

**EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 21 JANUARY 2020**

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**Education and Communities Committee**

**Tuesday 21 January 2020 at 2pm**

**Present:** Provost Brennan, Councillors Clocherty, Curley, McCabe, J McEleny (for C McEleny), McVey, Murphy, Quinn and Robertson, 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, Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Ms G Murphy (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services), Corporate Policy, Performance & Partnership Manager, Property Services Manager and Service Manager, Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

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

**50      Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest      50**

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

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:

Agenda Item 3 (Communities Capital Programme 2019-2023 Progress) – Councillors Clocherty, Curley, J McEleny and Quinn.

Agenda Item 6 (Indoor Tennis Facility) – Councillors Clocherty, J McEleny and Quinn.

Agenda Item 7(a) (Inverclyde Leisure Complaints Procedure) – Councillors Clocherty, J McEleny and Quinn.

**51      Communities 2019/20 Revenue Budget - Period 7 to 31 October 2019      51**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the position of the 2019/20 Communities Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2019.

**Decided:** that the current projected underspend of £22,000 in the 2019/20 Communities Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2019 be noted.

**52      Communities Capital Programme 2019-2023 Progress      52**

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.

Councillor Curley declared a non-financial interest in this item as a member of

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Boglestone Community Association and Councillors Clocherty, J McEleny and Quinn declared a non-financial interest as members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. All 4 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 progress of the specific projects detailed in Appendix 1 be noted; and
- (2) that Inverclyde Leisure be asked to include within its annual report, trends over time data in relation to the usage of the refurbished facilities at Lady Octavia Sports Centre, Boglestone Activity and Community Centre and Ravenscraig Activity Centre.

**53 A 3 Year Plan for Co-ordinating Community Learning and Development (CLD) in Inverclyde 2018-2021: Progress Report, Year 1 53**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development appending a report in respect of the Year 1 progress of Community Learning and Development delivery by all partners across Inverclyde as part of the 3 Year Plan “Co-ordinating Community Learning and Development in Inverclyde 2018-2021”.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the progress made in the implementation of Year 1 of the 3 Year Plan for Community Learning and Development be noted; and
- (2) that the actions to be implemented in Year 2 of the 3 Year Plan be noted.

**54 Community Learning and Development Service: Annual Report 2018-19 54**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development appending an annual update on progress of the Community Learning & Development Service’s 3 Year Strategic Plan.

**Decided:** that the contents of the Community Learning & Development Annual Report for the period 2018-19 be noted.

**55 Indoor Tennis Facility 55**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the current position regarding the potential development of a three court tennis facility at Rankin Park, Greenock.

Councillors Clocherty, J McEleny 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:**

- (1) that the progress of the application to the Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis Fund be noted;
- (2) that it be agreed that the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development receive the Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis funding on behalf of Inverclyde Council, in consultation with the Head of Legal & Property Services and the Chief Financial Officer;
- (3) that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development to agree the terms of Funding and Agency Agreements with Inverclyde Leisure, in consultation with the Head of Legal & Property

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Services and the Chief Financial Officer; and

(4) that a further report on the progress of the local tennis initiative be submitted to the Committee in due course.

### 56 Items for Noting (Communities) 56

There was submitted a report for noting by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on Inverclyde Leisure's approach to complaints handling.

**Decided:**

(1) that the report be noted; and

(2) that Inverclyde Leisure be asked to include data on complaints within its annual report.

**The Communities business concluded at 2.45pm. The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4pm with Rev. Burt, Mrs Gilpin, Ms McMillan and Ms McEwan joining the meeting.**

### 57 Education 2019/20 Revenue Budget – Period 7 to 31 October 2019 57

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the position of the 2019/20 Education Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2019.

**Decided:**

(1) that the current projected overspend of £27,000 in the 2019/20 Education Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2019 be noted;

(2) that approval be given to the virements totalling £100,750 as detailed in paragraph 7.1 and Appendix 5 of the report; and

(3) that the ongoing actions to bring the budget back to a break-even position be noted.

### 58 Education Capital Programme 2019-2023 Progress 58

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 progress of the specific projects detailed in Appendix 1 be noted;

(2) that allocation from the lifecycle budget to address the revised cost estimate for the former Kelly Street Children's Centre demolition and landscaping project outlined in paragraph 7.2 be noted; and

(3) that an update report in relation to the pre-5 expansion programme be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

### 59 Education & Communities Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2019/22 Progress Report 59

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the delivery of improvement actions in the Education, Communities & Organisational Development (ECOD)

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Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan (CDIP), focusing on the improvement actions within the remit of the Education Service and the Culture, Communities & Educational Resources Service.

**Decided:** that the progress made in delivering the Year 1 improvement actions contained within the Education, Communities & Organisational Development CDIP 2019/22 be noted.

### 60 Outcome of Pre-Consultation in relation to the Admission Policy for Village Schools and the Future Need for Denominational Education in the West of Inverclyde 60

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) informing the Committee of the outcome of the pre-consultation exercise which took place in December 2019 in relation to the admission policy for village schools and the future need for denominational education in the west of Inverclyde and (2) outlining the proposed next steps to manage the current pressure on St Columba's High School.

**Decided:**

(1) that the outcome of the pre-consultation exercise in relation to the admission policy for village schools and the future need for denominational education in the west of Inverclyde be noted;

(2) that approval be given for a statutory consultation to take place to change the wording of the current policy for admission and pupil placement in mainstream schools, in relation to village schools, as outlined in paragraphs 5.1.2 and 5.1.3 and summarised in Appendix 5 of the report but subject to the following amended wording being inserted at paragraph 5.1.2 and Appendix 5 as follows:

“Only those children

(a) who before entry to primary school, have a Certificate of Baptism into the Roman Catholic faith and

(b) whose parents have chosen, because of travelling distance, to send them to the non-denominational primary school which serves the defined catchment area assigned to their address (rather than to the assigned denominational primary school)

will have the entitlement of admission, without the necessity of a placing request, to the catchment denominational secondary school. As with all schools, this entitlement is subject to there being space at the specified school. The Council's policy in respect of school transport will always apply.”; and

(3) that approval be given to the proposed transition arrangements to be set out in the statutory consultation, as outlined in paragraphs 5.1.4 and 5.1.5 and summarised in Appendix 5 of the report.

Councillor Curley left the meeting at this juncture.

### 61 Bereavement, Loss and Change Policy 61

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) providing an overview of the Bereavement, Loss and Change Policy set out in the appendix to the report and (2) seeking the Committee's approval of the policy.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the Bereavement, Loss and Change Policy set out in the appendix to the report.

**62 Items for Noting (Education)**

62

There were submitted reports for noting by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on (1) National Updates and (2) Updates on the Looked After Children Attainment Fund and the Tier 2 Mental Health Strategy.

**Decided:** that the contents 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 item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 6 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.**

**63 Local Authority Provision of Cleaning and Janitorial Services to Police Scotland**

63

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications providing an update on the changes to the provision of cleaning and janitorial services by Police Scotland and the employee and financial implications for the Council.

**Decided:**

(1) that the changes to the provision of cleaning and janitorial services by Police Scotland be noted; and

(2) that the employee and financial implications for the Council as outlined in the report be noted.