

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 2 APRIL 2001

SUMMER SUPPORT PROJECTS : HILLSIDE AND WITCHHILL SCHOOLS

Joint Report by Director of Educational and Social Services and Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To recommend alterations to the staffing for the Summer Support Projects at Hillside and Witchhill Schools, subject to consultation with Trade Unions.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The Personnel Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on Tuesday 20 May 1997 approved a report which established the Summer Support Pilot Project at Hillside School, Cumnock during the summer of 1997.

- 2.2** The project has extended to Witchhill School, Kilmarnock and has been provided on an annual basis since its initial introduction in 1997.

- 2.3** The staffing for the previous summer project was:

2 x Project Leaders (£13,164 - £17,232)
13 x Project Assistants (£12,105 - £14,889)

- 2.4** The Summer Support Schemes provide a continuity of educational opportunity for children with severe and profound learning difficulties. Some of the children require one to one care due either to their personal care needs or their challenging behaviour. In establishing the level of staffing the Council has to have regard to the level of support for each individual child as well as the general safety of staff and children.

3. PROPOSALS FOR SUMMER PROJECT 2000

- 3.1** The Director of Educational and Social Services has reviewed the arrangements for the scheme and would propose the undernoted adjustments to the staffing arrangements. This proposal follows concerns being expressed by Head Teachers, parents and staff regarding the pupil/staff ratio in previous summer support schemes and the difficulty in retaining supervisory staff during the summer holiday period as a result of the employees believing that the rate of pay was not commensurate with the responsibilities involved.

- 3.2** In consideration of the above it is proposed that the following staffing be provided for the project:

2 x Project Leaders , SCP26-29 (£17,796-£19,737)
20 x Project Assistants, SCP10-20 (£11,796-£14,889)

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 These proposals will result in an additional £10,995 being required to fund the additional staffing costs when compared to the project in 2000. These additional costs can be met from within the Excellence Fund, the priorities for which have been agreed by the Education Committee.

5. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Nil.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Sub-Committee is asked to approve the recommended staffing arrangements for the Summer Support Project at Hillside and Witchhill Schools, subject to consultation with Trade Unions.

Fiona Lees
Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources
23 March 2001

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Report by Director of Personnel Services to Personnel Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee on 20 May 1997.

Anyone wishing further information should contact Graham Haugh, Head of Personnel, telephone 01563 576092.

H/reports/2apr01/summer support projects

AGENDA