

Education and Lifelong Learning Committee

Tuesday 25 January 2011 at 4 pm

Present: Provost McCormick, Councillors Blair, Brooks, Clocherty, Fyfe, MacLeod (for Grieve), Loughran, McCabe, McKenzie, Osborne and Wilson, Rev W Hamilton and Father M McMahan, 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 L Wilkie and Ms M Paterson (Education & Communities), Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Mr H McNeilly (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services), Head of Property Assets & Facilities Management, Mr E Montgomery (Property Assets & Facilities Management) and Corporate Communications Manager.

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

72 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 72

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

No declarations of interest were intimated.

73 HMIe Report on Hillend Children’s Centre 73

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities on the results of the HMIe and Care Commission inspection of Hillend Children’s Centre. The report advised that of the indicators of quality, three had been evaluated as “very good” and two as “good”.

Ms Lesley O’Hagan, Head of Centre, was present and addressed the Committee relative to the inspection report.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee endorse the comments made following the HMIe and Care Commission inspection of Hillend Children’s Centre; and
- (2) that the Committee’s appreciation be conveyed to all staff and pupils for the work undertaken to achieve the evaluation.

74 HMIe Report on Rainbow Family Centre 74

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities on the results of the HMIe and Care Commission inspection of Rainbow Family Centre. The report advised that of the indicators of quality, one had been evaluated as “very good” and four as “good”.

Mr Steve Halkett, Head of Centre, was present and addressed the Committee relative to the inspection report.

Decided:

EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 25 JANUARY 2011

- (1) that the Committee endorse the comments made following the HMIE and Care Commission inspection of the Rainbow Family Centre; and
 (2) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to all staff and pupils for the work undertaken to achieve the evaluation.

75 Education & Lifelong Learning Revenue Budget 2010/11 - Period 7 75

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education & Communities on the position of the 2010/11 Revenue Budget as at Period 7 (31 October 2010) which currently projected an underspend of £149,000.

Noted

76 Capital Programme 2010 - 14/15 - Progress 76

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 progress of the specific projects detailed in appendix 1 to the report be noted;
 (2) that approval be given to the addition to the Capital Programme of the St Michael's Primary School drainage works and the Gourock High School off site drainage works and for the issue of tenders for the Gourock High School drainage works in advance of the main refurbishment contract; and
 (3) that approval be given to the issue of tenders for the Binnie Street Children's Centre works and that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to accept the lowest acceptable tender received provided that the cost is within the approved project budget.

77 Standards and Quality Report 2009/10 77

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities seeking approval of the Education Services Standards and Quality Report for session 2009/10, coloured copies of which were circulated at the meeting, and for its distribution to key stakeholders.

Decided: that approval be given to the content of the Education Services Standards and Quality Report 2009/10 and for its publication and distribution to key stakeholders.

78 Update on Progress with the Implementation of Curriculum for Excellence 78

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.

79 Nursery Provision in the Larkfield Area of Greenock 79

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities advising the Committee of the re-establishment of nursery provision in the Larkfield area of Greenock.

Decided:

EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 25 JANUARY 2011

- (1) that agreement be given to the re-establishment of nursery provision in the Larkfield area on a fixed term basis from January/February 2011 to June 2013; and
 (2) that a further report be submitted to the Committee early in 2012 with a permanent proposal for nursery provision in the Larkfield area.

80 The Education (Lower Primary Class Sizes) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010 80

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities providing details of the change to the Primary 1 class size maximum brought about by the Education (Lower Primary Class Sizes) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010 and the effect on placing requests.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note that the Primary 1 class size maximum of 25 pupils adopted by the Council from August 2007 will be the statutory maximum from August 2011; and
 (2) that the implications for placing requests be noted.

81 School Leaver Destination Results 2010 81

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities providing information relative to the annual release of school leaver destination results on 1 December 2010.

Noted

82 Learning in Inverclyde - Professional Learning and Development for Teachers (CPD Policy) 82

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities on the new policy, "Learning in Inverclyde: Professional Learning and Development for Teachers", which had been developed to support teachers with their Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

(Rev Hamilton and Councillor McCabe left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided: that the Committee approve the CPD policy, "Learning in Inverclyde: Professional Learning and Development for Teachers" and its implementation across all Inverclyde primary and secondary schools.

83 Update on Vocational Learning Programme in Partnership with James Watt College 83

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities providing information on the Vocational Learning Programme which is offered to secondary school pupils and delivered locally by James Watt College.

(Councillor McCabe returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided: that the Committee note the range of vocational courses which are being offered by James Watt College and the associated uptake by pupils from Inverclyde secondary schools for session 2010/11.

84 Scottish Survey of Adult Literacies 2009: Report of Findings 84

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities (1)

EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE - 25 JANUARY 2011

on the main research findings from the Scottish Survey of Adult Literacies 2009 (SSAL 2009) and the implications for Inverclyde and (2) seeking approval for the proposed priorities for future development in adult literacies in Inverclyde.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the findings of the Scottish Survey of Adult Literacies 2009; and
- (2) that approval be given to the proposed priorities for future development as detailed in the report.

85 Scottish Youth Parliament Sitting in Inverclyde: 12-13 March 2011**85**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities (1) advising the Committee of the Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP) Sitting in Inverclyde in March 2011, (2) seeking the support and participation of Elected Members and (3) establishing a process to review the impact of the event and related activities to involve young people in decision making processes.

Decided:

- (1) that approval be given to the support and hosting of the Scottish Youth Parliament Sitting in Inverclyde in March 2011; and
- (2) that it be noted that an evaluation of the event will be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

86 The Naming of the Amalgamated St Gabriel's and Sacred Heart Primary Schools**86**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education & Communities advising of the results of the ballot held to determine the name for the new primary school following the amalgamation of St Gabriel's and Sacred Heart Primary Schools in August 2011.

Decided: that St Andrew's Primary School be the name of the amalgamated St Gabriel's and Sacred Heart Primary Schools.