

**EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 2 NOVEMBER 2010**

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**Education and Lifelong Learning Committee**

**Tuesday 2 November 2010 at 4.00 pm**

**Present:** Provost McCormick, Councillors Blair, Brooks, Clocherty, Fyfe, Loughran, McCabe, McKenzie, Osborne and Wilson, Rev W 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:** Corporate Director Education & Communities, Head of Education, Head of Educational Planning & Culture, Ms E Hamilton (Quality Improvement Officer), Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Head of Property Assets & Facilities Management, Legal Services Manager (Courts & Litigation) and Mr M Bingham (Corporate Communications & Public Affairs).

Prior to the commencement of business, the Convener welcomed to the Committee, Ms Angela Edwards who had recently been appointed to the post of Head of Educational Planning & Culture.

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

**661 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 661**

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Grieve.

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

**662 HMle Report on the Inverclyde Psychological Service 662**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities on the results of the HMle report on the Inverclyde Psychological Service. The report advised that of the indicators of quality, 3 had been found to be satisfactory, 10 to be good and 6 to be very good.

Ms Kate Watson, Principal Psychologist, was present and spoke in relation to the evaluation report.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee endorse the comments made following the HMle external evaluation of the Inverclyde Psychological Service; and
- (2) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to all staff for the work undertaken to achieve the evaluation.

**663 Education & Lifelong Learning Revenue Budget 2010/11 - Period 5 663**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Education & Communities on the position of the 2010/11 Revenue Budget as at Period 5 (31 August 2010) which currently projected an underspend of £72,000.

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**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the projected underspend of £72,000 for 2010/11 as at 31 August 2010; and  
 (2) that the Committee approve the virement totalling £23,000 as detailed in appendix 4 to the report.

**664 Capital Programme 2010 - 14/15 - Progress Report 664**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities and the Chief Financial Officer on the progress of the Capital Programme 2010 - 14/15.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the progress of the specific projects detailed in appendix 1 to the report; and  
 (2) that approval be given to the novation of the Council's contract for the Design Services for the Port Glasgow Shared Campus from Archial Architects Ltd to Ingenium Archial Ltd.

**665 Education & Communities Directorate Performance Report 665**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities advising the Committee of progress made by the Education & Communities Directorate in achieving its objectives as they relate to the work and the remit of the Education & Lifelong Learning Committee and as set out in the Directorate Plan for 2010/11.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the progress made in the areas of the Directorate's work which relate to the remit of the Education & Lifelong Learning Committee;  
 (2) that it be noted that the work of the Education & Communities Directorate will also be reported to the Regeneration and Safe, Sustainable Communities Committees; and  
 (3) that it be noted that not all elements of the objectives identified within the Directorate Plan have been identified in the report and that a reporting schedule for each measure has been identified as far as is possible.

**666 Update on Progress with the Implementation of Curriculum for Excellence 666**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities providing information on the progress being made with the Implementation of Curriculum for Excellence.

**Decided:** that the Committee note the ongoing progress being made with the Implementation of Curriculum for Excellence in Inverclyde.

**667 Speech and Language Therapy Contract 2010-2011 667**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities (1) on the Speech and Language Therapy Contract with the NHS for 2010/11 and (2) providing information on the costs of the contract.

**Noted**

**668 Update on School Age Language Unit (SALU) 668**

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

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providing a summary of, and drawing to a conclusion, the decisions and actions taken with regard to the School Age Language Unit (SALU) currently located within Highlanders Academy.

Ms Mary Greig, the parent of a child who had utilised the services provided within the Unit was present and spoke to the Committee to express her satisfaction with the results of the consultation process.

**Decided:**

(1) that agreement be given to the development of the current School Age Language Unit based within Highlanders Academy to become a base offering support to pupils from Primaries 1 to 3;

(2) that agreement be given to the additional provision of extended support beyond Primary 3 based on assessment of needs for individual children and their families, as detailed in section 4 of the report;

(3) that the SALU Working Group continue to work towards the implementation of the proposal outlined in the report; and

(4) that it be noted that following the amalgamation of Highlanders and Overton Primary Schools, the SALU will be based within the new school on the Overton Campus.

**669 Transition from Primary to Secondary School**

**669**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities advising of the new Transitions Policy (Moving on with Confidence in Inverclyde) which has been developed to support pupils as they move from primary school to secondary school in Inverclyde.

**Decided:** that agreement be given to the implementation of the Transitions Policy (Moving on with Confidence in Inverclyde) appended to the report across all Inverclyde primary and secondary schools.

**670 Ladybird Pre 5 Centre**

**670**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities on the circumstances surrounding the closure of Ladybird Pre 5 Centre.

Councillor Rebecchi was present for this item as a Ward Member and, with consent, spoke on the item.

(Councillor Wilson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

**Decided:**

(1) that the Committee note the circumstances surrounding the closure of Ladybird Pre 5 Centre and commend all staff involved for their work to provide alternative provision for affected pupils; and

(2) that a report be submitted to the Committee in due course providing an update on the proposals for the re-establishment of early years provision in the Larkfield area.

**671 Procurement Process - Port Glasgow Joint Campus**

**671**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services advising the Committee with regard to the governance issues relating to the appointment of a Design Team in connection with the Port Glasgow Joint Campus project.

**Decided:**

(1) that the report be noted; and

(2) that it be noted that the Chief Internal Auditor will submit her report to the Audit Committee at its meeting on 11 January 2011.

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 paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

**672 Early Years Budget Review 2011 - 2014**

**672**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities on proposed efficiency savings within the Early Years Budget.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the efficiency savings in the Early Years Budget as detailed in the report and that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Education & Communities and other relevant officers to implement these savings.