

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**EDUCATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2002 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Tommy Farrell, Stephanie Young, Brian Reeves, Lilian MacLean, John Weir, Isabella Macrae, Iain Linton, Alex Walsh, John Knapp, Eric Jackson, George Smith, Provost Jimmy Boyd and Councillors Eric Ross and Elaine Dinwoodie; Church Representatives John McHugh and Matthew Sullivan; and Teacher Representative Iain Harvey.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services; Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support; Graham Short, Head of Schools; Janie Allen, Principal Officer, Early Years; Euan Couperwhite, Departmental Finance Manager; Bill Eadie, Principal Officer, Children, Families and Criminal Justice; Robin Gourlay, Contract Manager; James McCaffrey (Education Central Services); Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Anne Marie Carr, Administrative Officer; and Marilyn Miller, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Brian McNeil, Willie Coffey, Drew McIntyre, Finlay MacLean, Robert McDill and Julie Faulds.

CHAIR: Councillor Tommy Farrell, Chair.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - EDUCATION TO 22 SEPTEMBER 2002 (PERIOD 6)

1. There was submitted a joint report dated 29 October 2002 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance and of Educational and Social Services which advised of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for Educational Services for the period ended 22 September 2002 (Period 6).

It was agreed:-

- (i) that a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Education Committee regarding the action being taken by the Director of Educational and Social Services to control the numbers entering the outwith placement programme; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

REVIEW OF REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE OF COMMUNITY CENTRES

2. There was submitted a report dated 22 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a review of arrangements including financial arrangements for the repairs and maintenance of Community Centres in East Ayrshire and which sought agreement to the establishment of a Member/Officer Group.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the remit for a review of Community Centres and Old People's Cabins;
- (ii) to approve the establishment of a Member/Officer Group;
- (iii) to remit the membership of the Member/Officer Group to the Council; and
- (iv) that the Director of Educational and Social Services report back to the Education Committee.

**NEW COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ROLL-OUT ALLOCATION TO EAST AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL 2004/05 AND 2005/06**

3. There was submitted a report 28 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of East Ayrshire Council's New Community Schools roll-out allocation from the Scottish Executive for 2004/05 and 2005/06.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a further report to a future meeting to advise the Committee of recommendations for the use of these additional funds; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS (CSV) GIVE AND TAKE - EAST
AYRSHIRE**

4. There was submitted and noted a report dated 28 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the development of a CSV Give and Take Project in East Ayrshire.

EDUCATION FOR CITIZENSHIP

5. There was submitted a report dated 17 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the publication in June 2002 of National Guidelines "Education for Citizenship in Scotland" and which proposed a response by the Department of Educational and Social Services to the guidelines.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the response of the Department of Educational and Social Services to the "Education for Citizenship in Scotland" paper detailed at paragraph 4 of the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

SUPPORTED LEARNING AND TEACHING: PHASE 2 (Item 9, Page 2208, 99/03)

6. There was submitted a report dated 24 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the second phase of the strategy to support learning and teaching in schools by enhancing ancillary staffing.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the proposals outlined in paragraph 3 of the report;

- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services provide a further report to advise on the support staff proposals from phase 3 of the McCrone Support Staff allocation;
- (iii) to remit this report for consideration by the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

7. There was submitted a report dated 28 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the overall performance in the 2002 diet of examinations.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Educational and Social Services write to schools informing them of this analysis and congratulating them on the areas of improved attainment highlighted in the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

LENGTH OF THE SCHOOL WEEK IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND UNITS

8. There was submitted a report dated 28 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised on the Scottish Executive's Policy and Guidance on the length of the school week for pupils in special schools and units and which sought approval for a framework that would implement the new guidance.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the Scottish Executive's policy position and guidance on the length of the school week for pupils in special schools and units;
- (ii) to approve the movement towards parity in special schools with equivalent mainstream provision by August 2003;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a further report to a future meeting of the Education Committee regarding the staffing implications for both teachers and ancillary staff and the potential revision of transport contracts arising from the changes proposed in the report; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

SCHOOL SPORTS CO-ORDINATORS: NEXT PHASE (Item 14, Page 3426, 96/99)

9. There was submitted a report dated 28 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of further developments in the School Sports Co-ordinator Programme.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve participation in Phase 2 of the Sports Co-ordinators Programme; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDCARE PROGRAMME 2003/05

10. There was submitted and noted a report dated 29 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the new quality childcare programme in Scotland under the New Opportunities Fund (NOF) for 2003/05.

**RE-ALLOCATION OF SCOTTISH BUDGET RESOURCES
(Item 19, Page 2790, 99/03)**

11. There was submitted a report dated 10 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought agreement to proposals to invest in a range of Education Service initiatives funded from re-allocated Scottish Budget Resources.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the programme for action outlined in paragraph 3 of the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services make the necessary arrangements to implement the proposed programme for action; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**SEN BASE IN DOON ACADEMY - RESULTS OF CONSULTATION
(Item 14, Page 2788, 99/03)**

12. There was submitted a report dated 3 November 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the results of the consultation on the proposals to open a base for children with special educational needs at Doon Academy, Dalmellington.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that a base for children with special educational needs be established at Doon Academy, Dalmellington from August 2003, or as soon as possible thereafter;
- (ii) that the pupils transfer to the new base on its completion, taking account of the wishes of the parents and children concerned and dependant upon the progress of building work; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

**EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE - SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE
EVALUATION (Item 25, Page 2792, 99/03)**

13. There was submitted a report dated 28 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the Scottish Executive's Evaluation Report of the Education Maintenance Allowance Pilot Scheme.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Educational and Social Services make the necessary arrangements to update Guidance Staff on the criteria governing the operation of the Education Maintenance Allowance; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

LINKS WITH SANDEFJORD, NORWAY

14. There was submitted a report dated 4 November 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the links which were developing with Sandefjord, Norway and which outlined proposals for the development of this partnership.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the partnership which had developed between the Department of Educational and Social Services and the Department of Education in Sandefjord, Norway;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services further develop the partnership with a particular focus on quality improvement and the exploration of possibilities for further liaison between pupils in both countries; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

YOUTH JUSTICE

15. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 October 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the progress made to date in developing Youth Justice services in East Ayrshire.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

16. 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 item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of the Act.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT ON-SITE SERVICES UNIT TO 22 SEPTEMBER 2002 (PERIOD 6)

17. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 24 October 2002 (circulated) by the Directors of Finance and of Educational and Social Services which advised of the current budgetary control position and the projected out-turn for the year for the On-Site Services Business Unit for the period ended 22 September 2002 (Period 6).

The meeting terminated at 1047 hours.