

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 22 JANUARY 2013

Education and Communities Committee

Tuesday 22 January 2013 at 3pm

Present: Councillors Brennan, Campbell-Sturgess, Clocherty, Jones, Loughran, McCabe, McColgan, McEleny, Shepherd and Wilson, Rev A MacLean, Rev F Donaldson and Father M McMahon, 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 Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy, Ms L Wilkie, Ms E Hamilton, Ms G Bond, Ms E Robertson and Mr D Smith (Education Services), Ms M Paterson (Community Learning & Development), Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities, Head of Property Assets & Facilities Management, Mr E Montgomery (Property Assets & Facilities Management), Ms A Edmiston (for Chief Financial Officer), Mr F Jarvie (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services) and Corporate Communications Manager.

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

55 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

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

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:-

Agenda Item 3 (Clune Park Regeneration: Progress Report) - Councillor Wilson
 Agenda Item 4 (Support for Owners Fund Update) - Councillors McCabe and McEleny
 Agenda Item 5 (Strategic Local Programme (SLP) - Update) - Councillors McCabe and McEleny
 Agenda Item 11 (Letting Policy for Sport and Community Facilities) - Councillors McColgan, McEleny, Loughran and Wilson
 Agenda Item 20 (Former Riverside Resource Centre, Woodhall, Port Glasgow) - Councillors McCabe and McEleny

56 Communities 2012/13 Revenue Budget Period 8 and Capital Report 2012/16 - Progress

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There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on (1) the 2012/13 Revenue Budget position as at Period 8 to 30 November 2012 and (2) the status of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme 2012/16 and the overall financial position.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £38,000 for the 2012/13 Revenue Budget as at 30 November 2012; and
- (2) that the Committee note the progress of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme 2012/16.

57 Clune Park Regeneration: Progress Report

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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. Councillor Wilson declared a non-financial interest in this matter as a Director of Link Housing Association. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber or his 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; and
- (2) that further progress updates be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.

58 Support for Owners Fund Update

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There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities providing an update on the current position with regard to the Support for Owners Fund and information received from River Clyde Homes on its Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) Investment Programme.

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 current position of the 2012/13 Support for Owners Fund be noted;
- (2) that the projected budget for the 2013/14 Support for Owners Fund be noted; and
- (3) that the proposed prioritisation for delivery of the Support for Owners Fund in 2013/14 as set out in Section 6 of the report be approved.

59 Strategic Local Programme (SLP) - Update

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There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities advising the Committee of revisions to the Strategic Local Programme (SLP) following discussions with the Scottish Government Housing Supply Division and partner Registered Social Landlords.

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 approve the revised Strategic Local Programme 2012-15 as submitted to the Scottish Government in November 2012 and detailed in the appendix to the report; and
- (2) that it be remitted to the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities to finalise arrangements for the implementation of the Strategic Local Programme 2012-15 including negotiation of Strategic Agreements with the Scottish Government and partner Registered Social Landlords to take forward agreed projects at the earliest possible date.

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- 60 Housing Trend Monitoring Report 60**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities providing an overview of housing trends across the Inverclyde Council area and across all tenures over the period from April 2011 to March 2012.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the contents of the Executive Summary of the Housing Trend Monitoring Report 2011-2012 set out in the appendix to the report; and
 - (2) that it be noted that the Housing Trend Monitoring Report will be revised, updated and submitted to the Committee on an annual basis.
- 61 Community Learning & Development: Strategic Guidance for Community Planning Partnerships 61**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising the Committee of the Council's proposals for taking forward the implementation of the Scottish Government's "Community Learning and Development: Strategic Guidance for Community Planning Partnerships".
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the contents of "Community Learning and Development: Strategic Guidance for Community Planning Partnerships"; and
 - (2) that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development to develop, in collaboration with community planning partners, proposals for the implementation of the Strategic Guidance in Inverclyde.
- 62 IYouthZone 62**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) on the success of the Community Learning & Development Youth Work Sub-Group application to the Big Lottery for "Our Place" funding for the IYouthZone project, (2) advising of the opening of the project and its formal launch on 13 December 2012 and (3) making proposals for the ongoing monitoring and reporting of the project.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the success of the application of the Community Learning & Development Youth Work Sub-Group for Big Lottery "Our Place" funding;
 - (2) that the Committee note the opening and formal launch of the IYouthZone project at 34 Nicolson Street, Greenock; and
 - (3) that approval be given to proposals for the monitoring and reporting of the project as detailed in the report.
- 63 Inverclyde Violence Against Women Multi-Agency Strategy 2012-2017 63**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities (1) appending the Inverclyde Violence Against Women Multi-Agency Strategy 2012-2017 and (2) seeking endorsement of the strategy.
- Decided:** that the Committee endorse the Inverclyde Violence Against Women Multi-Agency Strategy 2012-2017 as an outcome-focused strategy which sets out to address violence against women through multi-agency working in Inverclyde.

64 Letting Policy for Sport and Community Facilities

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There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities proposing changes to the current letting arrangements for sports and community facilities to bring these into line with current practice in adjoining authorities and to address issues arising from current practice in Inverclyde.

Councillors McColgan, McEleny, Loughran and Wilson declared non-financial interests in this matter as members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. 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 approve in principle the revision of the Council's letting policy to include registration as proposed; and
- (2) that it be agreed that a further report be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee detailing the consultation response and recommending final amendments to the letting policy.

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 two items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as are set opposite each item.

Item	Paragraph(s)
New Community Facilities - Revenue Provision for Running Costs	6
Former Riverside Resource Centre, Woodhall, Port Glasgow	6 and 9

65 New Community Facilities - Revenue Provision for Running Costs

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising the Committee of the estimated running costs and additional capital costs for proposed new community facilities at Woodhall, Port Glasgow, Gibshill, Greenock, Broomhill (Wellington), Greenock and Inverkip.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee agree the outline proposals for the provision of new community facilities at Woodhall, Port Glasgow and Broomhill, Greenock and note the current position with regard to the facilities at Gibshill, Greenock and Inverkip as detailed in Section 4.1 of the report;
- (2) that the Committee agree, in principle, the additional capital and revenue funding requirements for the new community facilities and remit these to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration as part of the 2013/16 budget setting process, specifically:
 - (a) £400,000 capital funding for the development of a new community facility and multi-use games area (MUGA) at Woodhall, Port Glasgow;

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(b) £350,000 capital funding in addition to the existing provision of £700,000 for the development of a new community facility at Broomhill, Greenock, the overall sum to include the cost of demolishing the Mearns Centre and compensating the Capital Fund for the loss of the capital receipt for the site; and

(c) £75,000 revenue funding to support the operational costs of the facilities at Woodhall, Port Glasgow, Gibshill, Greenock, Broomhill, Greenock and Inverkip.

66 Former Riverside Resource Centre, Woodhall, Port Glasgow

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising the Committee of the current financial position relative to the proposed acquisition by River Clyde Homes of the former Riverside Resource Centre, Woodhall, 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: that the position be noted.

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

67 Education 2012/13 Revenue Budget - Period 8

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There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the position of the 2012/13 Revenue Budget as at Period 8 to 30 November 2012.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £219,000 for 2012/13 as at 30 November 2012; and

(2) that the Committee approve the virement of £40,000 detailed in appendix 4 to the report.

68 Education Capital Programme 2012-16/17 - Progress

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the status of the projects forming the Education Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.

Decided:

(1) that the progress of the specific projects detailed in appendix 1 be noted;

(2) that approval be given to the revision of the Ardgowan Primary School refurbishment budget allocation and utilisation of the overall Capital Programme contingency/shared campus contingency to address the revised scope of works as outlined in Section 9.1 of the report;

(3) that approval be given to the issue of tenders for the works and delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to accept the lowest acceptable tender provided the cost is within the revised budget allocation for the project; and

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(4) that the Committee note the position with regard to the anticipated additional expenditure on the Whinhill Primary School (Refurbishment of former Overton Primary School) project as detailed in Section 10.1 of the report and approve expenditure within the cost limits of the available 2012/13 Capital Programme contingency with a further update report being provided when the final account has been agreed.

The Convener being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Chief Financial Officer was relevant, competent and urgent moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to allow the Committee to be updated at the earliest opportunity relative to the response from the Scottish Government to the request for increased grant funding. This was agreed unanimously.

69 School Estate Management Plan (SEMP) - Review of Funding Model and Possible Opportunities - Update 69

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Chief Financial Officer on the response from the Scottish Government to the request for increased grant funding for the acceleration of capital investment to support economic recovery and the implications for the possible School Estate Management Plan (SEMP) opportunities outlined in the report to the Committee in October 2012.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the response from the Scottish Government as detailed in the appendix to the report; and
- (2) that it be agreed that the Council consider any acceleration of the primary school programme in the context of the overall budget process.

Councillor Clocherty left the meeting at this juncture.

70 Update on Progress with the Implementation of Curriculum for Excellence 70

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development 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.

71 Physical Education Support Fund Update 71

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on Inverclyde's position in relation to the Scottish Government's target of a minimum of 2 hours/2 periods of quality physical education for each child every week and also Inverclyde's position in relation to the Scottish Government's new Physical Education Support Fund.

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

Decided:

- (1) that the report be noted; and
- (2) that approval be given to the Inverclyde Physical Education Support Fund Implementation Plan appended to the report.

72 The Naming of the New Shared Campus in Port Glasgow 72

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development proposing a name for the new shared campus in Port Glasgow which is scheduled to open by October 2013.

Decided: that the name of the new shared campus be Port Glasgow Community Campus.

73 Increase in Nursery Provision Entitlement to 600 hours for Children aged 3 and 4 Years 73

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) providing details of the Scottish Government proposal to increase the entitlement to nursery provision from 475 hours to 600 hours and its preferred delivery model and (2) setting out the financial cost of the increase in entitlement.

Decided:

- (1) that the report be noted; and
- (2) that a further report be submitted to the Committee when the Children and Young People Bill and Financial Memorandum are published.

74 Securing Continuous Improvement 74

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising the Committee of a refreshed and innovative approach to securing improvement across the Council's educational establishments. (Councillor Wilson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided: that the Committee note and support the new approach to securing improvement across educational establishments in Inverclyde as set out in the report and the relevant guidance.

75 Promoting Positive Behaviour and Positive Relationships 75

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the new policy produced by Education Services on promoting positive behaviour and relationships.

Decided: that the Committee note and support the policy on promoting positive relationships and behaviour and the relevant guidance.

The Convener being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development was relevant, competent and urgent moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to allow the Committee to be advised of the School Leaver Destination Results for 2011-12 at the earliest opportunity. This was agreed unanimously.

76 School Leaver Destination Results 2011-12**76**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing information relating to the annual release of School Leaver Destination Results which were made available to the Council on 16 January 2013.

Decided: that the Committee note the School Leaver Destination Results for 2011-12 as detailed in the report and appendices.