

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****EDUCATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2003 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Tommy Farrell, Brian McNeil, Stephanie Young, Brian Reeves, Lilian MacLean, Drew McIntyre, Isabella Macrae, Iain Linton, Alex Walsh, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean, Eric Jackson, George Smith, Julie Faulds, Provost Jimmy Boyd and Councillors Eric Ross and Elaine Dinwoodie; Church Representative John McHugh; Teacher Representative: Iain Harvey and Parent Representative: Alasdair MacQueen.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services; David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services/Solicitor to the Council; Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support; Euan Couperwhite; Head of Resource Support; Robin Gourlay, Contract Manager; Derek Mathieson, Education Central Services; Bill Eadie, Principal Officer (Children, Families & Criminal Justice); Anne Jackson, Principal Officer (Support to Communities); Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Janice Shaw, Principal Officer (Education Personnel Service); Anne Marie Carr, Administrative Officer and Marilyn Miller, Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Willie Coffey, John Weir and Robert McDill; and Church Representatives Rev John Paterson and Rev Matthew Sullivan

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

**DRAFT ESTIMATES 2003/2004 - GENERAL SERVICES****1.1 FINANCIAL REPORT (Item 1, Page 3032, 99/03)**

There was submitted, for information only, and noted a report dated 28 January 2003 by the Director of Finance (circulated under separate cover as Item 1 of the Special Policy and Resources Committee of 31 January 2003) which advised the Policy and Resources Committee of the position with regard to the General Services Revenue Budget for 2003/2004 and which recommended that the Policy and Resources Committee determine final allocations for each of the Service Committees and requested those Committees to note and confirm acceptance of the financial allocation for 2003/2004 and align service plans with these taking into account the views and comments made during the Council's public consultation exercise.

**1.2 REMIT FROM THE SPECIAL POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF 31 JANUARY 2003 (Item 1, Page 3032, 99/03)**

There was submitted, for information and noting, an excerpt from the Minutes of the Special Policy and Resources Committee of 31 January 2003 (circulated) which asked that the Education Committee note and confirm acceptance of the financial allocation for 2003/2004 and align service delivery plans with these as determined by the Special Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 31 January 2003.

### **1.3 REVENUE BUDGET FOR 2003/2004**

There was submitted a report dated 31 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which detailed a package of measures to align service delivery plans with the final financial allocation for 2003/2004 having taken into account the views and comments made during the Council's public consultation exercise.

Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Knapp moved that the Education Committee confirm acceptance of the resource allocation notified by the Special Policy and Resources Committee and approve the distribution of this allocation as detailed in paragraph 3 of the report.

Councillor F MacLean, seconded by Councillor Linton moved as an amendment to note the resource allocation notified by the Special Policy and Resources Committee and note the distribution of this allocation as detailed in paragraph 3 of the report.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by 10 votes to 5.

#### **BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - EDUCATION TO 17 NOVEMBER 2002 (PERIOD 8)**

2. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 27 January 2003 (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 Education Services for the period ended 17 November 2002 (Period 8).

#### **EDUCATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2002/2003 - UPDATE (Item 4, Page 2509,99/03)**

3. There was submitted a report dated 31 January 2003 by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of progress being made on the Education Capital Programme 2002/2003 and which sought approval for amendments to the programme.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the amendments detailed in paragraph 4.2 of the report for the Capital Programme 2002/2003 be approved; and
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services continue to closely monitor the Capital Programme throughout the remainder of this financial year.

#### **REINSTATEMENT OF LAND AT HURLFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL**

4. There was submitted a report dated 17 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the reinstatement of land at Riccarton Road, Hurlford Primary School to the Education Property Portfolio.

Councillor Ross joined the meeting at this point.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the proposal to reinstate the area of ground at Hurlford Primary School be approved;
- (ii) to refer the matter to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval; and

- (iii) to approve the improvements to landscape the area of ground detailed in Section 3.2 of the report.

**RESERVATION OF PLACES AT CERTAIN PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND  
STEWARTON ACADEMY - AMENDMENTS TO PLACING REQUEST  
LEGISLATION**

5. There was submitted a report dated 17 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the reservation of places for pupils at Stewarton Academy, Fenwick, Gargieston, Ochiltree, Sorn, Loanhead and Annanhill Primary Schools in the academic year 2003/2004.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the implications of amendments to placing request legislation in respect of reserved places;
- (ii) to agree that, in respect of Stewarton Academy **five** places be reserved for S1 for the academic year 2003/2004 in order to accommodate pupils who move into the catchment area for that school;
- (iii) that in respect of Fenwick, Gargieston, Ochiltree, Sorn, Loanhead and Annanhill Primary Schools **two** places be assured in P1 for the academic year 2003/2004 in order to accommodate pupils who move into the catchment area of the school;
- (iv) that the Director of Educational and Social Services monitor and review the situation regarding the reservation of places under the amended legislation;
- (v) that the Scheme of Delegation be amended to allow the Director of Educational and Social Services to review annually the number of reserved places in individual schools where the Education Committee had given initial approval to reserve places with effect from March 2003; and
- (vi) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**ADULT LITERACY AND NUMERACY (Item 19, Page 2514, 99/03)**

6. There was submitted and noted a report dated 9 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of additional funding made available by the Scottish Executive for adult literacy and numeracy.

**VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS 2002/2003**

7. There was submitted a report dated 15 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for recommendations for awards in respect of the allocation of Education Voluntary Sector Grants for the year 2002/2003.

The Committee then took the following decisions:-

- (a) Applications Approved:-  
Ayrshire Deaf Club - £255  
Bellfield Out-of-School Care - £686  
PEACE Shortlees - £2,382;

- (b) Application Referred to Local Committee - Stewarton Lifelong Learning Committee

### **PROPOSED SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 2004/2005**

8. There was submitted a report dated 7 January 2003 (circulated) by the 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 proposals.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the report be issued for consultation to educational establishments, School Boards, the Chambers of Commerce, Churches and the Teachers' Unions;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a further report outlining the results of the consultation process; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **PILOT MEDIATION PROJECT**

9. There was submitted a report dated 19 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for participation in a National Pilot Project in Mediation for parents of children with special educational needs.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the proposal to participate in a National Pilot Project in Mediation for parents of children with special educational needs be approved; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **NATIONAL PRIORITIES ACTION FUND (Item 3, Page 2784, 99/03 & Item 12, Page 1907, 99/03)**

10. There was submitted a report dated 19 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for outline expenditure plans for the National Priorities Action Fund 2003/2004 and subsequent years.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the distribution of funds relating to the National Priorities Action Fund detailed at paragraph 3 of the report;
- (ii) that the present programme funded under the National Priorities Action Fund should continue;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit further reports on any significant changes related to the National Priorities Action Fund;
- (iv) to note the areas of development funded through Grant Aided Expenditure and agree that these areas of provision be maintained at current levels;
- (v) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a further report to the Committee regarding details of the numbers of classroom assistants employed by the Education Service;
- (vi) to note that at line 7, paragraph 4.1 of the report "not" should read "note"; and

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

### **INTENSIVE SUPPORT FUND BID**

11. There was submitted a report dated 7 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised that the Social Work bid to the Intensive Support Fund had been successful and which sought approval for the associated posts related to the bid.

Councillor McIntyre left the meeting at this point.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the report be forwarded to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for approval of the staffing levels detailed at Appendix 2 of the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **FAST TRACK CHILDREN'S HEARINGS**

12. There was submitted a report dated 20 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the progress which had been made to date in developing the Fast Track Children's Hearing Pilot in Ayrshire, and which sought approval for the continuation of developments in the direction so far taken to implement this enhancement to the management of young people, engaged in persistent offending within the Children's Hearing System.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the progress which had been made to date;
- (ii) to approve the continuation of developments in the direction so far taken to implement the enhancement outlined in the report to the management of young people engaged in persistent offending within the Children's Hearing System;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services report to a future Committee on further progress; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

### **AWARDING OF TENDERS**

13. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 January 2003 (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources which provided, for information, details of tenders which had been accepted in respect of the Education Service.

<b><u>CONTRACT</u></b>	<b><u>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
Proposed Youth Centre and North West Learning Centre at Onthank Community Centre, Kirkton Road, Kilmarnock	John Moulds (Kilmarnock) Ltd, Kilmarnock	£367,156.36

<u>CONTRACT</u>	<u>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Alterations and Extension to form New Nursery and Family Centre, Netherthird	JCM Ltd, Glasgow	£622,859.43

#### **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

14. 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.

#### **REVIEW OF SCHOOL LIBRARY SERVICE (PARA 1)**

15. There was submitted a report dated 14 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the outcome of the review of the School Library Service and which sought approval to implement the review recommendations, subject to the matter being referred to the Corporate Sub-Committee, in respect of their interests.

Councillor McIntyre rejoined the meeting at this point.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve and thereafter refer the proposals detailed in the report to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee in respect of their interests; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

#### **REVIEW OF CENTRE-BASED ICT TECHNICIAN SUPPORT (PARA 1)**

16. There was submitted a report dated 7 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the outcome of a review of Central ICT Technician Support and which sought approval to implement the review recommendations, subject to referral to the Corporate Sub-Committee in respect of their interests.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve and thereafter refer the proposals detailed in the report to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee in respect of their interests; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

#### **ON-SITE SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN (PARA 6)**

17. There was submitted a report dated 17 January 2003 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval of the On-Site Services Business Plan for 2003/2004.

It was agreed to approve the Business Plan detailed in the Appendix to the report for 2003/2004 for On-Site Services which had been established as a Business Unit within the Department of Educational and Social Services.

**BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - ON-SITE SERVICES UNIT  
TO 17 NOVEMBER 2002 (PERIOD 8) (PARA 6)**

18. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 15 January 2003 (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 17 November 2002 (Period 8).

**CHAIR'S REMARKS**

19. Councillor Farrell reported, and it was noted that he had just received a press release from the Scottish Executive indicating that £110M had been allocated nationally for Scotland's schools estate and advised, accordingly, that the allocation for East Ayrshire Council for the undernoted financial years was as follows:-

<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Year</u>
£898,000	2003/2004
£1,877,000	2004/2005
£1,877,000	2005/2006

He also reported that a further £3M would be allocated to Councils in Scotland next year to help schools develop a school estate management plan for the maintenance of schools.

The meeting terminated at 1044 hours.