

**EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 8 MAY 2018**

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**Education and Communities Committee**

**Tuesday 8 May 2018 at 2pm**

**Present:** Provost Brennan, Councillors Clocherty, Curley, Crowther (for MacLeod), McCabe, C McEleny, McVey, Murphy, Quinn, Robertson and Brooks (for Wilson), Rev. F Donaldson 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 Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Head of Environmental & Public Protection, Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Communities, Community Safety and Wellbeing Manager, Ms G Murphy (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services), Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Education & Exchequer Finance Manager, Head of Education, Property Services Manager, and Early Years Manager.

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

**294      Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest      294**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor MacLeod, with Councillor Crowther substituting, Councillor Wilson, with Councillor Brooks substituting, and Rev. D Burt.

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:

Agenda Item 5 (The Scottish Government's New Private Residential Tenancy) – Councillors Curley and McVey.

Agenda Item 14 (Update on the Greenock Arts Guild Limited – Litigation Matter) – Councillors Brooks, McCabe and Robertson.

Agenda Item 24 (Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report: Update on Current Actions) – Councillors Brooks, Curley, McCabe and C McEleny.

Agenda Item 25 (Inverclyde Leisure Spend to Save Proposals) – Councillors Brooks and Clocherty.

Agenda Item 26 (School Transport Contracts (Mainstream) – Result of Tenders for Contracts 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22) – Councillor McVey.

**295      Communities 2017/18 Revenue Budget– Period 11 to 28 February 2018      295**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the 2017/18 Communities Revenue Budget position as at Period 11 to 28 February 2018.

**Decided:** that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £193,000 in the

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2017/18 Communities Revenue Budget as at 28 February 2018.

**296 Communities Capital Programme 2017 – 2020 Progress 296**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection 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; and
- (2) that a report be submitted to the Environment & Regeneration Committee on (a) the Housing Scheme of Assistance, incorporating a number of case studies, and (b) the position in respect of Care and Repair.

**297 Delegated Powers: Authorisation of Officers 297**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection updating the delegated powers of officers following the first phase of the management restructure and pending a full review of delegated powers.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Head of Environmental & Public Protection be granted delegated powers to authorise officers under the Acts contained in Appendix 1 and Regulations made thereunder;
- (2) that the Head of Environmental & Public Protection be granted delegated powers to grant authorisations for directed (covert) surveillance permitted under Sections b 6 and 7 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000; and
- (3) that the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources be granted delegated powers to make, serve and revoke Closing Orders under the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 in respect of Below Tolerable Standard property.

**298 The Scottish Government's New Private Residential Tenancy 298**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection advising the Committee of the introduction of the Scottish Government's new Private Residential Tenancy.

Councillors Curley and McVey declared a non-financial interest in this item as private landlords. 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:**

- (1) that the Committee note the introduction of the Scottish Government's new Private Residential Tenancy and the implications this may have on the private rented sector in Inverclyde; and
- (2) that a report be submitted to the Environment & Regeneration Committee in due course on the operation of the New Private Residential Tenancy.

**299 Extension of Opening of Gourock Outdoor Pool 299**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection providing information in respect of the extension of the opening of Gourock Outdoor Pool in September 2017.

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**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the costs of opening Gourrock Pool and the attendance levels in September 2017; and
- (2) that a report be submitted to the Committee in advance of the budget setting process providing comparative figures for September 2017 and September 2018.

**300 Vehicle Emissions Enforcement 300**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection seeking approval to implement processes to allow for the adoption of the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (Scotland) Regulations 2003.

**Decided:** that approval be given to an application being made to the Scottish Ministers to make Inverclyde Council a designated local authority under the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (Scotland) Regulations 2003.

**301 White Ribbon Campaign – Addressing Violence Against Women 301**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection and the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Communities (1) providing information on the White Ribbon Campaign and (2) outlining how the campaign would operate in Inverclyde.

**Decided:**

- (1) that agreement be given to developing a White Ribbon Campaign in Inverclyde with a view to achieving White Ribbon Status; and
- (2) that a progress report be submitted to the Committee in due course.

**302 Our Digital Rights – 5Rights For Children and Young People 302**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection and the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Communities (1) providing an update on the “Our Digital Rights” report in relation to how best to realise the rights of children and young children in the digital world and (2) seeking approval to take forward the framework and for Community Learning and Development to implement some of the relevant recommendations from the report and become on the first local authorities in Scotland to sign up and endorse the framework.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the report and appendices be noted;
- (2) that the Committee endorse the framework and authorise officers to develop an action plan to implement relevant recommendations;
- (3) that Inverclyde Council become a “5Rights Signatory” joining other organisations to pledge support for the realisation of children and young people’s rights in the digital world; and
- (4) that an update report be submitted to the Committee in October/November 2018.

**303 Grants to Under 19s Sports Groups 303**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection and the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Communities proposing a new framework for agreeing and funding waivers to under 19s sports groups.

**Decided:**

- (1) that approval be given to the terms and conditions of the registration process for

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under 19s sports organisations to allow them to benefit from funding;

(2) that approval be given to the proposed cap on funding as set out in the report; and

(3) that a progress report be submitted to the first meeting of the Committee after the 2018 summer recess, once the first round of funding has been allocated.

**304 Grants to Voluntary Organisations**

**304**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection and the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Communities requesting the Committee to consider the allocation of funding from the Grants to Voluntary Organisations (GTVO) budget in 2018/19.

**Decided:**

(1) that the Committee approve a cap of £25,000 on GTVO applications; and

(2) that a progress report be submitted to the first meeting of the Committee after the 2018 summer recess, once the first round of funding has been allocated.

**305 Community Facilities in Ward 7**

**305**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection seeking approval to undertake a detailed assessment of community provision within the Ward 7 area and to report back after the summer recess.

**Decided:** that it be remitted to officers to submit a report to the Committee after the 2018 summer recess following a detailed assessment of community provision within the Ward 7 area which should include the following information for the Paton Street Community Hub, Fancy Farm Tenants' Hall and Grieve Road Community Centre:

(1) the minimum cost to "get the doors open";

(2) the cost of a basic refurbishment; and

(3) the cost of a full refurbishment to ensure the sustainability of each of the buildings for the foreseeable future.

**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 4 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 out opposite the heading to each item.**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Paragraph(s)</b>
<b>Birkmyre Pitch Contract Award</b>	<b>6, 8 and 9</b>
<b>Update on the Greenock Arts Guild Limited – Litigation Matter</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report: Update on Current Actions</b>	<b>6, 9, 12 and 13</b>
<b>Inverclyde Leisure Spend to Save Proposals</b>	<b>6</b>

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**306 Birkmyre Pitch Contract Award 306**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection seeking the agreement of the Committee for the award of a contract for works at the Birkmyre Pitch and the Committee agreed to take action, all as detailed in the appendix.

**307 Update on the Greenock Arts Guild Limited – Litigation Matter 307**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services providing an update on the legal action raised by the Greenock Arts Guild Limited (GAG). Councillors McCabe and Robertson declared a non-financial interest in this item as Members of the Board of Greenock Arts Guild Limited and Councillor Brooks declared a non-financial interest as a result of his being awarded a remuneration contract by the organisation which ended in January 2015. 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 agreed to note the position, all as detailed in the appendix.

**308 Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report: Update on Current Actions 308**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection (1) on the current actions to implement the Council's decision on the Clune Park Estate and (2) providing information on key, current actions to ensure that the Committee is fully advised of progress. Councillors Brooks, Curley, McCabe and C McEleny declared a non-financial interest in this item as Members of the Board of River Clyde Homes. 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 current position in respect of the Clune Park Area Regeneration Plan and agreed to the further recommendations set out in the report, all as detailed in the appendix.

**309 Inverclyde Leisure Spend to Save Proposals 309**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Public Protection seeking approval of the Inverclyde Leisure Business Plans for Boglestone Community Centre and Lady Octavia Sports Centre. Councillors Brooks and Clocherty 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 the Committee approve the spend to save proposals for Boglestone Community Centre and Lady Octavia Sports Centre based on the Inverclyde Leisure Business Plans attached at appendices 1 and 2 to the report.

The Communities business concluded at 4.35pm. The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4.45pm with Rev. Donaldson, Mrs Gilpin, Ms McMillan and Ms McEwan joining the meeting. Councillor C McEleny did not return to the meeting.

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- 310 Education 2017/18 Revenue Budget – Period 11 to 28 February 2018 310**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Head of Education on the 2017/18 Education Revenue Budget position as at Period 11 to 28 February 2018.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £148,000 in the 2017/18 Education Revenue Budget as at 28 February 2018; and
- (2) that the Committee note that proposals have been approved as part of the 2018/19 budget process to address a number of the projected underspends.
- 311 Education Capital Programme 2017 – 2020 Progress 311**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Education and the Chief Financial Officer (1) 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.
- 312 Education & Communities Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2016/19 – Final Progress Report 2017/18 312**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Communities on the achievement of key objectives in the Education, Communities & Organisational Development (ECOD) Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan (CDIP) 2016/19, focusing on improvement actions which sit within the former Education, Inclusive Education & Culture and Safer & Inclusive Communities Services.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the progress made in delivering the Year 2 improvement actions outlined in the Education, Communities & Organisational Development (ECOD) CDIP 2016/19; and
- (2) that it be agreed that the Year 3 refresh of the ECOD CDIP 2016/19 be postponed until after the 2018 summer recess to allow the document to be aligned with the Council's new Corporate Statement and changes to the management structure.
- 313 Audit Scotland National Report: Early Learning and Child Care – February 2018 313**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Education (1) informing the Committee of the Audit Scotland report "Early Learning and Child Care" published in February 2018 and (2) providing an overview of the key messages and recommendations raised in the report.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the contents of the report and agree that a further report be submitted in September 2018 detailing progress made in relation to the recommendations.
- 314 Education Services Standards and Quality Report March 2017 – March 2018 and Improvement Plan 2018–19 314**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Education on the Education Services Standards and Quality Report for March 2017-18 and the Education Services Improvement Plan for March 2018-19.

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**Decided:** that the Committee approve the content and publication of the Education Standards and Quality Report March 2017 – March 2018 and the Improvement Plan 2018-19, as set out in the report.

**315 Report on the Scottish Government Interim Evaluation of Years 1 and 2 of the Attainment Scotland Fund 315**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Education advising the Committee of the Scottish Government Interim Evaluation of Years 1 and 2 of the Attainment Scotland Fund which was published in March 2018.

**Decided:** that the Committee note the report.

**316 Placing Requests for Academic Year 2018/19 316**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Education advising the Committee of the position in respect of school placing requests for the academic year 2018/19.

**Decided:** that the Committee note the current position in relation to placing requests for schools in Inverclyde for the academic year 2018/19.

**317 Outcome of Statutory Consultation to Address Minor Anomalies in the Current School Catchment Areas 317**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Education seeking approval to implement the outcome of a statutory consultation to amend the catchment areas identified in the outcome report in order to produce a GIS map of school catchment areas.

**Decided:** that the Committee approve the recommendations of the final outcome report to change 9 minor anomalies to catchment areas in order to produce a GIS map of school catchment areas.

**318 School Clothing Grants 2018/19 318**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Education seeking approval for proposed arrangements to be put in place for school clothing grants for academic year 2018/19.

**Decided:** that the Committee approve the following procedures for the administration of school clothing grants and free school meals for academic year 2018/19:

- (1) that the process for claiming school clothing grants and free school meals will operate in the same way as previous years but that officers will use available data to contact eligible families who have not applied; and
- (2) that there will be two payments made to eligible families for the school clothing grant for the academic year 2018/19, the first over the summer of £100 per pupil and the second around Christmas time to utilise fully the available budget.

**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 item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6, 8 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.**

319 **School Transport Contracts (Mainstream) – Result of Tenders for Contracts 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22** 319

There was submitted a report by the Head of Education seeking approval to accept tenders for mainstream school transport contracts due for renewal from the start of school session 2018/19, as detailed in appendix 1 to the report.

Councillor McVey declared a non-financial interest in this item as a taxi operator within Inverclyde. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber or his participation in the decision making process.

**Decided:** that authority be granted to accept the tenders as set out in appendix 1 for mainstream school transport contracts due for renewal from the start of the school session 2018/19.