

Education and Communities Committee**Tuesday 23 January 2018 at 2pm**

Present: Provost Brennan, Councillors Clocherty, Curley, Crowther (for MacLeod), McCabe, J McEleny (for C McEleny), McVey, Murphy, Quinn, Robertson and Wilson, Rev D Burt and Mrs F Gilpin, Church Representatives, Ms A McMillan, Parent Representative 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, Community Learning & Development Manager, Ms G Murphy (for Head of Legal & Property Services), 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, Property Services 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.

53 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**53**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor C McEleny, with Councillor J McEleny substituting, and Councillor MacLeod, with Councillor Crowther substituting.

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:

Agenda Item 6 (Community Waivers Saving Proposal) – Councillors Clocherty, Curley and J McEleny.

Agenda Item 7 (Community Facilities Service Review) – Councillors Clocherty, Curley and J McEleny.

Agenda Item 8 (Leisure Pitches Strategy Asset Management Plan) – Councillors Clocherty and J McEleny.

Agenda Item 9 (Follow-Up Progress Report following Education Scotland Visit to St Ninian's Primary School) – Councillor McCabe.

Agenda Item 13 (Report on the Joint Inspection of Services for Children and Young People in Inverclyde) – Councillor Robertson.

Agenda Item 21 (Update on the Beacon Arts Centre: The Greenock Arts Guild Ltd) – Councillors McCabe and Robertson.

Agenda Item 22 (Governance of Council Commissioned External Organisations) – Councillors Clocherty, McCabe, J McEleny, McVey and Wilson.

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- 54 Communities 2017/18 Revenue Budget – Period 7 to 31 October 2017 54**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the 2017/18 Communities Revenue Budget position as at Period 7 to 31 October 2017.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £67,000 for the 2017/18 Communities Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2017; and
 - (2) that the Committee approve the virement of £30,000 as detailed in paragraph 7.1 and appendix 5 of the report.
- 55 Communities Capital Programme 2017-2020 Progress 55**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer (1) on the status of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the progress of the specific projects detailed in appendix 1 of the report.
- 56 CLD Service Annual Report 2016-2017: Progress Report Linking to 3 Year Plan “Co-ordinating Community Learning and Development in Inverclyde” 56**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the Community Learning & Development Service Annual Report 2016-17 linked to the 3 Year Plan “Co-ordinating Community Learning and Development in Inverclyde”. Copies of the full report were circulated to the Committee.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee endorse the Community Learning & Development Service Annual Report 2016-2017; and
 - (2) that the Committee’s appreciation be extended to all staff involved.
- 57 Grants to Voluntary Organisations 57**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) on proposals for funding from the Grants to Voluntary Organisations (GTVO) Budget in 2018/19 and 2019/20 and (2) seeking approval for amendments to the GTVO Guidance Notes.
- Decided:**
- (1) that it be agreed that awards be limited to a maximum of two year from 2018 onwards; and
 - (2) that the amendments proposed to the GTVO guidance notes be approved.
- 58 Community Waivers Saving Proposal 58**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval in principle for savings in the Community Waivers Budget.

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Councillor Curley declared a non-financial interest in this item as a Member of Boglestone Community Association and Councillors Clocherty and J McEleny declared a non-financial interest as Members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. All of the Members 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.

Decided: that approval be given to the savings proposals detailed in section 5 of the report, in principle, prior to their submission to the Council as part of the budget setting process.

59 Community Facilities Service Review

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising the Committee of the details of the savings proposals in Community Facilities, currently forming part of the 2018/20 budget public consultation exercise.

Councillor Curley declared a non-financial interest in this item as a Member of Boglestone Community Association and Councillors Clocherty and J McEleny declared a non-financial interest as Members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. All of the Members formed the view that the nature of their interest and the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the Chamber or their participation in the decision making process.

Decided: that the Committee note the contents of the review, the proposals for which are currently subject to public consultation as part of the 2018/20 Budget process, and that a final decision on the Budget will be taken by the Council on 15 March 2018.

60 Leisure Pitches Strategy Asset Management Plan

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval for additional capital funding to create a sustainable Leisure Pitches Strategy Asset Management Plan for non-School Estate (SEMP) pitches.

Councillors Clocherty and J McEleny declared a non-financial interest in this item as Members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. 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.

Decided: that it be agreed to remit to the budget process, the allocation from the Capital Programme of £120,000 annually from 2018/19 to a Leisure Pitches Strategy Asset Management Plan to fund the repair and renewal of the non-SEMP artificial pitches.

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 5 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.

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Item	Paragraph(s)
Update on the Beacon Arts Centre: The Greenock Arts Guild Ltd	6
Governance of Council Commissioned External Organisations	6
Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report: Update on Current Actions	6, 9 12 & 13
Lady Alice Bowling Club	6
Safer Communities Restructure	1

61 Update on the Beacon Arts Centre: The Greenock Arts Guild Ltd 61

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing a further update on the Beacon Arts Centre/Greenock Arts Guild Ltd (GAG) 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 in respect of a number of matters relative to the Beacon Arts Centre and that a further progress report would be submitted to the September 2018 meeting, all as detailed in the appendix.

62 Governance of Council Commissioned External Organisations 62

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the governance of external organisations which deliver commissioned services to the Council or which are in receipt of grant supporting service delivery.

Councillor McCabe declared a non-financial interest in this item as a Member of the Board of Kilmacolm Community Centre Co Ltd and River Clyde Homes, Councillor Wilson declared a non-financial interest as a Member of the Board of Kilmacolm Community Centre Co Ltd, Councillor McVey declared a non-financial interest as a Member of the Board of River Clyde Homes and Councillors Clocherty and J McEleny declared a non-financial interest as Members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. All of the Members 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.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee agree the funding for Craigend Resource Centre and Branchton Community Centre for 2018/19 as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report;
- (2) that the Committee note the governance arrangements for the self-managed community centres and Inverclyde Leisure as detailed in appendix 1 in the report; and
- (3) that the Committee note the national governance arrangements for Housing Associations detailed in paragraph 5.3 of the report.

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- 63 Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report: Update on Current Actions 63**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & 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 Council is fully advised of progress.
- The Committee noted the current progress in respect of the Clune Park Area Regeneration Plan and the further matters set out in the report, all as detailed in the appendix.
- 64 Lady Alice Bowling Club 64**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the current position in respect of Lady Alice Bowling Club.
- The Committee agreed that the recommendations set out in the report be factored into the overall 2018/20 budget process, all as detailed in the appendix.
- 65 Safer Communities Restructure 65**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on proposals for savings within Safer Communities.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee approve the savings proposal, in principle, as set out in the report prior to its submission to the Council as part of the budget setting process; and
- (2) that the Committee note the restructure proposal for Safer Communities as set out in section 6 of the report.
- The Communities business concluded at 4.05pm. The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4.10pm with Rev Burt, Mrs Gilpin, Ms McMillan and Ms McEwan joining the meeting. Councillors McCabe and Wilson did not return to the meeting at this juncture.**
- 66 Follow Up Progress Report Following Education Scotland Visit to St Ninian's Primary School 66**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the progress made following the Education Scotland visit to St Ninian's Primary School and the report submitted to the Committee in January 2017.
- Councillor McCabe was not present for this item having previously declared a non-financial interest as the spouse of the Head Teacher of the school.
(Councillor Wilson entered the meeting during consideration of this item of business).
- Decided:** that the Committee note the further progress made by St Ninian's Primary School following the report submitted to the January 2017 meeting.
- Councillor McCabe returned to the meeting at this juncture.

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67 Education 2017/18 Revenue Budget – Period 7 to 31 October 2017 67

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the 2017/18 Education Revenue Budget position as at Period 7 to 31 October 2017.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £275,000 in the 2017/18 Education Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2017; and
- (2) that the Committee note that proposals have been developed as part of the 2018/20 budget process to address the number of projected underspends.

68 Education Capital Programme 2017-2020 Progress 68

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer (1) on the status of the projects forming the Education 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; and
- (2) that the Committee note the review of the School Estate Funding Model which is a separate item on the agenda.

69 Review of School Estate Funding Model 69

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer (1) providing an update on the position of the School Estate Funding Model and (2) seeking approval of the revised model.

Decided:

- (1) that approval be given to the revised Funding Model and the associated changes/revisions highlighted in sections 4 and 5 of the report; and
- (2) that it be noted that the financial implications of the revised model will be built into the Council's revised Financial Strategy due to be submitted to the Council in June 2018.

70 Report on the Joint Inspection of Services for Children and Young People in Inverclyde 70

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the findings of the joint inspection of services for children and young people in Inverclyde.

Councillor Robertson declared a non-financial interest in this item through her involvement in the process during her former employment. She also formed the view that the nature of her interest and of the item of business did not preclude her continued presence in the Chamber or her participation in the decision making process.

Decided:

- (1) that the findings of the joint inspection of services for children and young people in Inverclyde be noted; and

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(2) that it be noted that an improvement plan will be developed to address the areas of improvement outlined in the inspection report and will be submitted to the Care Inspectorate as required; and

(3) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to all staff involved.

71 Care Inspections of Partner and Private Early Learning and Childcare Establishments April 2016 – March 2017 71

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising the Committee of the quality of Early Learning and Childcare in Partner and Private Establishments, as evidenced by Care Inspectorate findings.

Decided: that the report be noted.

72 Education and Communities Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2016/19 – Progress Report 72

There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy providing an update on the achievement of key objectives in the Education, Communities & Organisational Development Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan (CDIP) 2016/19.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the progress made in delivering the Year 2 improvement actions outlined in the Education, Communities & Organisational Development CDIP 2016/19; and

(2) that it be agreed to consider a third progress report at the meeting of the Committee on 8 May 2018.

73 Online School Payments Update 73

There was submitted a report by the Head of Education providing an update on the progress of the Online School Payments Project.

Decided: that the report be noted.

74 Update on Progress of the Scottish Attainment Challenge 74

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the progress of the Scottish Attainment Challenge and the impact of the Attainment Challenge in Inverclyde.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the ongoing progress of the Scottish Attainment Challenge Project within Inverclyde; and

(2) that a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee on the current position in respect of the Pupil Equity Fund and the ways in which this is complementing work around the Attainment Challenge.

Rev Burt left the meeting at this juncture.

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75 Putting an End to Period Poverty in Inverclyde 75

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) informing the Committee of the national period poverty initiative and (2) outlining proposals to end period poverty for girls and young women in Inverclyde.

Decided: that the Committee agree to tackle period poverty in Inverclyde by:

- (1) agreeing to the installation of free sanitary product dispensing machines in all Inverclyde secondary schools; and
- (2) agreeing that the cost of installing and stocking the machines be remitted to the 2018/20 budget process.

76 Summer Playscheme Provision 76

There was submitted a report by the Head of Education informing the Committee of the current playscheme service that will provide options for future delivery of summer activity service provision from 2018 onwards.

Decided:

- (1) that it be noted that the Corporate Management Team's recommendation is that Option 2 as detailed in the report be progressed as part of the 2018/20 budget process; and
- (2) that it be agreed that Option 1 (continue with the current provision and charging policy) be progressed for consideration as part of the 2018/20 budget process.

77 Sundry Budget Saving Proposals 77

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development identifying a proposed saving of £12,000 from the Education Budget comprising (a) £6,000 from the current resources budget for Determined to Succeed, resulting in modification to the delivery of the current Recruit Programme and (b) £6,000 resulting from a review and reduction of all Education HQ overhead budgets based on latest projections.

Decided: that approval be given to the savings proposal, in principle, prior to its submission to the Council as part of the budget setting process.

Councillor McVey left the meeting at this juncture.

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 2 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)
Update in Respect of the Governance of External Early Learning and Childcare Partner Establishments	6

Additional Support Needs (ASN) Review – Update and Associated Savings (ASN) 1

78 Update in Respect of the Governance of External Early Learning and Childcare Partner Establishments 78

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update in respect of the governance of external Early Learning and Childcare partner establishments.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the contents of the report and the governance arrangements in place to monitor the position of external Early Learning partner centres; and
- (2) that the Committee note that all of the information and checks carried out by the Council indicate that all of its external partner centres are in a sustainable position to continue partnership working.

79 Additional Support Needs (ASN) Review – Update and Associated Savings (ASN) 79

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) providing an update on the progress to date in the implementation of the recommendations contained within the original Additional Support Needs (ASN) review published in April 2016 and (2) proposing 3 additional ASN associated savings proposals for consideration.

(Councillor Murphy left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress made to date in the implementation of the original recommendations contained in the 2016 Additional Support Needs (ASN) review; and
- (2) that the Committee approve the savings proposals detailed in the report, in principle, prior to their submission to the Council as part of the budget setting process.