

**APPENDIX II****EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL****BUSINESS SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27 JUNE 1996 AT 1400 HOURS  
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,  
KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Robert Taylor, Gordon McCredie, Provost Robert Stirling, Councillors Daniel Coffey, David Sneller, George Smith, Jimmy Carmichael and Tommy Farrell and Church Representative Matthew Sullivan.

**ATTENDING:** David Montgomery, Chief Executive; John Mulgrew, Director of Education; Jennifer Wallace, Depute Director of Education; Ian Arnott, Chief Accountant; Bill Walkinshaw, Principal Administrative Officer (Administration); Alex Fraser, Principal Administrative Officer (Education); David Mitchell, Principal Solicitor; John McHarg, Area Property Officer and James Lally, Senior Administrative Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Kim Nicoll and Church Representative William McConnell.

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

**EDUCATIONAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

1. There was submitted a report dated 21 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education providing details of the proposed capital programme for the Education Department.

It was agreed;

- (i) to note the capital allocation for the Education Department in financial year 1996/97;
- (ii) to approve the priorities for determining the capital programme as detailed below;
  - Priority 1 - work necessary to ensure continued operation of school buildings
  - Priority 2 - work necessary to provide "roofs over heads", ie new build or extension projects to take account of local population growth.
  - Priority 3 - work necessary to provide for the essential curricular needs of schools and for disabled access where there was a pressing need.
  - Priority 4 - work related to the rationalisation of school buildings, annexes or temporary buildings or to provide multipurpose buildings with financial support from other departments or agencies; and
  - Priority 5 - work which would replace buildings which have reached the end of their useful life either in financial or educational terms.
- (iii) to approve the initial capital programme for the Education Department as detailed in the report;
- (iv) that in respect of the balance of funds allocated to the "spend-to-save" proposals to facilitate the school rationalisation programme, authority be

remitted to the Director of Education in consultation with the Chair of the Education Committee to authorise any necessary expenditure to allow required works to be carried out prior to the start of the school session in August 1996 and that a report thereon be submitted to a future meeting of this Sub-Committee;

- (v) to note that despite the decision of the Policy and Resources Committee to return to the Education Department any capital receipts made through the school rationalisation programme, the existing capital allocation fell well short of anticipated needs, in major maintenance, in health and safety, in special needs adaptations and in technology purchases.
- (vi) that the Director of Education prepare a report for consideration at a future meeting of the Sub-Committee prioritising projects unable to be funded through this capital allocation so that if capital receipts became available projects could be undertaken with speed; and
- (vii) that the Director of Education provide regular progress reports on approved projects.

Councillor Farrell left the meeting during discussion of the above item prior to a decision being taken.

#### **TRANSPORT FACILITIES FOR SCHOOL SESSION 1996/97 FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL AND/OR MEDICAL NEEDS (Item 3, Page 495)**

2. There was submitted and noted a report dated 21 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education advising that in relation to contracts to transport children to special, mainstream and nursery schools and to the psychological services and languages unit, 91 contracts had been awarded to the lowest tenderer, one contract had been awarded to the firm whose offer was not the lowest, a further five contracts had been awarded to firms who had submitted the lowest tenders but whose offer was equal lowest with other contractors and that the Director of Education would make appropriate arrangements to have the nine outstanding contracts taken up.

#### **SCHOOL TRANSPORT CONTRACTS AND SUPERVISION OF PUPILS**

3. There was submitted a report dated 21 June 1996 (circulated) by the Director of Education informing of present arrangements for attendants on school transport and proposing increased use of attendants.

It was agreed;

- (i) that the Director of Education undertake a review of existing transport arrangements with particular regard to safety issues and report thereon to a future meeting of this Sub-Committee; and
- (ii) that from the start of school session 1996/97 attendants be provided on buses for pupils who were directly affected by the recent school rationalisation programme.

The meeting terminated at 1440 hours.