

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 18 SEPTEMBER 2001

BUDGETED SCHOOL RUNNING COSTS: 2000-2001

Report by Director of Educational & Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To inform Members of the Education Committee of the information published by on Budgeted School Running costs, as contained in the Scottish Executive Statistical Bulletin (Education Series) dated 29 March 2001.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The information contained in the Scottish Executive Statistical Bulletin (Education Series) dated 29 March 2001, was previously supplied in the report entitled “Scottish Schools: Costs”, published as part of the “Information for Parents” series issued by the Audit Unit of Her Majesty’s Inspectors of Schools. The report on costs for 1996/97 to 1998/99 was reported to the Education Committee on 11 March 1999.

3. CONTENT OF REPORT

- 3.1** The costs in this report are the budgeted school running costs which are required to be provided annually in the “budget statement” to the School Board and to the Scottish Executive.
- 3.2** The school roll figure given is the roll in September at the start of a school session, provided by the authority as part of the annual School Census.
- 3.3** Total budgeted school running costs for the year 1 April to 31 March is defined by the School Boards (Financial Information) (Scotland) Regulations 1990.
- 3.4** Budgeted school running cost per pupil is obtained by dividing the total budgeted school running costs for the year by the school roll. While the school roll relates to 1999/2000 the budgeted costs relate to the period 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001. This is consistent with the methodology used in previous years.

4. FEATURES OF THE REPORT

- 4.1** The Bulletin provides data relative to individual schools this year in respect of primary schools and secondary schools.

4.2 As in previous reports, the data reflects that the average cost for Primary Schools in East Ayrshire is less than the average for Primary Schools in Scotland. The East Ayrshire average of £1,927 compared to the Scottish average of £2,042.

4.3 A similar pattern is reflected in the Secondary Sector with East Ayrshire's average of £3,037 being less than the Scottish average of £3,098.

5. FINANCIAL/LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Nil.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 It is recommended that Members of the Education Committee:

- (i) request that the Director of Education provide further annual reports based on school running costs; and
- (ii) otherwise note the contents of this report

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational & Social Services

AYMcD
23 April 2001

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Scottish Executive Statistical Bulletin [Education Series], 29 March 2001

Members wishing further information should contact Allan Y McDougall, Head of Resource Support Tel: (01563) 576090.

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AGENDA