

APPENDIX III

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

BUSINESS SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER 1997 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK

PRESENT: Councillors Irene Reeves, Gordon Cree, Provost Robert Stirling, Daniel Coffey, David Macrae, Kim Nicoll, David Sneller, George Smith and Tommy Farrell; Church Representative, William McConnell and Teacher Representative, Iain Harvey.

ATTENDING: John Mulgrew, Director of Education; Robin Gourlay, Depute Director of Commercial Operations; Sue Angus Depute Director of Education; John McHarg, Maintenance Manager; Ken Hathaway, Principal Client Service; Julie Armstrong, Senior Administrative Officer and Lesley-Ann Wallace, Administrative Assistant.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Robert Taylor, Gordon McCredie and Jimmy Carmichael and Church Representative, Matthew Sullivan.

CHAIR: In the absence of Councillor Taylor, Chair, Councillor Farrell was unanimously appointed and took the Chair.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND FOOTWEAR AND CLOTHING GRANTS 1997/98

1. There was submitted a report dated 2 December 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education advising of the uptake of Footwear and Clothing Grants for 1997/98.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Education continue to monitor the uptake of footwear and clothing Grants;
- (ii) that future reports would include statistics from the previous update report in order to draw comparisons;
- (iii) that the Director of Education in conjunction with the Director of Commercial Operations investigate options to tackle the problem of non take-up of free school meals in secondary schools due to the stigma attached to receiving free meals; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

HIGHER SCHOOL AND FURTHER EDUCATION BURSARIES

2. There was submitted a report dated 2 December 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education on the uptake of Higher School and Further Education Bursaries for 1997/98.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the level of uptake of bursaries to 3 December 1997; and
- (ii) that the Director of Education continue to monitor this field of activity.

UPDATE ON SCHOOL SECURITY

3. There was submitted a report dated 3 December 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education on further progress in relation to the School Security Initiative.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress being made in the implementation of School Security Strategy; and
- (ii) that the Director of Education monitor progress and report back to future meetings.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

4. There was submitted a report dated 15 December 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education on progress in the Capital Programme for 1997/98 and which sought agreement for the inclusion of additional projects to be financed through the "New Deals for Schools" Initiative and a projected capital slippage arising from a number of previously committed projects.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the amendments to the Capital Programme detailed in the report be approved;
- (ii) that the Director of Education in conjunction with the Head of Contracting and Technical Services action the projects detailed in the report at the earliest opportunity; and
- (iii) that the Director of Education continue to monitor closely the efficient implementation of the Capital Programme and report back to a future Committee with a further update.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

5. The Sub-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 item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 9 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

PERFORMANCE OF CATERING, CLEANING AND JANITORIAL SERVICES

6.1 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Nicoll and Provost Stirling declared an interest in terms of Section 12(b) of the National Code of Conduct.

6.2 Consideration of Item

There was submitted a report dated 4 December 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Commercial Operations which provided an update on the current status of statutory and non-statutory Catering, Cleaning and Janitorial work and which gave an indication of the performance of the catering and cleaning services from April 1997.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Director of Commercial Operations report on a regular basis on the performance of the Catering and Cleaning Contracts, Janitorial and Centre Supervisor Services; and
- (ii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1425 hours.