

**EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 17 MARCH 2009**

---

**Education and Lifelong Learning Committee**

**Tuesday 17 March 2009 at 4.00 pm**

**Present:** Provost McCormick, Councillors White (for Blair), Brooks, Clocherty, Fyfe, Grieve, Loughran, McCabe, McKenzie, MacLeod (for Osborne) and Wilson, Rev W Hamilton, Rev C McGranaghan and Mr B Anderson (for Father M McMahon), Church Representatives, Mr G Miller, Parent Representative and Mr T Tracey, Teacher Representative.

**Chair:** Councillor McKenzie presided.

**In attendance:** Corporate Director Education & Social Care, Head of Schools, Head of Lifelong Learning & Educational Support, Head of Support & Development, Head of School Estate Projects, School Estate Manager, Leadership Development Officer, Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Mr H McNeilly (for Head of Legal & Administration), Mr M Bingham (for Head of Corporate Communications & Public Affairs) and Chief Internal Auditor.

**Apologies:** Councillors Blair and Osborne and Father M McMahon.

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

**209 HMIe Report on Port Glasgow High School and Community Learning and Development in Port Glasgow 209**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care advising the Committee of the results of the HMIe external evaluation of Port Glasgow High School and Community Learning and Development in Port Glasgow. The report advised that in relation to Port Glasgow High School, the 5 indicators of quality had all been evaluated as "good" and that in relation to the learning community surrounding Port Glasgow High School, 2 indicators had been evaluated as "very good", 2 as "good" and 1 as "weak".

Mr Alan Dick, Head Teacher of Port Glasgow High School was present along with Ms Maggie Paterson, Lead Officer, Community Learning and Development and Ms Claire Alexander, Adult Learning and Literacy Team Leader who all addressed the Committee on the outcomes of the evaluation.

**Decided:** that the Committee approve both the HMIe report on Port Glasgow High School and the report on the inspection of the learning community surrounding Port Glasgow High School and commend the examples of good practice detailed.

**210 HMIe Report on King's Oak Primary School and Nursery Class 210**

There was submitted an updated report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care advising the Committee of the results of the HMIe external evaluation of King's Oak Primary School and Nursery Class. The report advised that of the 8 indicators of quality, 2 had been evaluated as "very good" and 6 as "good".

Ms Mairi McFarlane, Head Teacher of King's Oak Primary School and Nursery Class was present and spoke in relation to the outcome of the evaluation.

**Decided:**

**EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 17 MARCH 2009**

---

- (1) that the Committee approve the comments made in the HMle report on King's Oak Primary School and Nursery Class; and  
 (2) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to the Head Teacher, staff and pupils of the school as well as staff within Education Services Headquarters for the work undertaken to achieve the evaluation.

**211 HMle Report - Improving Scottish Education 2005-2008 211**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care advising the Committee of the HMle report on Scottish Education covering the period 2005-2008.

**Decided:** that the Committee approve the action taken by Education Services as described in the report to respond to the launch on 16 January 2009 of Improving Scottish Education 2005-2008.

**212 Revenue Budget 2008/09 - Period 9 212**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education & Social Care on the position of the Revenue Budget 2008/09 as at Period 9 (31 December 2008) which was projected to be on budget.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the current position of the Revenue Budget 2008/09 be noted;  
 (2) that approval be given to the virement request totalling £133,540 as detailed in paragraph 7.1 and appendix 3; and  
 (3) that the current position of the Earmarked Reserves as detailed in appendix 4 be noted.

**213 Capital Programme 2008/11 - Progress 213**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care and the Chief Financial Officer on the progress of the Capital Programme 2008/11.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the progress of the specific projects detailed in appendix 1 to the report; and  
 (2) that the Committee approve the cost increase of £79,792 in the Inverclyde Academy Road Improvement project as detailed in appendix 2.

**214 Education Service - Performance Report: January to February 2009 214**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care (1) advising of the progress made by Education Services during the period January to February 2009 in relation to achieving the service objectives and (2) explaining how this contributed to the achievement of key corporate priorities.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the report be approved;  
 (2) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Education & Social Care to report to the Committee on a proposed attendance strategy, setting out ways of maintaining and improving levels of attendance; and  
 (3) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Education & Social Care to carry out an evaluation of the outdoor learning initiative provided for all P6 pupils in Inverclyde and to report thereon to the Committee.



**EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 17 MARCH 2009**

---

- 220      Communication and Language Base in Notre Dame High School - S1 Capping Figure      220**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care advising the Committee that five places in S1 will be required for young people admitted to the Communication and Language Base within Notre Dame High School.  
(Provost McCormick returned to the meeting and Councillor Wilson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).  
**Decided:** that five places in S1 be reserved for young people admitted to the Communication and Language Base in Notre Dame High School in session 2009-2010.
- 221      School Transport - Paying for Privilege Passes: Approval to Consult      221**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care requesting approval to carry out a consultation in relation to a proposal for the introduction of a scheme to allow parents and carers to pay for a privilege pass on a school transport contract.  
**Decided:** that approval be given to consult with head teachers and parents/carers on the introduction of a scheme to allow payment for a privilege pass.
- 222      Items for Noting      222**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care providing information for noting on (1) exclusions from schools in 2007/2008, (2) the school leaver destination report, (3) newly qualified teachers and (4) pupils in Scotland 2008.  
**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 for the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6 and 8 of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Act.**
- 223      Use of Learning Teaching Scotland as a Supplier of a Unique Service to Education      223**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Social Care seeking approval to use the services of Learning Teaching Scotland to act as an agent to procure Microsoft licences for all Inverclyde schools.  
**Decided:**  
(1) that approval be given to the use of Learning Teaching Scotland as an agent to procure Microsoft licences for all Inverclyde schools for a period of one year commencing March 2009; and  
(2) that it be noted that a report seeking permission for using the supplier will be submitted to the Committee on an annual basis.