

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**EDUCATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 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, Drew McIntyre, Isabella Macrae, Iain Linton, Alex Walsh, John Knapp, Finlay MacLean, Robert McDill, Eric Jackson, George Smith, Eric Ross, Provost Jimmy Boyd and Councillor Elaine Dinwoodie; Church Representatives John McHugh and Matthew Sullivan; Teacher Representative Iain Harvey; and Parent Representative Alasdair MacQueen.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services; Alex McPhee, Director of Finance; Kay Gilmour, Head of Community Support; Graham Short, Head of Schools; Robin Gourlay, Contract Manager; Euan Couperwhite, Departmental Finance Manager; Stuart McCall, Solicitor; Alex McPhee, Financial Services Manager; Caroline Gordon, Public Relations Officer; Anne Jackson, Principal Officer, Support to Communities; Katie Kelly, Leisure Development Manager; Anne Marie Carr, Administrative Officer; and Donna Leitch, Acting Administrative Officer.

ALSO ATTENDING: Margery M Browning, HMIE.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Brian McNeil, Willie Coffey and Julie Faulds.

CHAIR: Councillor Tommy Farrell, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair welcomed Margery Browning from Her Majesty's Inspectorate - Education to the Education Committee.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - EDUCATION TO 28 JULY 2002 (PERIOD 4)

2. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 29 August 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 Education Services for the period ended 28 July 2002 (Period 4).

Matthew Sullivan joined the meeting at this point.

SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

3. There was submitted a report dated 10 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the production of an Improvement Plan for the Education Service.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the adoption of the Improvement Plan for the Education Service; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IN NORTH KILMARNOCK:
INSPECTION OF STANDARDS AND QUALITY**

4. There was submitted a report dated 22 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the outcome of an inspection of Community Learning and Development in North Kilmarnock which had taken place in April and May 2002.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to commend the staff in the Kilmarnock North Area for the excellent inspection report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

PRESUMPTION OF MAINSTREAM EDUCATION (Item 8, Page 2361)

5. There was submitted a report dated 9 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval of a position statement on the presumption of mainstream education.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the report as the basis for implementing the presumption of mainstream schooling;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services provide a further report on the implementation of an Access Strategy;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services and the Director of Corporate Resources provide a report on the revision of placing request procedures; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

PROMOTING INCLUSION BY SUPPORT TO PUPILS (Item 8, Page 2361)

6. There was submitted a report dated 9 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a strategy on promoting inclusion by support for pupils' learning.

It was reported and noted that arrangements would be made by the Director of Educational and Social Services to hold a Seminar for Elected Members on the Department's strategy for the promotion of inclusion through support to pupils.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the strategy for the promotion of inclusion as detailed in the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services review the strategy in the light of any changes to national legislation or regulations; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

BETTER BEHAVIOUR

7.1 PATHWAYS TO INCLUSION

There was submitted a report dated 9 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the work completed by a

multi-disciplinary group focused on children with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties and which sought approval for a strategy to assist with the management of their needs.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the adoption of the Pathways to Inclusion strategy;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services adapt the strategy as required by any change in circumstances, legislation or national regulations; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

7.2 SCHOOL EXCLUSIONS 1999-2002

There was submitted a report dated 28 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised on the pattern of exclusion in Primary and Secondary Schools during the three sessions 1999-2002.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Educational and Social Services continue to consult Heads of Establishments and other Services on ways to reduce exclusion with a strategy that continues to support pupils, teachers, auxiliary staff and promotes learning; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

7.3 DISCIPLINE TASK GROUP FUNDING

There was submitted a report dated 10 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of additional resources allocated for Better Behaviour Initiatives and which sought agreement on how to proceed.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to welcome the additional resource allocation of £244,756 from the Scottish Executive for Better Behaviour Initiatives;
- (ii) to approve the outline proposal for the additional income as detailed in the report;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services implement the proposed framework for action;
- (iv) to refer the proposed strategy to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee; and
- (v) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

NEW COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ANNUAL REPORT

- 8.** There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the annual report on the New Community School Initiatives in East Ayrshire.

Provost Boyd left the meeting at this point.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the annual reports for New Community Schools in East Ayrshire;

- (ii) to record the thanks of the Education Committee to young people, parents and staff involved in the New Community School Initiative for the work which had been undertaken to make it a success; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A CUMNOCK FAMILY CENTRE

9. There was submitted a report dated 4 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of progress made in relation to developing a Family Centre in Cumnock.

Provost Boyd re-joined the meeting at this point.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a further report to the Committee setting out staffing implications for the development of a Family Centre in Cumnock; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

ANNUAL REPORT: THE EXCELLENCE FUND FOR SCHOOLS (Item 6, Page 2612)

10. There was submitted and noted a report dated 9 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the result from the deployment of funds under the Excellence Fund for schools.

GAELIC MEDIUM EDUCATION PROVISION

11.1 A STRATEGY FOR GAELIC EDUCATION (Item 23, Page 2064)

There was submitted a report dated 9 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a strategy for Gaelic Education in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the adoption of the Strategy for Gaelic Education detailed in the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

11.2 CONSULTATION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF GAELIC MEDIUM EDUCATION PROVISION (Item 23, Page 2064)

There was submitted a report dated 9 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for a formal consultation on the establishment of a Gaelic Medium Secondary Education Provision.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the mounting of a consultation exercise on Gaelic Medium Education in Grange Academy, Kilmarnock;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a report on the results of the consultation to a future meeting of the Education Committee; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

**INTRODUCTION OF A DEVOLVED MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES SCHEME
OF DELEGATION FOR EARLY YEARS ESTABLISHMENTS**

12. There was submitted a report dated 27 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the introduction of a formal Devolved Management of Resources System and procedures for Early Years Establishments.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the introduction of the Delegated Management of Resources System for Early Years Establishments;
- (ii) to approve the Scheme of Delegation detailed at Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS 2002/2003

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

The Committee then took the following decisions:-

- (a) Applications Approved:-

IQRAA Group	£2,000
Kuloc Chinese Association	£2,500
East Ayrshire Kilmarnock Women's Aid	£1,000 - to be used towards training costs only
Panel of Reference	£500 - to be used towards training costs only
Newmilns Snow & Sports Complex	£1,000
Support to Young Active Citizens	£5,000 - to support the work with Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament
Creative Europe	£1,000

- (b) Application Refused:-

Institute of Contemporary Scotland

**CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED CREATION OF A SPECIALIST FACILITY
FOR PUPILS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN) IN DOON
ACADEMY, DALMELLINGTON**

14. There was submitted a report dated 5 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of a proposal for the creation of a specialist facility for pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) in Doon Academy, Dalmellington.

Councillor Ross left the meeting at this point.

It was agreed to adopt the proposal that:-

- (i) a facility for pupils with Special Educational Needs be established within the building occupied by Doon Academy;
- (ii) that the facility should be managed by the Head Teacher of Doon Academy;
- (iii) that the facility should make provision for Secondary School aged children, or in appropriate circumstances young people covered by the legislation on Records of Needs or its equivalent;
- (iv) that the facility should be established at the start of sessions 2003, or as soon as possible thereafter;
- (v) that the report be issued as a consultative document and made available to all interested parties;
- (vi) that all interested parties, including the relevant School Board, be invited to make written representation to John Mulgrew, Director of Educational and Social Services, Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock no later than Friday 25 October 2002; and
- (vii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a report on the results of the consultative process for consideration at a future meeting of the Education Committee.

CHANGES TO TEACHERS' SUPERANNUATION SCHEME

- 15.** There was submitted a report dated 26 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of changes to the Teachers' Superannuation Scheme and which sought approval to introduce a Winding-Down Scheme.

Councillor Ross re-joined the meeting at this point.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the introduction of an Actuarially Reduced Pension and the estimated increase in the employers' contribution to £99,800 from April 2003;
- (ii) that the opportunity to participate in the Winding-Down Scheme should be permitted, where it is in the interests of both the individual and the Council; and
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a report to a future meeting of the Committee regarding the impact on the Council's enhanced Early Retirement Scheme for Teachers as a result of the changes detailed in the report to the Teachers' Superannuation Scheme.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 16.** There was submitted a report dated 9 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of finance provided by the Scottish Executive to support the Continuing Professional Development of Teachers and which sought approval for the proposed use of these funds.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the utilisation of the new resources of £196,000 for Continuing Professional Development as detailed in paragraph 4 of the report;

- (ii) to remit the proposal to enhance the APT&C staffing element of the proposal to the Corporate Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS IMPROVEMENT FUND

- 17.** There was submitted a report dated 26 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the additional capital resources available for investment in school buildings received from the Scottish Executive.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the additional capital allocation of £659,000 for the financial year 2002/2003; and
- (ii) to approve the allocation of these funds to the projects as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR PE AND SPORT INITIATIVE (Item 15, Page 2512)

- 18.** There was submitted a joint report dated 4 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services and of Community Services which sought agreement to the recommendations for action to be submitted to the New Opportunities Fund (NOF) relating to the New Opportunities for PE and Sport Initiatives.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the recommendations for action for the New Opportunities Fund for PE & Sport Initiatives as detailed in the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit these proposals to the New Opportunities Fund for their consideration; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

REALLOCATION OF SCOTTISH BUDGET RESOURCES

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

It was reported and noted that a further £100,000 from the Scottish Executive would be available to the Education Service for health development initiatives.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the programme for action outlined in paragraph 3.2 of the report at a cost of £500,000;
- (ii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services make the necessary arrangements to implement the proposed programme for action;
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit a further report to the next meeting of the Education Committee outlining proposals to spend the additional allocation of £100,000 for healthy lifestyle initiatives; and
- (iv) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

AWARDING OF CONTRACTS

20. There was submitted and noted a report dated 17 July 2002 (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.

<u>CONTRACT</u>	<u>SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Demolition of Annexe Huts at Newmilns Primary School, Newmilns	J B Black Construction Services, Maybole	£20,428.27
Alternative Educational & Vocational Training Services	Rathbone Training, Glasgow	Schedule or Rates basis
CCTV Installation - Silverwood Primary School, Kilmarnock	ADT Fire & Security Plc, Uddingston	£43,681.86

BUILDING LEARNING COMMUNITIES: PROPOSED PPP SCHOOLS PROJECT (Item 2, Page 2272)

21. There was submitted a report dated 10 September 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the outcome of the bid to the Scottish Executive to secure funding for a Schools Public Private Partnership (PPP) Initiative to improve the condition of school buildings and which sought agreement to proceed with the proposal.

Councillor Farrell, seconded by Councillor Knapp moved:-

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- (i) to proceed with the acceptance of the Scottish Executive's offer of funding and to recommend to Council accordingly in relation to its overall financial interest;
 - (ii) subject to Council approval of the above, that the Director of Educational and Social Services submit to a future meeting of the Education Committee an outline timetable for the action which requires to be taken and detailed proposals for wide consultation with all interested parties and the content of the programme for the schools PPP projects; and
 - (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

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Councillor F MacLean, seconded by Councillor Linton moved as an amendment that the Council progress a Not for Profit Model for the refurbishment of school buildings.

On a division by a show of hands, the motion was carried by 12 votes to 5.

CHAIR'S SUB-COMMITTEE - MINUTES

22. There was submitted and approved as a correct record and in respect of any recommendations contained therein, the Minutes of the Chair's Sub-Committee of 23 May 2002 (circulated) as detailed in the Appendix to these Minutes.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

23. 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.

CREATIVE MINDS: ARTS AND EDUCATION STRATEGY (PARA 1)

24. There was submitted a report dated 27 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which advised of the significant progress being made in implementing the Arts and Education Strategy and which sought agreement to an updated strategic framework and plan for action for Arts and Education.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the significant progress being made in the Arts and Education across the Educational and Social Services Department;
- (ii) to approve the revised framework for Arts and Education "Creative Minds";
- (iii) that the Director of Educational and Social Services circulate the Strategic Plan widely;
- (iv) that the Director of Educational and Social Services report on progress to the Education Committee on the implementation of the Plan;
- (v) to approve the revised grading for the post of Links Officer in the Arts and Education; and
- (vi) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE - PAYMENTS AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (PARA 9)

25. There was submitted a report dated 27 August 2002 (circulated) by the Director of Educational and Social Services which sought approval for the purchase of a Payment and Management Information System for the Education Maintenance Allowance.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the decision to enter into negotiations with the firm detailed in the report with the aim of acquiring a new payments and Management Information System for the Education Maintenance Allowance; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

BUDGETARY CONTROL SUMMARY STATEMENT - ON-SITE SERVICES TO 28 JULY 2002 (PERIOD 4) (PARA 6)

26. There was submitted and noted a joint report dated 27 August 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 Onsite Services Business Unit for the period ended 28 July 2002 (Period 4).

The meeting terminated at 12 Noon.