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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Education &amp; Lifelong Learning Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>10 May 2011</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Corporate Director Education and Communities</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>EDUC/27//11/AE</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Angela Edwards</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712850</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Speech &amp; Language Therapy Contract 2011-2013</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the need to renew the Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) contract with the NHS for 2011 to 2013.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 Individual children have a wide range of additional support needs as defined in the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 and the Additional Support for Learning Bill 2008. A number of children and young people require additional support to meet their communication, speech and language needs. For some children and young people these needs might be defined in a Co-ordinated Support Plan.
- 2.2 The services of Speech & Language therapists and therapy assistants are contracted from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.
- 2.3 The Education and Lifelong Learning Committee agreed to a 2 year contract in March 2009. This report informs Committee of the detail relating to the newly proposed contract 2011/13

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee agrees to the purchase, via a contract for the period 2011 to 2013, of speech and language services for children and young people. These services will be contracted from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde at the costs specified in this report.

**Albert Henderson**  
**Corporate Director Education and Communities**

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Speech and Language Therapy requires to be made available to any school pupil assessed as having additional support needs requiring such assistance.
- 4.2 Collaborative working between Speech & Language Therapy staff and Education staff is essential to ensure the best possible outcome for the child or young person.
- 4.3 Therapists and technical instructors are employed by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and meet the requirements to practise set out by the Royal College of Speech & Language Therapists.
- 4.4 The service provides assessment and where appropriate, individual targets and programmes for children and young people. The service also provides consultation and advice to staff in educational establishments.

## 5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 The Speech & Language Therapy staff and Education staff will work collaboratively towards the development of “communication friendly” Educational establishments throughout Inverclyde.
- 5.2 On a regular basis, Speech & Language Therapy staff, together with Education staff, will jointly evaluate the impact of approaches being adopted to improve the communication skills of children and young people. A report will be prepared on this rigorous evaluation. This will involve all stakeholders and ensure continuous improvement.
- 5.3 The number of sessions contracted for Inverclyde is set at 1540 by therapists and an additional 396 sessions from instructors.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The contract is funded from the core Education budget.
- 6.2 The budget available for the contract for the current year is as follows:

Year	Budget
2011 – 2012	£231,460
2012 – 2013	£231,460

- 6.3 The financial implications of the contract are as follows:

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	2011/12	2012/13	Other comments
ASN General within Education Budget	Payment to NHS	231,460	231,460	Contained within Education Budget

## 7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 Consultation has been carried out with various representatives from the NHS and with Legal Services. Further consultation with users of the services and heads of establishments is undertaken by Education Services in the course of the school session.

## **8.0 CONCLUSION**

- 8.1 Speech and Language Therapy is an essential support for many children and young people in Inverclyde. This contract will ensure that children and young people's communication needs are accurately assessed, supported and evaluated.

## **9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Nil