

EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 18 AUGUST 2009

Education and Lifelong Learning Committee

Tuesday 18 August 2009 at 3 pm

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

Chair: Councillor McKenzie presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Improvement & Performance, Acting Director of Education, Head of Legal & Administration, Head of Organisational Development & Human Resources, Head of Corporate Communications & Public Affairs, School Estate Manager and Managing Solicitor (Litigation & Advice).

In attendance also: Ms Maggi Allan, Independent Consultant.

Apologies: Councillors Brooks, Fyfe, Grieve and Osborne.

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

471 Review of Admissions and Placing Requests Policy of Inverclyde Council - 471
Independent Consultant's Report

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive appending a copy of the independent review of the policies and procedures for school admissions and placing requests and their operational implementation which had been commissioned by the Council in May 2009.

Ms Maggi Allan, who had carried out the review, was present, spoke to her report and answered questions from Members of the Committee.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee endorse the findings of the independent review report;
- (2) that approval be given to the recommendations detailed in section 5 of the review report;
- (3) that it be remitted to the Chief Executive to take appropriate steps to ensure that these recommendations are implemented as a matter of urgency, incorporating appropriate changes identified as part of the consultative process; and
- (4) that further reports on the implementation of the recommendations be submitted to the Committee as required.

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 7(A) of the Act.

472 Inverclyde Academy - Conversion of Pitch to AstroTurf 472

There was submitted a report by the Acting Director of Education advising of the

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feasibility, costs and implications of converting the pitch at Inverclyde Academy to a Third Generation (3G) synthetic surface.

(Councillors Wilson and Clocherty left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

During the course of discussion, it was confirmed that any decision regarding the sale or disposal of land or use of the capital receipt would be considered by the appropriate Committee in due course.

Decided:

(1) that agreement be given to the installation of a 3G pitch at Inverclyde Academy with associated floodlighting and this be contained within the School Estate Funding Model;

(2) that it be noted that the annual update of the Financial Model will be considered by the Committee on 8 September 2009 and that this project will be included within the Model;

(3) that approval be given to the award of the works to Barr Construction as an extension to the Prudential Schools Project in the amount of £456,340.39; and

(4) that it be remitted to the Acting Director of Education to investigate the feasibility of St Columba's High School utilising the 3G pitch and to report thereon to the Committee.