

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**EDUCATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2004 AT 1000 HRS
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Tommy Farrell, Maureen McKay, Jim O'Neill, Brian Reeves, Daniel Coffey, Drew McIntyre, John Campbell, Provost Darnbrough and Councillors Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, Jimmy Kelly, Neil McGhee, Eric Ross, Elaine Dinwoodie, Elaine Stewart and Jimmy Carmichael; Church Representatives: 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; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services; Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support; John McCarney, Head of Service: School Support; Graham Short, Head of Quality Improvement; Robin Gourlay, Head of Onsite Services; Chris Johnston, Education Finance Manager; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Janie Allen, Principal Officer (Early Years); Kenneth McKinlay, Principal Officer, Quality Improvement; Hilary MacGillivray, Early Intervention Co-ordinator; John Wilson, Links Officer in the Arts and Education; and Sharon McHarg, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors John Knapp, Willie Coffey, George Smith and Stephanie Young; and Church Representative: Bill McGregor.

CHAIR: Councillor Tommy Farrell, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair welcomed Ian Brown, who was a second year law student from Glasgow University undertaking work experience with Administrative and Legal Services.

**NON-ELECTED MEMBER REPRESENTATION -
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND REPRESENTATIVE**

2. There was submitted a joint report dated 6 September 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support and Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the resignation of Rev John Taylor as Church of Scotland representative on the Education Committee and informed of the nomination of Mr Bill McGregor to serve as the Church of Scotland representative.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note the nomination of Mr Bill McGregor by Church of Scotland to serve as a Church Representative on the Education Committee; and
- (ii) to note that a letter had been issued to Rev John Taylor to thank him for his work while serving as Church of Scotland Representative.

**BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENT -
EDUCATION TO 25 JULY 2004 (PERIOD 4)**

3. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 25 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services and 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 25 July 2004 (Period 4).

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT
ONSITE SERVICES UNIT TO 25 JULY 2004 (PERIOD 4)**

4. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 16 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services and 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 25 July 2004 (Period 4).

HEALTH AND SAFETY ACTION PLAN

5. There was submitted a report dated 16 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the 2004/05 Departmental Health and Safety Action Plan for Education Services.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the recommended Education Services, Health and Safety Action Plan for 2004/05 as appended to the report;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services provide further reports on the Department's progress in respect of the Action Plan; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR PE AND SPORT -
UPDATE (Item 12, Page 3201, 99/03)**

6. There was submitted a report dated 23 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of progress in the development of bids for improvements to schools' PE facilities, and which sought approval for the submission of the first phase of bids to the Big Lottery Fund, previously the New Opportunities Fund.

It was agreed:

- (i) to submit the first phase of projects as detailed within Section 3.2 of the report to the Big Lottery Fund; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ACCESSIBILITY STRATEGY (Item 14, Page 3202, 99/03)

7. There was submitted a report dated 2 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for an updated accessibility strategy for schools.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the Accessibility Strategy 2004-2007 attached as an appendix to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

BEST VALUE REVIEW: THREE YEAR PROGRAMME

8. There was submitted a report dated 30 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which sought agreement to a programme of best value reviews for the Department of Educational and Social Services to take place over the next three years.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the best value review programme as detailed within the report;
- (ii) to note that this report had also been considered by the Social Work Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

PERFORMANCE OF EAST AYRSHIRE SCHOOLS IN 5-14 NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS (Item 20, Page 268, 99/03)

9. There was submitted a report dated 28 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the performance of East Ayrshire Schools in 5-14 National Assessments.

It was agreed:

- (i) to invite the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to continue to report annually on 5-14 attainment; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

PROJECTS TO IMPROVE PRIMARY/SECONDARY TRANSITION, FOCUSING ON LITERACY AND NUMERACY

10. There was submitted a report dated 25 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the externally funded projects designed to improve primary/secondary transition, with a particular focus on improving standards of literacy and numeracy.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the projects as outlined within the report;
- (ii) to approve the staffing and resource requirements as outlined in the report; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

A STRATEGY FOR CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS IN EAST AYRSHIRE

11. There was submitted a report dated 23 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the strategy for the Continuing Professional Development for Teachers in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:

- (i) to support the strategy for the Continuing Professional Development for Teachers in East Ayrshire; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

PRINCIPAL TEACHER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

- 12.** There was submitted a report dated 23 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the strategy for the development of Principal Teachers in primary and secondary schools within the Authority.

It was agreed:

- (i) to support the initiatives and developments outlined within the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

CREATIVE MINDS UPDATE (Item 5, Page 654, 03/07)

- 13.** There was submitted a report dated 16 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which updated on the recent programmes and Scottish Arts Council funding awards.

It was agreed:

- (i) to note and commend the projects detailed within the report involving pupils from across East Ayrshire;
- (ii) to approve the temporary Administrative Support as outlined in Section 5 of the report;
- (iii) to refer the staffing proposals for the temporary Administrative Support post to Corporate Governance Committee for approval;
- (iv) that the Committee be kept informed of further initiatives and developments; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ABSENCE MANAGEMENT REPORT (1 APRIL 2003 - 31 MARCH 2004) (Item 10, Page 3201, 99/03)

- 14.** There was submitted and noted a report dated 26 August 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of absence rates for the Department of Educational and Social Services for the period 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2004.

RACE EQUALITY ACTION PLAN

- 15.** There was submitted a report dated 27 July 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which informed of progress in implementing the Race Equality Action Plan.

It was agreed:

- (i) to endorse the progress made in relation to the Race Equality Action Plan;
- (ii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services provide further progress reports on an annual basis; and

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

Councillor McIntyre left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

**CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT: FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF GRANGE
ACADEMY HEARING IMPAIRMENT UNIT**

16. There was submitted a consultative document (circulated) dated 7 September 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which proposed to assimilate the Hearing Impairment Unit (HI Unit) at Grange Academy, Kilmarnock into Grange Academy.

It was agreed to adopt, for the purpose of consultation, the proposal that:

- (i) the HI Unit be assimilated within the management arrangements for Grange Academy;
- (ii) the responsibility for all aspects of the management of the HI Unit should be transferred to the Head Teacher of Grange Academy;
- (iii) issues related to the assimilation of the Unit into Grange Academy would be resolved under the arrangements for "A Teaching Profession for the 21st Century";
- (iv) all other aspects of the management arrangements related to the facility be changed in line with this proposal;
- (v) this change will take effect from January 2005 or as soon as possible thereafter;
- (vi) all interested parties be invited to make written or electronic submissions on the proposal to the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services, East Ayrshire Council, Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock KA3 7BU, e-mail john.mulgrew@east-ayrshire.gov.uk no later than 22 October 2004;
- (vii) the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services prepare a report on the results of the consultative process for consideration at a future meeting of the Education Committee; and
- (viii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

Councillor McIntyre rejoined the meeting during consideration of the above item.

**CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT: FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF EARLY
EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE PROVISION IN SHORTLEES NURSERY
SCHOOL, KILMARNOCK**

17. There was submitted a consultative document dated 7 September 2004 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services which proposed bringing Shortlees Nursery School under the management of the Head Teacher at Shortlees Primary School.

It was agreed:

- (i) to approve the proposal to consult on the integration of Shortlees Nursery School into Shortlees Primary School;

- (ii) that the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services return to Committee with the outcome of the consultation process; and
- (iii) that all interested parties be invited to make written or electronic submissions on the proposal to the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services, East Ayrshire Council, Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock KA3 7BU, e-mail Sharon.Robertson@east-ayrshire.gov.uk or Janice.Wilkie@east-ayrshire.gov.uk no later than 22 October 2004.

AWARDING OF CONTRACTS

18. There was submitted and noted a report dated 24 August 2004 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Acting Executive Director of Corporate Support which provided, for information, details of tenders which had been accepted in respect of the Education Services:

Contract	Successful Contractor	Amount
Installation of Fire Alarm at Auchinleck Academy, Auchinleck	Kidde Fire Protection Services, Ltd, Clydebank	£145,707.41
Re-roofing and Gutter Replacement at Netherthird Primary School, Cumnock	Foxbar Contracts, Kilmarnock	£59,734.50
Barshare Primary School Boiler Upgrade	O'Neil Gas Services Ltd, Ayr	£123,071.20
Doon Academy, Kilmaurs Primary, Lainshaw Primary, CCTV Systems and Externals	Scotshield Ltd, Airdrie	£161,139.23
Installation of Fire Alarm at James Hamilton Academy, Kilmarnock	Kidde Fire Protection Services Ltd, Clydebank	£124,616.77
Hurlford Primary School, Electrical Upgrade	John McCaig & Sons Ltd, Ayr	£83,163.49
Re-roofing and Replacement Fascia at Auchinleck Academy Assembly Hall	Allander Roofing Ltd, Clydebank	£33,461.09
PPP Insurance Consultancy Services	AON Ltd, Glasgow	£10,000

The meeting terminated at 1055 hrs.