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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Education and Communities Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>12 March 2013</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Albert Henderson, Corporate Director, Education, Communities and Organisational Development</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>EDUCOM/39/13/WB</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Wilma Bain, Head of Education</b> <b>Angela Edwards, Head of Inclusive Education, Culture and Corporate Policy</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>01475 712824</b> <b>01457 712828</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Proposal Of James Watt College To Close And Transfer Its Property And Rights To Clydebank College And Ayr College</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present to the Education and Communities Committee the proposal of James Watt College to close and transfer its property and rights to Clydebank and Ayr Colleges.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The Boards of James Watt College, Clydebank College and Reid Kerr College have approved the merger of the three colleges as part of the colleges regionalisation process.
- 2.2 Subsequent to this the colleges have sought approval from Scottish Ministers to proceed with the formal closure of James Watt College and the transfer of the property and rights of this college to what are currently Clydebank College and Ayr College. The intention is that Clydebank College and Ayr College will later be renamed, though that will be subject to formal Ministerial approval at a later stage. It is understood that no campus closures are planned.
- 2.3 Michael Russell, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, has written to the Council, as the Education Authority for Inverclyde, seeking its views in relation to the closure of the college. The letter is attached at appendix one.
- 2.4 Any views which the Council has on this proposal are invited to be submitted to the Scottish Government by 17.00 on 4 April 2013 by emailing [FE.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:FE.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)
- 2.5 The Committee is asked to grant delegated powers for the Convener, Vice Convener and SNP spokesperson to respond to the letter from the Cabinet Secretary.

### **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee grant delegated powers to the Convener, Vice Convener and SNP spokesperson to respond to the letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, on behalf of Inverclyde Council.

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

# APPENDIX I

Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Foghlaim agus Ionnsachadh Fad-bheatha  
Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning  
Michael Russell MSP/BPA

F/T: 0845 774 1741  
E: scottish.ministers@scotland.gsi.gov.uk



The Scottish  
Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

To: Chief Executive of North Ayrshire Council  
Chief Executive of Inverclyde Council  
cc Chairs, Community Planning Partnership  
cc Directors of Education



LEGACY 2014  
XX COMMONWEALTH GAMES  
GLASGOW

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07 March 2013

Dear Colleague

## **PROPOSAL OF JAMES WATT COLLEGE TO CLOSE AND TRANSFER ITS PROPERTY AND RIGHTS TO CLYDEBANK COLLEGE AND AYR COLLEGE**

You may be aware that James Watt College has announced an intention to close and transfer its property and rights to Clydebank College and Ayr College. I attach a letter seeking your views in relation to the closure of colleges.

The colleges have recently completed a consultation exercise which sought the views of their stakeholders on this prospect. An analysis of that exercise will inform my decision when deciding whether to approve the action which the colleges wish to take. The colleges have sought approval from Scottish Ministers to proceed with their intention which will be achieved by means of the formal closure of James Watt College and the transfer of the property and rights of this college to what are currently Clydebank College and Ayr College. The intention is that Clydebank College and Ayr College will later be renamed, though that will be subject to formal Ministerial approval at a later stage. I understand that no campus closures are planned.

Yours sincerely

**MICHAEL RUSSELL**

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St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG  
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Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Foghlaim agus Ionnsachadh Fad-bheatha  
Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning  
Michael Russell MSP/BPA

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To: Chief Executive of North Ayrshire Council  
Chief Executive of Inverclyde Council  
cc Chairs, Community Planning Partnership  
cc Directors of Education



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07 March 2013

Dear Colleague

## **THE FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 1992**

### **CONSULTATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 5 ON THE EXERCISE OF THE POWER IN SECTION 3(1)(c) TO CLOSE COLLEGES OF FURTHER EDUCATION**

The Scottish Ministers propose to exercise their power under section 3(1)(c) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992 ("the Act") by making an order to close:

- **James Watt College.**

The Scottish Ministers are required, by section 5(1) of the Act, to consult the education authority for the area in which the college is situated as well as any other person appearing to the Scottish Ministers to be affected by this proposal. This letter is being sent to you on the basis that you are the education authority.

In making an order under section 3(1)(c) of the Act to close colleges of further education, the Scottish Ministers are required (under section 25 of the Act) to make provision for the property and rights of the board of management to transfer to and vest in a charity. In terms of the current proposal, the intention is that the property and rights of James Watt College will transfer to and vest in Clydebank College and Ayr College.

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I should be grateful if you would let me have any views that you wish to make on this proposal by **17:00** on **4 April 2013** by emailing **FE.enquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk**.

Yours sincerely

**MICHAEL RUSSELL**

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