

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 5 NOVEMBER 2019

Education and Communities Committee

Tuesday 5 November 2019 at 2pm

Present: Provost Brennan, Councillors Clocherty, Curley, Crowther (for MacLeod), McCabe, C McEleny, McVey, Jackson (for Murphy), Quinn, Robertson and Wilson, Rev. F Donaldson, 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, Head of Culture, Communities & Educational Resources, Head of Education, Service Manager, Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport, Libraries, Education Development & Arts Manager, Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Ms G Murphy (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services), Service Manager, Communications Tourism and Health & Safety, 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.

662 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 662

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor MacLeod, with Councillor Crowther substituting, and Councillor Murphy, with Councillor Jackson substituting.

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:

Agenda Item 4 (Inverclyde Leisure: Annual Report 2018/19) – Councillors Clocherty and Quinn.

Agenda Item 5 (Consultation on Inverclyde’s Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2020-2025) – Councillor Curley.

Agenda Item 16 (Beacon Arts Centre Update) – Councillors Clocherty and Robertson.

Agenda Item 17 (Whinhill Golf Course) – Councillors Clocherty and Quinn.

663 Communities 2019/20 Revenue Budget - Period 5 to 31 August 2019 663

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the position of the 2019/20 Communities Revenue Budget as at Period 5 to 31 August 2019.

Decided: that the current projected overspend of £28,000 in the 2019/20 Communities Revenue Budget as at Period 5 to 31 August 2019 be noted.

664 Communities Capital Programme 2019-2023 Progress 664

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.

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(Councillor C McEleny entered the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided: that the progress of the specific projects detailed in Appendix 1 be noted.

665 Inverclyde Leisure: Annual Report 2018/19 665

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development appending Inverclyde Leisure's Annual Report 2018/19. Councillors Clocherty and Quinn 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 Inverclyde Leisure Annual Report 2018/19 be noted.

666 Consultation on Inverclyde's Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2020-2025 666

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval to consult on Inverclyde's Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2020-2025 to replace the current strategy.

Councillor Curley declared a non-financial interest in this item as a Member of the Board of River Clyde Homes. 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:

- (1) that the draft Inverclyde Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2020-2025, to be issued for consultation, be noted;
- (2) that approval be given to the community consultation and timescales set out in the report with the aim of seeking the views and experiences of individuals and community groups in relation to anti-social behaviour; and
- (3) that the finalised Inverclyde Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2020-2025 be submitted to the Committee in March 2020.

667 No Knives, Better Lives 667

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) providing (a) an update in respect of the national programme, No Knives, Better Lives (NKBL), a primary prevention initiative which specifically addressed the issue of knife carrying in Scotland, (b) a summary of work by the NKBL Delivery Team at YouthLink Scotland and (c) an update regarding previous NKBL activity in Inverclyde and (2) seeking approval for future activity in Inverclyde.

Decided:

- (1) that the ongoing work undertaken by the NKBL Delivery Team at YouthLink Scotland, particularly the work in its tenth year be noted;
- (2) that the summary of NKBL work carried out in Inverclyde be noted;
- (3) that it be agreed that a further update regarding the national ten year evaluation of NKBL be submitted to the Committee;
- (4) that the use of the Crime Stoppers 'Fearless' Programme and its links to NKBL delivery in Inverclyde be endorsed;
- (5) that approval be given to the NKBL Delivery Plan for Inverclyde; and
- (6) that the contribution of local resident Mr John Muir as a campaigner against the carrying of knives be recognised by the Committee.

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668 Items for Noting (Communities)

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There were submitted reports for noting by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on (1) the Watt Institution; (2) the Inverclyde Violence Against Women Multi-Agency Partnership 2018/19 Update; and (3) 16 Days of Activism to Eliminate Violence Against Women 2019.

Decided: that the content of the reports be noted.

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 two 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) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Beacon Arts Centre Update | 6 |
| Whinhill Golf Course | 1, 6 & 9 |

669 Beacon Arts Centre Update

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on progress with the Beacon Arts Centre.

Councillors Clocherty 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.

Decided: that the progress made by the Greenock Arts Guild Board in relation to the Beacon Arts Centre be noted.

670 Whinhill Golf Course

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval for the running of Whinhill Golf Course and facilities to be transferred from Inverclyde Council to Inverclyde Leisure from April 2020.

Councillors Clocherty and Quinn 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.

The Committee agreed, following a vote, (1) to approve Inverclyde Leisure taking over the management of Whinhill Golf Course and facilities from April 2020 and (2) to note the staffing implications, all as detailed in the appendix.

The Communities business concluded at 3.45pm. The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4pm with Councillor Wilson, Rev. Donaldson, Rev. Burt, Mrs Gilpin, Ms McMillan and Ms McEwan joining the

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meeting.

671 Education 2019/20 Revenue Budget – Period 5 to 31 August 2019 671

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the position of the 2019/20 Education Revenue Budget as at Period 5 to 31 August 2019.

Decided:

- (1) that the current projected overspend of £166,000 in the 2019/20 Education Revenue Budget as at Period 5 to 31 August 2019 be noted; and
- (2) that the work underway to assist in the reduction of the projected overspend be noted.

672 Education Capital Programme 2019-23 Progress 672

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 Education Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.

Decided: that the progress of the specific projects detailed in appendix 1 be noted.

673 Active Schools Performance 2018/19 673

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the Active Schools Team performance in the school year 2018/19.

Decided:

- (1) that the content of the report be noted;
- (2) that the performance report summary and report in appendices 2 and 3 be noted; and
- (3) that the role of volunteers in the Active Schools Programme be acknowledged.

674 Update on Progress of the Scottish Attainment Challenge 674

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

Decided: that the ongoing progress of the Scottish Attainment Challenge project in Inverclyde be noted.

675 Care Inspectorate Grades for Early Learning and Childcare 675

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development informing the Committee of the grades awarded by the Care Inspectorate to both local authority Early Learning and Childcare establishments and funded providers.

Decided: that the content of the report be noted.

676 Glasgow City Region Improvement Collaborative 2019/22 Plan 676

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities &

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Organisational Development (1) providing an update on the Glasgow City Region Improvement Collaborative 2019/22 Plan and (2) advising of the recent evaluation of the 2018/19 Plan.

Decided: that the contents of the evaluation of the 2018/19 Regional Improvement Plan and the 2019/22 Regional Improvement Plan for the West Partnership be noted.

677 Report on Intake for St Columba's High School for Academic Year 2020/21 677

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval to accept up to 140 pupils into St. Columba's High School for the academic year 2020/21 and to undertake a pre-consultation exercise to ascertain the future requirements for Roman Catholic education for village schools, particularly in the west of Inverclyde.

Decided:

(1) that it be agreed that the maximum intake for St. Columba's High School be 140 for academic year 2020/21;

(2) that it be agreed that a pre-consultation process be undertaken (a) to explore whether there required to be a change to the admission policy which allowed pupils from the village primary schools of Wemyss Bay, Inverkip and Kilmacolm to choose denomination at the point of transfer to secondary school and (b) to ascertain the possible future demand for Roman Catholic education in the west of Inverclyde; and

(3) that it be agreed that a further report be submitted to the Committee in January 2020 outlining the outcome of the pre-consultation process and making recommendations for any statutory consultation, if required.

Councillor C McEleny left the meeting at this juncture.

678 Items for Noting (Education) 678

There was submitted a report for noting by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on an overview of college provision at the West College Scotland Greenock campuses.

Decided: that the content of the report be noted.