

EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 4 SEPTEMBER 2012

Education & Communities Committee

Tuesday 4 September 2012 at 3 pm

Present: Councillors Brennan, Campbell-Sturgess, Clocherty, MacLeod (for Grieve), Jones, Loughran, McCabe, McColgan, McEleny and Shepherd, Father M McMahon and Rev A MacLean, Church Representatives, Mr R Thomson, Parent Representative and Mr T Tracey, Teacher Representative.

Chair: Councillor Loughran presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Head of Education, Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy, Ms E Hamilton and Ms C Hall (Education Services), Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities, Mr M McNab (Safer & Inclusive Communities), Libraries, Museum & Archives Manager, Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Miss A Edmiston (Finance Services), Mr F Jarvie (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services), Head of Property Assets & Facilities Management and Mr E Montgomery (Property Assets & Facilities Management).

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

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| 484 | Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest | 484 |
| | <p>Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Grieve and Wilson with Councillor MacLeod substituting for Councillor Grieve.</p> <p>Councillors McCabe and McEleny declared interests in agenda items 3 (Clune Park Regeneration: Progress Report) and 6 (Affordable Housing Investment - Strategic Local Programme). Councillor McEleny also declared an interest in agenda item 19 (Award of Contracts for the Provision of Transport for Children with Additional Support and Medical Needs for 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15).</p> | |
| 485 | Communities 2012/13 Revenue Budget Period 3 to 30 June 2012 and Capital Report 2012/16 - Progress | 485 |
| | <p>There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on (1) the 2011/12 Revenue Budget final outturn and the 2012/13 Revenue Budget position as at Period 3 to 30 June 2012 and (2) the status of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme 2012/16 and the overall financial position.</p> <p>Decided:</p> <p>(1) that the Committee note the final outturn for 2011/12 and the current projected £85,000 underspend for the 2012/13 Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2012;</p> <p>(2) that the Committee note the progress of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme 2012/16; and</p> <p>(3) that a further detailed report be submitted to the Committee on pitch hire waivers and income.</p> | |

- 486 Clune Park Regeneration: Progress Report 486**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities providing an update on the proposed regeneration of the Clune Park area of Port Glasgow. Councillors McCabe and McEleny declared non-financial interests in this matter as members of the Board of River Clyde Homes. They also formed the view that the nature of their interest and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the Chamber or their participation in the decision making process.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the current progress towards the regeneration of the Clune Park area of Port Glasgow;
 - (2) that the Committee note the Scottish Government's response to the Regeneration Plan approved by the Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee on 24 May 2011 which had been updated and revised;
 - (3) that a further invitation be extended to the Minister for Housing and Transport to visit the Clune Park area and that invitations also be extended to the Housing Spokespersons for all the main political parties within the Scottish Parliament; and
 - (4) that further progress updates be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.
- 487 Inverclyde Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2012-13 487**
- It was noted that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda and would be the subject of a report to the next meeting of the Committee.
- 488 Registration of Private Landlords - Fit and Proper Person Test Procedure 488**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities seeking approval of the criteria and assessment procedures to be used for determining whether landlords or agents are considered to be fit and proper persons.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the current progress in relation to private landlord registration in Inverclyde; and
 - (2) that the criteria and assessment procedures to be used for determining whether landlords or agents are considered to be fit and proper persons be approved.
- 489 Affordable Housing Investment - Strategic Local Programme 489**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities (1) advising the Committee of the introduction of the Strategic Local Programme (SLP) to coincide with the announcement of a three year budget for the Affordable Housing Supply Programme and (2) seeking approval to submit the new SLP to the Scottish Government.
- Councillors McCabe and McEleny declared non-financial interests in this item as members of the Board of River Clyde Homes. They also formed the view that the nature of their interest and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the Chamber or their participation in the decision making process.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the introduction of the Strategic Local Programme as set out in the Scottish Government Guidance on the Affordable Housing Supply Programme (HSGN 2012/06, May 2012);

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(2) that the Committee note the agreed investment priorities for Inverclyde Council as set out in the Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy 2011-2016 and the approved Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2012-2015;

(3) that approval be given to the final Strategic Local Programme as detailed in the appendix to the report for submission to the Scottish Government; and

(4) that a joint report by officers from Safer & Inclusive Communities and Regeneration & Environment be submitted to the Education & Communities and Environment & Regeneration Committees on the present position with regard to the Stock Transfer Agreement, focusing particularly on the current and future investment strategy and the investment in River Clyde Homes' own stock.

490 A Framework for Sport in Inverclyde

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) advising the Committee of the proposed establishment of the Sport Framework Development Group and (2) seeking approval for the proposed membership of the Group and for its initial aims and objectives.

Decided:

(1) that agreement be given to the establishment of the Sport Framework Development Group with membership and terms of reference as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report; and

(2) that progress in the development and implementation of a Framework for Sport be reported to the Committee via the Directorate Plan.

491 Request for Loan of a Painting from McLean Museum and Art Gallery

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development informing the Committee of a request for the loan of a painting from the McLean Museum and Art Gallery (the James Watt Trust).

Decided: that agreement be given to the loan of the painting 'Still Life' by S J Peplow to the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art from October 2012 until June 2013 plus a potential tour to one UK venue from July until September 2013, subject to matters of transport, security and insurance being arranged to the satisfaction of the Libraries, Museum and Archives Manager.

492 Disposal of 'Torch' Engine from McLean Museum and Art Gallery

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval for the disposal of the 'Torch' Engine from the collections of the McLean Museum and Art Gallery.

Decided: that consideration be continued to the next meeting of the Committee to ascertain, through advertisement, if there is any further local interest in the Torch Engine.

The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4.10 pm with Father McMahan, Rev MacLean, Mr Thomson and Mr Tracey joining the meeting at this point.

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- 493 Education Scotland Report on Blairmore Nursery School 493**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the results of the Education Scotland report on Blairmore Nursery School. The report advised that of the indicators of quality, three had been evaluated as 'very good' and two as 'good'.
Mrs Marie Crawford, Head Teacher, was present and addressed the Committee relative to the external evaluation report.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee endorse the comments made following the Education Scotland external evaluation of Blairmore Nursery School; and
(2) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to all staff for the work undertaken to achieve the evaluation.
- 494 Education 2012/13 Revenue Budget - Period 3 to 30 June 2012 494**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the final outturn of the 2011/12 Revenue Budget and the 2012/13 position as at Period 3 to 30 June 2012.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the final outturn for 2011/12 and the current projected underspend of £30,000 for 2012/13 as at 30 June 2012; and
(2) that approval be given to the virement of £15,000 set out in Appendix 4 to the report.
- 495 Capital Programme 2012-16/17 - Progress 495**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer on the progress of the Capital Programme 2012-16/17.
- Noted**
- 496 Election of Parent Representative and Teacher Representative to the Education & Communities Committee 496**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising of the uncontested nominations of Mr Robin Thomson as Parent Representative and Mr Tom Tracey as Teacher Representative to serve on the Committee, in accordance with the Scheme of Arrangements.
- Decided:** that approval be given to the appointment of Mr Robin Thomson as Parent Representative and Mr Tom Tracey as Teacher Representative to serve on the Education & Communities Committee in accordance with the Scheme of Arrangements.
- 497 Appointment of Third Religious Representative to the Education & Communities Committee 497**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval for the appointment to the Committee of a third person interested in the promotion of religious education, in terms of Section 31 of the Local Government Etc. (Scotland) Act 1994.

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Decided: that approval be given to the appointment of Rev Fraser Donaldson to serve as the third church/denominational representative on the Education & Communities Committee.

498 Use of Powers Delegated to the Chief Executive to Accept the Lowest Tender for Moorfoot Primary School Window and Curtain Walling Replacement 498

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising of the use of the powers delegated to the Chief Executive to accept the lowest tender for Moorfoot Primary School Window and Curtain Walling Replacement, that by W H Kirkwood Limited in the sum of £319,015.81.

Noted

499 Early Years Change Programme 499

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing (1) information on the Scottish Government's Change Programme and (2) details of a proposal to use Inverclyde Council's allocation from the Early Years Change Fund.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the proposal to use the funding from the Scottish Government's Early Years Change Fund to drive forward the Early Years Change Programme in Inverclyde; and

(2) that it be noted that no information had yet been received from the Scottish Government regarding the funding of the cost increase resulting from its intention to legislate that from 2015, all looked after 2 year olds should receive at least 600 hours of early learning and child care and that account be taken of this in the budget setting process.

500 David Cairns Tribute 500

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development requesting the Committee to consider a proposal by the Notre Dame High School Parent Council to have the school library in Notre Dame High School named after the late David Cairns in recognition of his long term association with the school and his work as a Member of Parliament representing Inverclyde.

Decided: that approval be given to the proposal that Notre Dame High School library be officially recognised as the David Cairns Library.

501 School Term Dates - Session 2013/14 501

There was submitted a report by the Head of Education seeking approval for the setting of the school term dates for session 2013/14.

Decided: that approval be given to the term dates for 2013/14 as set out in appendix 1 of the report.

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 during consideration of 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.

502 Award of Contracts for the Provision of Transport for Children with Additional Support and Medical Needs for 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15 502

There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy (1) on the use of the powers delegated to the Chief Executive to accept tenders for the provision of transport for children with additional support and medical needs for 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15 and (2) seeking approval of ongoing additions and deletions to transport requirement for such pupils.

Councillor McEleny declared an interest in this item as an acquaintance of one of the operators. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business precluded his participation in the decision making process but did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the use of the powers delegated to the Chief Executive to accept the tenders as set out in appendix 1 to the report; and
- (2) that approval be given to the ongoing additions and deletions to transport requirements for pupils with additional support and medical needs.