

**APPENDIX III****EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****BUSINESS SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY 1997 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Robert Taylor, Gordon McCredie, Irene Reeves, Provost Robert Stirling and Councillors Daniel Coffey, David Macrae, Kim Nicoll, George Smith, James Carmichael; Church Representatives, William McConnell and Matthew Sullivan and Teacher Representative, Iain Harvey.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Education; Sue Angus, Depute Director of Education; John Ainsworth, Audit Assistant; John McHarg, Maintenance Manager, Property Services; Alex Fraser, Principal Administrative Officer, (Education Department); Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer; Anne Marie Carr, Administrative Officer; Marilyn Miller, Administrative Officer and Lesley-Ann Wallace, Administrative Assistant.

**ALSO PRESENT:** George Heaney, Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Tommy Farrell and Gordon Cree.

**CHAIR:** Councillor Robert Taylor, Chair.

**ACCOUNTS COMMISSION REPORT: "A SAFER PLACE" - PROPERTY RISK MANAGEMENT IN SCHOOLS**

1. There was submitted a report dated 30 January 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education on the findings of the recent Accounts Commission report "A Safer Place" which had been undertaken to assist and encourage all new Councils in Scotland to develop effective risk management arrangements in order to improve value for money in the use of scarce resources.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to endorse the findings of the report;
- (ii) that the Director of Education liaise with Property Services and the Commercial Operations Department with a view to forming a list of objectives ensuring a corporate approach to a risk assessment strategy in school buildings;
- (iii) to report the findings of this study to the School Security Working Group who should consider the ways of taking risk assessments forward in light of the specific grant 1997/98 for school security;
- (iv) that future reports from the School Security Working Group provide clear costings of proposals matched to the financial resources available at the time;
- (v) that the Head of Property and Director of Commercial Operations following consultation with the Police/Fire Services submit a joint report to the Sub-Committee detailing what arrangements were in place to deal with

breakages/vandalism at school properties, particularly window breakages, the report to provide information on prioritisation of work and response times; and

- (vi) to support the establishment of an Information Network across Councils.

Councillor Carmichael joined the meeting during discussion of the above item.

### **VALUE FOR MONEY - WATER MANAGEMENT IN EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS**

2. There was submitted a report dated 30 January 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education regarding the proposed value for money study of Water Management in schools.

It was agreed that the Director of Finance take the study forward in co-operation with the Departments of Commercial Operations and Education.

### **SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS 1997/98**

3. There was submitted a report dated 31 January 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education requesting approval to issue a brief consultation paper on holiday arrangements for schools over the Christmas and New Year period at the end of the present calendar year, 1997.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the proposals to amend the school holiday arrangements over the Christmas and New Year period (1997/98) be adopted;
- (ii) that the Director of Education consult with appropriate individuals and organisations (schools boards, teachers, representatives, JCC); and
- (iii) that the Director of Education report the results of the consultation to this Sub-Committee as quickly as possible.

### **DECLARATION OF SURPLUS GROUND ADJACENT TO 12 MAIN STREET, KILMAURS AND KILMAURS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

4. There was submitted a report dated 30 January 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education making recommendation that the piece of ground owned by the Council and adjacent to 12 Main Street, Kilmaurs and Kilmaurs Primary School be declared surplus to the requirements of the Education Department.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to declare the ground surplus to requirements; and
- (ii) that the Director of Education refer the matter to the Head of Property Services for disposal.

**SCHOOLS TRANSPORT CONTRACTS FOR CHILDREN WHO PREVIOUSLY  
ATTENDED SCHOOLS AFFECTED BY THE RATIONALISATION PROGRAMME**

5. There was submitted a report dated 30 January 1997 (circulated) by the Director of Education providing details of tenders received by Strathclyde Passenger Transport in respect of school transport for children who previously attended schools affected by the rationalisation programme.

It was agreed to note the awarding of tenders for school transport contracts for children who previously attended schools affected by the rationalisation programme in line with the recommendations in Appendix I of the report.

The meeting terminated at 1350 hours.