

**EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 10 SEPTEMBER 2013**

---

**Education & Communities Committee**

**Tuesday 10 September 2013 at 3 pm**

**Present:** Councillors Brennan, Brooks, Campbell-Sturgess, Clocherty, Loughran, McCabe, McColgan, McEleny, McIlwee, Shepherd and Wilson, Rev A MacLean, Church Representative and Mr R Thomson, Parent Representative.

**Chair:** Councillor Loughran presided.

**In attendance:** Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Mr F Jarvie (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services), Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities, Health Protection Service Manager, Libraries, Museum & Archives Manager, Mr M Bingham (Corporate Communications), Head of Education, Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy, 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.**

- |            |  |            |
|------------|--|------------|
| <b>542</b> | <b>Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest</b>   | <b>542</b> |
|            | <p>Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Father McMahon and Rev Donaldson.</p> <p>Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:-</p> <p>Agenda Item 3 (Clune Park Regeneration: Progress Report) - Councillor Wilson</p> <p>Agenda Item 4 (Support for Owners Fund: Update) - Councillors McCabe, McEleny and McIlwee</p> <p>Agenda Item 5 (Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2013-2018) - Councillors McCabe, McEleny, McIlwee and Wilson.</p>  |            |
| <b>543</b> | <b>Communities 2013/14 Revenue Budget Report - Period 3 to 30 June 2013 and Capital Report 2013/16 - Progress</b>  | <b>543</b> |
|            | <p>There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities &amp; Organisational Development (1) on the 2012/13 Revenue Budget final outturn and the 2013/14 Revenue Budget position as at Period 3 to 30 June 2013 and (2) the status of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme 2013/16 and the overall financial position.</p> <p><b>Decided:</b></p> <p>(1) that the Committee note the final outturn for 2012/13 and the current projected £2,000 overspend for the 2013/14 Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2013; and</p> <p>(2) that the Committee note the progress of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme 2013/16.</p> |            |
| <b>544</b> | <b>Clune Park Regeneration: Progress Report</b>  | <b>544</b> |
|            | <p>There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer &amp; Inclusive Communities on the proposed regeneration of the Clune Park area of Port Glasgow.</p> <p>Councillor Wilson declared a non-financial interest in this matter as a Director of Link</p>  |            |

**EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 10 SEPTEMBER 2013**

---

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;
- (2) that further progress updates be submitted to future meetings of the Committee;
- (3) that a report on a review of the Clune Park Regeneration Plan be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee; and
- (4) that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development to instruct Property Services to negotiate to acquire flats to enable demolition to take place.

**545 Support for Owners Fund: Update**

**545**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities (1) providing an update on the current position with regard to the Support for Owners Fund generated from the sale of River Clyde Homes (RCH) stock under the Right to Buy Scheme and (2) seeking approval for modifications to the administration of the fund.

Councillors McCabe, McEleny and McIlwee 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 updated position in respect of the Support for Owners Fund and the potential funding deficit for the 2013/14 financial year;
- (2) that the Committee note the options available for an equitable distribution of Support for Owners funding during 2013/14 financial year as set out in paragraphs 5.1 to 5.3 of the report; and
- (3) that approval be given to the proposed modifications to the administration of the Support for Owners Fund for 2013/14 and that it be remitted to the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities to implement the approved changes.

**546 Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2013 - 2018**

**546**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities advising of the submission to the Scottish Government of a new Strategic Housing Investment Plan covering the period 2013 - 2018 and an update to the Strategic Local Programme 2012 - 2015 arising out of additional awards of funding for the Inverclyde Council area from the Scottish Government's Affordable Housing Supply Programme.

Councillors McCabe, McEleny and McIlwee declared non-financial interests in this matter as members of the Board of River Clyde Homes and Councillor Wilson declared a non-financial interest as a Director of Larkfield Housing Association. All four Councillors 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 contents of the new Strategic Housing Investment Plan for the 5 year period from 2013 - 2018 be noted;
- (2) that the contents of the updated Strategic Local Programme 2012 - 2015 as detailed in the appendix to the report be noted; and
- (3) that approval be given to the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2013 - 2018 and

**EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 10 SEPTEMBER 2013**

---

the updated Strategic Local Programme 2012 - 2015 submitted by the Council to the Scottish Government on 28 June 2013.

**547 Official Food and Feed Controls Service Plan 2013/14 547**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) advising the Committee of the Official Food and Feed Controls Service Plan for 2013/14 appended to the report and (2) reporting on the achievements of the Service in 2012/13.

**Decided:**

- (1) that approval be given to the Official Food and Feed Controls Service Plan for 2013/14; and
- (2) that the Committee note the delivery against the 2012/13 Plan.

**548 Scheme of Assistance Proposed Amendment 548**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities seeking approval to amend the Inverclyde Council Scheme of Assistance (Section 72 Statement) to expand the housing options available to individuals and households with particular needs.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the current position in respect of requests for grants under the Inverclyde Council Scheme of Assistance (Section 72 Statement);
- (2) that the Committee note the options available to home owners and to Inverclyde Council as set out in paragraphs 5.1 to 5.3 of the report; and
- (3) that approval be given to the proposed amendments to the administration of the Inverclyde Council Scheme of Assistance and that it be remitted to the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities to implement the approved changes.

**549 Registration of Private Landlords - Fit and Proper Person Test Procedure Review 549**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities seeking approval for reviewed criteria and assessment procedures to be applied to the Fit and Proper Person Test for private landlords.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the current progress in respect of private landlord registration in Inverclyde; and
- (2) that agreement be given to the reviewed criteria and assessment procedures relative to the Fit and Proper Person Test as outlined in Section 5 of the report.

**550 Proposed Management Rules: Museum 550**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development making recommendations in relation to revised draft museum management rules.

**Decided:**

- (1) that approval be given to the draft museum management rules appended to the report for the purposes of statutory public consultation;
- (2) that the Libraries, Museum & Archives Manager be authorised to implement the statutory public consultation procedure in connection with the proposed management rules;

**EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 10 SEPTEMBER 2013**

---

(3) that it be remitted to the Libraries, Museum & Archives Manager to report back to the Committee on the outcome of the public consultation exercise to allow the Committee to consider any objections received and any consequent amendments considered appropriate; and

(4) that it be noted that the results of the public consultation exercise and the recommendations of the Committee will in due course be reported to the Inverclyde Council and that approval will be sought from the Council for authority to make the management rules.

**551 Proposed Management Rules: Libraries**

**551**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development making recommendations in relation to revised draft libraries management rules.

**Decided:**

(1) that approval be given to the draft libraries management rules appended to the report for the purposes of statutory public consultation;

(2) that the Libraries, Museum & Archives Manager be authorised to implement the statutory public consultation procedure in connection with the proposed management rules;

(3) that it be remitted to the Libraries, Museum & Archives Manager to report back to the Committee on the outcome of the public consultation exercise to allow the Committee to consider any objections received and any consequent amendments considered appropriate; and

(4) that it be noted that the results of the public consultation exercise and the recommendations of the Committee will in due course be reported to the Inverclyde Council and that approval will be sought from the Council for authority to make the management rules.

**552 Ravenscraig Sports Barn**

**552**

It was noted that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda.

**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, 8 & 9 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.**

**553 Reprovision of Community Based Services Formally Contracted under the Regeneration Programme**

**553**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) providing an update on relevant developments since the contracts for the provision of community based services were let in April 2011, (2) advising the Committee of the review undertaken to inform decisions about the provision of community based services formally contracted under the Regeneration Programme and (3) seeking approval to enter into funding and service level agreements with the organisations formally contracted to provide community based services.

**EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 10 SEPTEMBER 2013**

---

**Decided:**

- (1) that approval be given to the proposal that interim funding agreements be put in place, as outlined in appendix 1 to the report; and
- (2) that it be noted that further recommendations on the reprovisioning of community based services will be submitted to the November meeting of the Committee.

Councillor Wilson left the meeting at this point.

**The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4.15 pm with Rev MacLean and Mr Thomson joining the meeting. Councillor Wilson did not return to the meeting.**

**554 Education 2013/14 Revenue Budget - Period 3 to 30 June 2013**

554

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the 2012/13 final outturn and the 2013/14 Revenue Budget position as at Period 3 to 30 June 2013.

Mr Cameron advised the Committee that since the writing of the report, the projected overspend of £118,000 had increased to £218,000 for 2013/14 due to increased employee costs.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the final outturn for 2012/13 and the current projected overspend of £218,000 for 2013/14; and
- (2) that approval be given to the virement of £40,000 as detailed in appendix 4 to the report.

**555 Education Capital Programme 2013 - 2015/16 - Progress**

555

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 Committee note the progress of the specific projects detailed in appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) that approval be given to the temporary allocation of £36,000 from the School Estate Management Plan (SEMP) funding model to address the roads and footways improvement works as detailed in section 5.3, with the SEMP funding model receiving the return allocation from the Roads Asset Management Plan (RAMP) funding model in financial year 2014/15;
- (3) that the Committee note and approve additional expenditure on the following projects:
  - (a) St Columba's High School Project - £540,046 as detailed in section 6 and appendix 2
  - (b) Lomond View Academy Project - £159,720 as detailed in section 7 and appendix 3
  - (c) Whinhill Primary School Project - £569,340 as detailed in section 8 and appendix 4; and
- (4) that approval be given to utilisation of the overall SEMP programme contingency allowance and reduction in Port Glasgow Community Campus contingency to address the over expenditure as set out in decision 3 above and detailed in section 11.5.

**EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 10 SEPTEMBER 2013**

---

- 556 Update on Progress with the Implementation of Curriculum for Excellence 556**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing information on progress being made with the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence.
- The Committee was advised that since the writing of the report, the Council had received an APSE (Association of Public Service Excellence) award for the School Leaver Destination Programme under the category of "Best Public Partnership Working" Initiative.
- Decided:** that the report be noted, including the APSE award for the School Leaver Destination Programme.
- 557 School Estate Management Plan 2013 and Core Facts Submission 557**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the School Estate Management Plan and the Core Facts return for 2013.
- Noted**
- 558 Endowment Fund for Talented Children and Young People 558**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the use of the Endowment Fund for talented children and young people.
- During the course of discussion on this item, the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy undertook to forward to all Members of the Committee, a copy of the strategy and application form relative to the Fund.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the report and the continued support provided to talented children and young people in Inverclyde; and
- (2) that the Committee note the annual accounts for the Talented Children and Young Persons Fund for the year ended 31 March 2013.
- 559 Foreign Language Learning in Primary Schools A1 + 2 Approach 559**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing details of the ambitious and challenging agenda for future language learning and teaching in Scotland's schools as recommended by the Scottish Government Languages Working Group.
- Noted**
- 560 School Term Dates - Session 2014/15 560**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval for the setting of the school term dates for session 2014/15.
- Decided:** that approval be given to the school term dates for 2014/15 as set out in appendix 1 to 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, 8 & 9 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

**561 School Transport Contracts (Mainstream) - Use of Emergency Powers Procedure 561**

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 tenders for mainstream school transport contracts for 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17.

**Noted**