

APPENDIX II

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5 NOVEMBER 1996 AT 1000 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Gordon McCredie, Drew McIntyre, John Knapp, David Fulton, Kim Nicoll, George Turnbull, David Sneller, Robert Taylor, Eric Jackson; Parent Representative, Mrs Shelagh McKerrall and Church Representative, John McHugh.

ATTENDING: David Montgomery, Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Education; Margaret Burnell, Senior Depute Director of Education; Graham Short, Head of Quality Development; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Janie Allen, Principal Officer (Pre-5's); Anne Jackson, Principal Officer (Community); Anne Marie Carr, Administrative Officer and Lesley-Ann Wallace, Administrative Assistant.

APOLOGY: Councillor Tommy Farrell.

CHAIR: Councillor Robert Taylor in the absence of Councillor Farrell, Chair.

MAKING A COMMITMENT TO QUALITY: RESULT OF THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE

1. There was submitted a report dated 18 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education which provided details on the result of the consultation exercise "Making a Commitment to Quality" and which recommended how this should be taken forward within the Department.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to approve as the Education Department's statement of commitment:
"East Ayrshire Council's Department of Education - Continually improving learning and teaching through Quality, Equality, Access and Partnership".
- (ii) to endorse the publication of the statement of commitment as detailed at (i) above throughout the Department of Education with the aim of guiding the work of the service;
- (iii) to authorise the use of this statement in all relevant documentation and display material from the Education Department; and
- (iv) that the Director of Education be authorised to pursue strategies which promoted the values included in the statement.

PRE-5 CHARGING POLICY - UPDATE (Item 1, Page 1109)

2. There was submitted a report dated 21 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the progress on the implementation of the Pre-5 Charging Policy.

The Director of Education reported that, following requests from groups at recent public meetings the Council consider further exemptions from nursery charges. He confirmed that he would continue to monitor the Pre-5 Charging Policy and report.

A motion by Councillor Nicoll seconded by Councillor McCredie to re-consider in terms of Standing Order 51 the decision regarding the Pre-5 Charging Policy was defeated by nine votes to two and failed to achieve the requisite two thirds majority of Members voting.

Councillor Taylor seconded by Councillor McIntyre moved

- (i) to note the progress of the implementation of the Pre-Five Charging Policy and matters arising therefrom;
- (ii) that the Director of Education continue to monitor and review the implementation of the Pre-5 Charging Policy and that a further report be submitted to the Sub-Committee regarding any proposal to extend the categories eligible for exemption; and
- (iii) that in respect of paragraph 3.2 (iv) of the report on proposals for further exemption from charges that the words "other family crisis" be deleted.

Councillor Nicoll seconded by Councillor McCredie moved as an amendment that in respect of paragraph 3.2 (iv) of the report on proposals for further exemptions from charges that the words "other family crisis" not be deleted.

On a division by a show of hands the motion was carried by eight votes to two.

PRE-5 ADMISSIONS 1996/97 - SUMMARY UPDATE (Item 2, Page 1110)

3. There was submitted a report dated 16 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised of the current position relating to the allocation of places within Pre-5 establishments in East Ayrshire.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that a further report regarding Pre-5 admissions be submitted to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee; and
- (ii) to note the contents of the summary report.

It was also agreed, arising from a query from Councillor Fulton regarding the leasing arrangements for premises which had been brought into use to meet the increase in Pre-5 provision, that the Director of Education would investigate the matter and respond directly to Councillor Fulton.

USING EXAMINATION RESULTS IN SCHOOL EVALUATION

4. There was submitted a report dated 18 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised on the issues surrounding the use of examination results in school evaluation and which recommended future developments.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to welcome the publication of relevant information which supported development in the Education Service;
- (ii) to endorse the use of examination statistics which took into account external factors which may affect performance as a means of promoting more effective learning and teaching and improvement of educational provision; and
- (iii) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

AFTON YOUTH CENTRE, NEW CUMNOCK

5. There was submitted a report dated 25 October 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education which advised the Sub-Committee of the poor condition of the Afton Youth Centre and which recommended alternative provision and disposal of the building.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Afton Youth Centre building be declared surplus to the requirements of the Education Department;
- (ii) that the Director of Education be requested to pursue alternative arrangements for the current youth work activities based at the Youth Centre; and
- (iii) to note the report on the condition of the Afton Youth Centre and that the Local Member had been consulted on the future of the Centre.

The meeting terminated at 1045 hours.