
EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 5 SEPTEMBER 2017

Education and Communities Committee
Tuesday 5 September 2017 at 2 pm

Present: Provost Brennan, Councillors Clocherty, Curley, Crowther (for MacLeod), McCabe, C McEleny, McVey, Murphy, Quinn, Robertson and Wilson, Rev. F Donaldson, Rev. D Burt and Mrs F Gilpin, Church Representatives and Ms P McEwan, Teacher Representative.

Chair: Councillor Clocherty presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Acting Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities, Community Safety and Wellbeing Manager, Ms G Murphy (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Legal Services Manager (Litigation, Licensing & Committee Services), Technical Services Manager, Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services), Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Mr C Given (Finance Services), Head of Education, Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy, Ms L Wilkie, Ms L Varrie and Ms L Cote (Education Services), Property Services Manager, Corporate Communications Manager and Mr M Bingham (Corporate Communications).

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.

453 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest
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An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor MacLeod, with Councillor Crowther substituting.

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:

Agenda Item 24 (Update on the Beacon Arts Centre: The Greenock Arts Guild Limited) – Councillors McCabe and Robertson.

Agenda Item 27 (Award of Contracts for the Provision of Mainstream Transport for 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21) – Councillor McVey.

The Committee then observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect following the recent death of former Councillor Jim Grieve.

454 Communities 2017/18 Revenue Budget Report – Period 3 to 30 June 2017
454

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the 2016/17 Communities Revenue Budget final outturn and the 2017/18 Revenue Budget position as at Period 3 to 30 June 2017.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the final outturn for 2016/17; and
- (2) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £65,000 for the 2017/18 Communities Revenue Budget as at Period 3 to 30 June 2017.

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- 455 Communities Capital Programme 2017-2020 Progress 455**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the status of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the progress of the specific projects detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
 - (2) that approval be given to the virement of £14,000 from Community Hubs Other Expenditure to the Birkmyre Pitch Drainage Project to cover the difference between the current budget and the total projected cost of the project; and
 - (3) that approval be given to the allocation of funding from the Repairs and Renewal Fund to progress the 3G Pitch Carpet Rejuvenation at Lady Octavia Recreation Centre as outlined in Section 10.1, subject to approval by the Policy & Resources Committee.
- 456 Auchmountain Glen Heritage Project – Feasibility Study 456**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration and Resources (1) advising the Committee of the Auchmountain Glen Heritage Project and (2) requesting funding for a feasibility study to establish the viability of restoring the heritage trail.
- Decided:** that approval be given to the allocation of £15,000 from the Grants to Voluntary Organisations budget for a feasibility study, with any balance being used to assist in developing the project.
- 457 Provision of Crawl Space Access to Inverclyde Academy Pitches 457**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising the Committee of the decision of the Petitions Committee to support a petition regarding crawl hole access to the Inverclyde Academy 3G pitch.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the decision of the Petitions Committee to support the petition regarding crawl hole access to the Inverclyde Academy 3G pitch;
 - (2) that agreement be given to the provision of a crawl hole at the Inverclyde Academy 3G pitch for a trial period of 1 year, given the special circumstances of the pitches set out in Sections 6.1 and 6.2 of the report, with the proviso that the trial can be suspended in the event of significant damage occurring as a result of the crawl hole being installed; and
 - (3) that a report be submitted to the Committee following the 1 year trial period to allow the Committee to determine if the trial has been successful and should be extended and that the report include information on the suitability or otherwise of providing similar access to other school pitches in Inverclyde.
- 458 Mortgage Guarantee Scheme 458**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval for a formal agreement with Scotwest Credit Union on the provision of a mortgage product which assists buyers to purchase a home in Inverclyde through a deposit guarantee scheme.

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Decided:

- (1) that the Committee approve and support the scheme as outlined in Paragraph 5.2 and Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (2) that the £150,000 reserve for the scheme be reduced to £50,000 with the balance being returned to the Policy & Resources Committee for reallocation; and
- (3) that a report on the operation of the scheme be submitted to the Committee in 1 year's time.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following three items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as are set opposite the heading to each item.

Item	Paragraph(s)
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Public Space CCTV Provision - Update	6 and 8
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Update on the Beacon Arts Centre: The Greenock Arts Guild Ltd	6 and 12
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Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report: Update on Current Actions	6, 9, 12 and 13
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459	Public Space CCTV Provision - Update	459
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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the proposed replacement of the public space CCTV system within Inverclyde.

Decided: that the Committee note the arrangements set out in the report for the replacement of the Council's ageing public space CCTV system.

460	Update on the Beacon Arts Centre: The Greenock Arts Guild Ltd	460
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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing a further update on the position in respect of the Beacon Arts Centre/Greenock Arts Guild Ltd as part of the Council's commitment to reporting on the governance of external organisations.

Councillors McCabe and Robertson declared a non-financial interest in this item as Members of the Board of Greenock Arts Guild Ltd. They also formed the view that the nature of their interest and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the Chamber or their participation in the decision making process.

The Committee noted the position as detailed in the report, including the positive and successful aspects relating to the operation of the Beacon Arts Centre, and agreed to the recommendations including the submission of a further report to the January 2018 meeting, all as detailed in the Appendix.

461	Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report: Update on Current Actions	461
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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities &

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Organisational Development (1) on the current actions to implement the Council's decisions on the Clune Park Estate and (2) providing information on key, current actions to ensure that the Committee is fully advised of progress.

The Committee noted the progress in respect of the Clune Park Regeneration Plan and agreed to other action, all as detailed in the Appendix.

The Communities business concluded at 3.15 pm.

The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4 pm with Rev F Donaldson, Rev D Burt, Ms F Gilpin and Ms P McEwan joining the meeting.

462 Church of Scotland Representation on the Education and Communities Committee 462

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration and Resources advising of the nomination by the Church of Scotland of Rev. David Burt as its representative on the Education and Communities Committee following the resignation of Mr T Macdougall.

The Convener welcomed Rev. Burt to the meeting.

Decided: that the nomination of Rev. David Burt as the Church of Scotland Representative on the Committee be noted.

463 Election of Parent Representative and Teacher Representative to the Education and Communities Committee 463

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the results of the nominations of a Parent Representative and Teacher Representative to the Committee.

The Convener welcomed Ms Paula McEwan, the Teacher Representative nominee, to the meeting.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee approve the appointment of Ms Paula McEwan (EIS) as Teacher Representative, in accordance with the Scheme of Arrangements; and

(2) that it be noted that a report on the nomination of a Parent Representative will be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

464 Further Follow-up Progress Report Following Education Scotland Visit to Craigmarnock School 464

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing a follow up progress report on Craigmarnock School following the report made to the September 2016 meeting of the Committee on the results of the Education Scotland inspection of the school.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the further progress made since the previous report to the Committee in September 2016;

(2) that all those involved in the service provision be commended for the improvements made; and

(3) that a further progress report be submitted to the Committee in 1 year's time.

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- 465 Education 2017/18 Revenue Budget – Period 3 to 30 June 2017 465**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the 2016/17 final outturn and the 2017/18 Education Revenue Budget position as at Period 3 to 30 June 2017.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the final outturn for 2016/17;
 - (2) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £272,000 for the 2017/18 Education Revenue Budget as at Period 3 to 30 June 2017; and
 - (3) that approval be given to the virements totalling £89,000 as detailed in Appendix 5 to the report.
- 466 Education Capital Programme 2017-2020 Progress 466**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Chief Financial Officer (1) providing an update on the status of the projects forming the Education Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the progress of the specific projects detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.
- 467 Education and Communities Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2016/19 – Progress Report 467**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy providing an update on the Education, Communities and Organisational Development Corporate Director Improvement Plan (CDIP) 2016/19, focusing on improvement actions which sit within the Education, Inclusive Education and Culture and Safer and Inclusive Communities Services.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the progress made in delivering the year two improvement actions outlined in the Education, Communities and Organisational Development CDIP 2016/19; and
 - (2) that it be agreed to consider a second progress report at the meeting of the Committee on 23 January 2018.
- 468 Revised Inspection Models 468**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing information on the approaches taken for the inspection of schools and the education functions of authorities by Education Scotland. Mr Gary Johnstone, Area Lead Officer, Education Scotland, was present and answered questions from Members regarding the factors influencing the type of inspection model used.
- Decided:** that the report be noted.
- 469 Craigmarloch School – Change to School Day 469**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development proposing a number of changes to Craigmarloch School's current opening times for secondary aged pupils to align the school day with all other

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Inverclyde secondary schools.

Decided: that agreement be given to the proposed changes to Craigmarloch School's day for secondary school pupils, as detailed in the report.

Councillor Wilson left the meeting at this juncture.

470 Changes to National Qualification Arrangements 470

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on changes to the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) arrangements for Recognising Positive Achievement, the most significant being the lack of a fallback from National 5 to National 4.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the changes to the SQA arrangements and the interim position statement issued to Inverclyde Schools; and
- (2) that the Convener write to the Depute First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education conveying the Committee's concern regarding the implications for affected pupils of the lack of a fallback from National 5 to National 4 and seeking clarification in this regard.

471 School Term Dates – Session 2018/19 471

There was submitted a report by the Head of Education seeking approval for the setting of the school term dates for session 2018/19.

Decided: that approval be given to the term dates for session 2018/19 set out in Appendix 1 to report.

472 Update on the Use of the Pupil Equity Fund 472

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the uses made by schools of the Pupil Equity Funding (PEF).

Decided: that the report be noted.

473 Review of Outstanding Remits 473

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on a number of outstanding remits assigned to the Education, Communities and Organisational Development Directorate from previous meetings of the Committee.

Decided: that the Committee note the position with regard to the outstanding remits as detailed in Section 5 of the report.

474 Increase in Early Learning and Childcare to 1140 Hours 474

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing information on the Scottish Government's intention to increase the entitlement of early learning and childcare to 1140 hours and the initial planning at a local level.

Decided:

- (1) that agreement be given to the infrastructure proposals detailed in Section 10 of

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the report subject to the necessary further statutory and non-statutory consultations set out in Section 14;

(2) that agreement given to the proposals for early phase developments set out in Section 12; and

(3) that it be noted that the Business Case will be submitted to the Scottish Government on 29 September 2017 in draft format, subject to approval at the meeting of the Committee on 31 October 2017.

475 The Naming of the New West End Early Years Facility 475

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on a proposed name for the new West End Early Years Facility to replace Kelly Street Children’s Centre.

Decided: that it be agreed that Glenpark Early Learning Centre be the name of the new West End Early Years Facility.

476 Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) Cladding 476

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the assurance activities undertaken across the Inverclyde School Estate in response to the Grenfell Tower fire in London and the subsequent Scottish Government activities in respect of Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) Cladding.

Decided: that the report be noted.

477 Glasgow City Region Education Improvement Collaborative – Collaboration to Deliver Excellence and Equity in Education 477

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development proposing, in support of the Regional Economic Strategy and Action Plan and in response to the Scottish Government report “Education Governance Review – Next Steps”, additional governance arrangements for Education in the Glasgow City Region to ensure greater collaboration whilst maintaining local accountability.

Decided:

(1) that agreement be given to the recommendation from the Glasgow City Region Cabinet that the recommendations in Appendix 1 – “Report by Chief Executives” are taken forward, subject to regular updates being submitted to the Committee; and

(2) that the matter be referred for consideration by Inverclyde Council at its meeting on 28 September 2017.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as are set opposite the heading to each item.

Item	Paragraph(s)
Direct Contract Award for Visible Whole School Learning	8

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Award of Contracts for the Provision of Mainstream Transport for 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 6 & 8**478 Direct Contract Award for Visible Whole School Learning 478**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval to make a Direct Contract Award for Visible Whole School Learning, which was agreed, all as detailed in the Appendix.

479 Award of Contracts for the Provision of Mainstream School Transport for 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 479

There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy advising of the use of the powers delegated to the Chief Executive to accept tenders for transport facilities for mainstream school transport contracts due for renewal from the start of school session 2017/18.

Councillor McVey declared a non-financial interest in this item as the result of a business association with one of the tendering companies and left the meeting.

Decided: that the Committee note the use of the powers delegated to the Chief Executive to accept tenders for mainstream school transport contracts due for renewal from the start of the school session 2017/18 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.