a report dated 15 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which invited Members to approve the response to the Consultation on Guidance on the Circumstances in which Parents may Choose to Educate their Children at Home.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the submission of Appendix I to the report, as East Ayrshire Council's response to the consultation; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

NEET STRATEGY

7. There was submitted a report dated 15 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) Strategy co-ordinated by the Education Service of East Ayrshire Council.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the Strategy as described in the report;
- (ii) to remit the report for consideration by the Policy and Resources Committee in respect of those interests which related to Community Planning; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

RESPONSE TO “THE DRAFT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN HEAD TEACHER AND DEPUTY HEAD TEACHER APPOINTMENTS REGULATIONS 2007 - A CONSULTATION DOCUMENT”

8. There was submitted a report dated January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of the response to the Scottish Executive’s consultation document “The Draft Parental Involvement in Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher Appointments Regulations 2007”.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the response to the consultation document;
- (ii) to note the preparation of revised appointment procedures for Heads of Establishment for August 2007; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

2006/2007 CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND SCHOOL FUND RE-ALLOCATIONS (Item 19, Page 2069/03/07)

9. There was submitted a report dated 11 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval to re-allocate slippage in the Capital Programme and School Fund Projects and to agree the proposed allocation of a further £489,000 from the Scottish Executive under the Schools Fund Programme.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the proposed re-allocation of funds within the 2006/07 Capital Programme and School Fund, as detailed in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the report;
- (ii) to approve the proposed spending of the additional School Fund resources as detailed in Section 4 of the report, approving the extension of existing contracts listed at paragraph 4.3; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor Eric Ross joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

2007/08 CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND SCHOOL FUND

10. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for (i) the 2007/08 Educational Service Capital Programme proposals; and (ii) the 2007/08 proposals to be financed through the Scottish Executive School Fund.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the proposed Capital Programme for 2007/08 as set out in Appendix I to the report;
- (ii) to approve the proposals for the 2007/08 School Fund Programme as detailed in Appendix II to the report;
- (iii) to ask the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to continue to monitor closely the Capital Programme throughout the year and report periodically to the Education Committee; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON EDUCATION APPEAL COMMITTEES: PROPOSALS FOR REFORM

11. There was submitted a report dated 11 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of the Authority response to the Scottish Executive consultation on proposals for Reform of Education Appeal Committees.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the response to the Education Appeals Committee proposals for reform; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS OF AMBITION

12. There was submitted a report dated 9 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of additional funding received to support the Schools of Ambition Initiative in Doon Learning Partnership.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the additional funding of £102,334.00 for the Schools of Ambition Programme; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

DISABILITY EQUALITY ACTION PLAN

13. There was submitted a report dated 12 December 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the Education Disability Equality Action Plan.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the Disability Equality Action Plan 2007-2010;

- (ii) to note that a similar report had been presented to the Social Work Committee which covered an Action Plan which related to Social Work Services;
- (iii) to note that the Social Work Services Action Plan and Educational Services Action Plan together would form the Disability Action Plan for the Department of Educational and Social Services; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

14. There was submitted a report dated 11 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for proposals to delegate additional resources to schools and early years establishments.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the proposed allocation of the Scottish Executive's additional revenue; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

FORMER OLD PERSONS' CABIN, 11 RICCARTON ROAD, HURLFORD

15. There was submitted a report dated 15 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of the position with regard to the former Old Persons' Cabin in Hurlford as shown on the plan attached to the report, and to make recommendations accordingly.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the proposal to take title to the property by registering a "Non Domino" Disposition;
- (ii) to approve the proposal to proceed to demolition, subject to consultation as to alternative uses and subject to the Council obtaining an appropriate insurance policy; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

PROPOSED SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2008/09

16. There was submitted a report dated 12 January 2007 (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 Teachers' Unions on the proposals outlined within the report.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the document attached as Appendix I to the report be issued for consultation as detailed in the report;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services produce a further report to outline the results of the consultation process;
- (iii) that at the appropriate time a simplified version of the school holiday arrangements for 2008/09 document be included in the information supplied to schools in order that this in turn could be supplied to parents for their ease of use; and

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

AWARDING OF CONTRACTS

17.1 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Elaine Stewart declared an interest in the first item of Appendix I to the report - Provision of Playwork Training Contract 2006 - in accordance with paragraphs 5.17 and 5.18 of the Code of Conduct.

17.2 Consideration of Item

There was submitted and noted a report dated 14 December 2006 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which provided, for information, details of tenders which had been accepted as set out in Appendix II to these Minutes.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

18. The Committee 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 the paragraph of Schedule 7A of the Act as shown against each item.

CHILD PROTECTION SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT REPORT (PARA 5)

19. There was submitted a report dated 3 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of a significant child protection incident within East Ayrshire Council and a subsequent review of the case and which highlighted the main findings from the review and recommended action required to further strengthen child protection practices in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the recommendations of the Significant Incident Reviews as outlined in Section 3 of the report;
- (ii) to note the financial implications at Section 7 of the report;
- (iii) to note that the report had also been referred to the Social Work and Housing Committees for their interests respectively; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

HILLBANK NURSERY AND FAMILY CENTRE, HILL STREET, KILMARNOCK (PARA 9)

20. There was submitted a report dated 18 January 2007 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of the position with regard to the former Hillbank Nursery and Family Centre and surrounding land as shown on the plan attached to the report and which made recommendations accordingly.

It was agreed:

- (i) that the building formerly occupied by Hillbank Nursery and Family Centre be declared surplus to the requirements of the Department of Educational and Social Services;
- (ii) that the report be referred to the Acting Executive Director of Development and Property Services for re-allocation or disposal in accordance with Council policy; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1055 hrs.

APPENDIX I

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CHAIR'S SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 18 DECEMBER 2006 AT 1115 HOURS IN MEETING ROOM 1, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Tommy Farrell and Elaine Stewart.

ATTENDING: Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services; John McCarney, Head of Service: Schools Support; Janice Shaw, Personnel Manager (Schools); and Sharon McHarg, Administrative Officer.

CHAIR: Councillor Tommy Farrell, Chair.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

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REQUEST FOR EARLY RETIREMENT

2. There was submitted a report dated 27 November 2006 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a teacher in the Educational and Social Services Department to retire from the Council's service under the terms of the Teachers (Compensation for Premature Retirement) (Scotland) Regulations 1997.

The Head of Service: Schools Support gave a verbal report on the details of the employee.

It was agreed to approve the request for a Teacher in the Educational and Social Services Department to retire early, with no enhancement from the Council's service effective from 26 December 2006 under the terms of the Teachers (Compensation for Premature Retirement) (Scotland) Regulations 1997.

The meeting terminated at 1117 hours.

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APPENDIX II

| <u>CONTRACT</u> | <u>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</u> | <u>AMOUNT</u> |
|--|---|----------------------|
| Provision of Playwork Training 2006. | The Zone/Bellsbank Adventure Playground Ltd, Dalmellington. | £43,816.01 |
| Window Replacement Phase 3 – Elevation 1-11 at Lainshaw Primary School, Stewarton. | Thermashield, Glasgow. | £93,683.12 |
| Stewarton Campus – CCTV & External Lighting Upgrade. | ADT Fire & Security Plc, Uddingston. | £175,601.27 |
| Window and Cladding Replacement to Muirkirk Primary School, Muirkirk. | Thermashield Insulation Ltd, Glasgow. | £216,254.64 |
| Bellsbank Primary School, Dalmellington – Upgrade Lighting & CCTV. | Alarmfast Supervision Security Systems Ltd, Glasgow | £90,257.49 |
| St Patrick's Primary School, Auchinleck – CCTV and Intruder Alarms. | Fortress Security Alarms Ltd, Kilmarnock | £31,390.27 |
| Marketing of School Meals. | Ten Alps MTD Ltd, Edinburgh | £45,699.97 |