

Report To:	Education & Lifelong Learning Committee	Date:	11 May 2010
Report By:	Corporate Director Education & Communities	Report No:	EDUC/31/10/EH
Contact Officer:	Elsa Hamilton	Contact No:	01475 712828
Subject:	Audiology contract with Donaldson's School for the Deaf		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek permission to continue the existing arrangements with Donaldson's School for the Deaf until the tendering exercise is completed.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 An educational audiologist shared between Inverclyde, Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire retired in October 2008. She was not replaced by NHS. There is, therefore, no local provision to purchase this service from.
- 2.2 The three authorities all purchase audiology from Donaldson's School for the Deaf in Linlithgow. There are only 9 audiologists across the whole of Scotland.
- 2.3 An audiologist provides advice to schools, parents and services generally, as well as offering training to professionals and liaising with providers of certain equipment, such as Radio Aids. He will also take part in review for pupils as far as time permits.
- 2.4 A request to go out to tender was issued in early February. As the tendering process is still not complete and the existing arrangements come to and end on 31st March 2010 committee approval is sought to continue to purchase audiology from Donaldson's until progress on the tender is made.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended approval is given to continue purchasing audiology from Donaldson's until the tendering process is completed.

Albert Henderson
Corporate Director Education & Communities

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Support from an Audiologist from Donaldson's School for the Deaf in Lanarkshire has been shared between Inverclyde, Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire since 2008.

5.0 PROPOSALS

5.1 It is proposed that we continue the service from Donaldson's School for the Deaf.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial

<u>Cost Centre</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Proposed spend</u>	<u>Comments</u>
00374 Special General	60204 Coordinated Support Plan	2010/11	12,000	Contained within existing budgets

6.2 Legal

There are no legal implications.

6.3 Human Resources

There are no human resources implications.

6.4 Equalities

There are no equalities implications.

7.0 CONCLUSION

7.1 Advice and support from an audiologist is vital to service provision.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None