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**EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 9 SEPTEMBER 2014**


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**Education and Communities Committee**

**Tuesday 9 September 2014 at 3pm**

**Present:** Councillors Brennan, Brooks, Campbell-Sturgess, Clocherty, Loughran, McCabe, McColgan, McEleny, McIlwee, Shepherd and Wilson, Mr T Macdougall, Rev F Donaldson and Father M McMahon, Church Representatives and Mr T Tracey, Teacher Representative.

**Chair:** Councillor Loughran presided.

**In attendance:** Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Mr I Cameron (for Head of Finance), Ms A Edmiston (Finance Services), Ms G Murphy (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities, Community Safety & Wellbeing Manager, Property Assets Manager, Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy, Head of Education, Ms E Robertson (Education Services), Ms L Wilkie, Quality Improvement Manager, School Estate Manager and Mr M Bingham (Corporate Communications).

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

**528      Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest      528**

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Mr R Thomson, Parent Representative.

Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Agenda Item 3 (Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report).

**529      Communities 2014/15 Revenue Budget Report - Period 3 to 30 June 2014 and Capital Report 2014/16 - Progress      529**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on (1) the 2013/14 Communities Revenue Budget final out-turn and the 2014/15 Revenue Budget position as at Period 3 to 30 June 2014 and (2) the status of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme 2013/16 and the overall financial position.

**Decided:**

(1) that the Committee note the final out-turn for 2013/14 and the current projected underspend of £149,000 in the 2014/15 Communities Revenue Budget as at Period 3 to 30 June 2014; and

(2) that the Committee note the level of slippage within the 2013/14 Communities Capital Programme and the progress of the projects forming the Capital Programme 2014/16.

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- 530 Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report 530**
- 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:** that the Committee note the progress to date in respect of the Clune Park Regeneration Area Plan and agree that further progress updates be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.
- 531 Inverclyde Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment – 2014 Update 531**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities providing an update on the annual review of the Inverclyde Community Safety Strategic Assessment 2012-15.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the report and the progress made to improve community safety in Inverclyde.
- 532 Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Sub-Committee – Future Meetings 532**
- There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources requesting the Committee to agree a schedule of meetings of the Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Sub-Committee.
- Decided:** that meetings of the Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Sub-Committee be held at 2.30pm on the following dates:-  
 Thursday 9 October 2014  
 Thursday 19 February 2015  
 Thursday 9 April 2015  
 Thursday 4 June 2015
- 533 Delegated Authority: Service of Closing Orders under the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 533**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities seeking approval for delegated authority to be granted to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development to make, serve and revoke Closing Orders under the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 on properties which fall “Below the Tolerable Standard” (BTS).
- Decided:**
- (1) that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development to make, serve and revoke Closing Orders under the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 in respect of BTS property; and
  - (2) that any action taken under (1) above be reported thereafter to the Committee for noting.

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**534 Registration of Private Landlords – Formal Procedure for Refusal or Revocation 534**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities seeking approval for proposed amendments to the current procedures used to refuse the registration of a private landlord or to remove a landlord from the private landlord register, including on the grounds of not being a fit and proper person.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note current progress with regard to private landlord registration in Inverclyde;
- (2) that approval be given to the procedure for the refusal or revocation of landlord registration as set out in the report; and
- (3) that approval be given to the fit and proper person test assessment criteria outlined in section 5 of the report.

**535 Inverclyde Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2014-18 535**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities seeking endorsement of the Inverclyde Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2014-18.

**Decided:** that the Committee endorse the Inverclyde Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2014-18 appended to the report.

**536 Heritage Lottery Fund Bid 536**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development informing the Committee of the progress which has been made to date with the submission of a Round 1 bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for partnership funding to refurbish, extend and improve the building and services available at the McLean Museum and Watt Library.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the unsuccessful Heritage Lottery Fund Bid and approve the development of updated options which will include the opportunity to submit a new bid at the lower level of grant funding (up to £5M); and
- (2) that a report be submitted to the Committee in January 2015 with options and recommendations.

**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 the heading to each item.**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Paragraph(s)</b>
<b>Home Energy Efficiency Programme Scotland – Delivery Partner Tender Result</b>	<b>6 and 8</b>
<b>Property Assets Management Report: Lease of Premises at Leven Road and Burns Square, Greenock – Remit from Environment &amp; Regeneration Committee</b>	<b>2, 6 and 9</b>

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- 537 Home Energy Efficiency Programme Scotland – Delivery Partner Tender Result 537**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities seeking approval to award a contract for a delivery partner for the Home Energy Efficiency Programme Scotland Area Based Scheme (HEEPS ABS) in accordance with Order 9.2(ii) of the Council's Standing Orders relating to Contracts.
- Decided:** that approval be given to the award of the contract for the delivery of the HEEPS ABS project to the Wise Group.
- The Convener being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources was relevant, competent and urgent moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to allow the Committee to consider the remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee at the earliest opportunity. This was agreed unanimously.**
- 538 Property Assets Management Report: Lease of Premises at Leven Road and Burns Square, Greenock – Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee 538**
- There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources requesting the Committee to approve a virement from the Grants to Voluntary Organisations budget to permit increased funding to Youth Connections to enable the organisation to meet increased rent of the premises at Leven Road and Burns Square, Greenock as agreed on 4 September 2014. This was agreed, all as detailed in the appendix.
- The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4.30pm with Mr Macdougall, Rev Donaldson, Father McMahon and Mr Tracey joining the meeting.**
- 539 Church of Scotland Representation on Education & Communities Committee 539**
- There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising of the nomination by the Church of Scotland of Mr Tom Macdougall as its representative on the Education & Communities Committee following the resignation of Rev Andrew McLean.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the nomination of Mr Tom Macdougall as Church of Scotland representative and welcome Mr Macdougall to the meeting.
- 540 Education Scotland Inspection Report on Glenbrae Children's Centre 540**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the results of the Education Scotland external evaluation of Glenbrae Children's Centre. The report advised that all nine Indicators of Quality had been evaluated as "very good".
- Ms Moira Gray, Head of Centre, was present and spoke in relation to the report.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee approve the Education Scotland Inspection Report on Glenbrae Children's Centre; and

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(2) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to all involved for the work undertaken to achieve the evaluation.

**541 Education Scotland Inspection Report on St Joseph's Primary School 541**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the results of the Education Scotland external evaluation of St Joseph's Primary School. The report advised that in the Indicators of Quality, two aspects of the school had been judged to be "very good" and three aspects to be "good".

Mr Alan Graham, Head Teacher, was present and spoke in relation to the report.

**Decided:**

(1) that the Committee approve the Education Scotland Inspection Report on St Joseph's Primary School; and

(2) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to all those involved for the work undertaken to achieve the evaluation.

**542 Education 2014/15 Revenue Budget - Period 3 to 30 June 2014 542**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the 2013/14 Education Revenue Budget final out-turn and the 2014/15 Revenue Budget position as at Period 3 to 30 June 2014.

**Decided:**

(1) that the Committee note the final out-turn for 2013/14 and the current projected overspend of £189,000 for the Education Revenue Budget as at Period 3 to 30 June 2014; and

(2) that it be noted that the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, in conjunction with Finance Services, will continue to review the budget and ensure action is taken to bring the projected overspend of £189,000 back within budget.

**543 Education Capital Programme 2014 – 2016/17 543**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Head of Finance (1) on the status of the projects forming the Education Capital Programme, (2) highlighting the overall financial position and (3) providing a summary of the out-turn for the 2013/14 Capital Programme.

**Decided:**

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

(2) that the Committee note the final out-turn for 2013/14 and the good performance in delivering the 2013/14 Capital Programme;

(3) that approval be given to the issue of tenders for the St John's Primary School refurbishment and extension project and that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal & Property Services to accept the most economically advantageous tender provided the cost is within the budget allocation for the project; and

(4) that approval be given to investigate the possible advancement of the St Francis Primary School external works project from 2015/16 potentially to absorb slippage elsewhere in the 2014/15 Capital Programme.

**544 Education and Communities Performance Report****544**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy providing an update on the achievement of key objectives in the Education, Communities & Organisational Development Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2013/16.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the progress made in implementing the Education, Communities & Organisational Development Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2013/16; and
- (2) that the Committee agree to consider the fourth progress report at its meeting on 20 January 2015.

**545 The Nurturing Collaborative/Getting It Right for Every Child****545**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the local implementation of the Scottish Government's Early Years Collaborative and Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) and how this work is being taken forward locally.

**Decided:** that the Committee note the progress of the Early Years Collaborative and GIRFEC nationally and the establishment of a Nurturing Collaborative locally.

**546 Inverclyde Children and Young People Health and Wellbeing Survey 2013****546**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) outlining the methodological approaches employed to carry out the research undertaken in all Inverclyde secondary schools in connection with the Inverclyde Children and Young People Health & Wellbeing Survey 2013, (2) providing an initial report with a summary of the findings and key indicators and (3) providing suggested directions of travel indicated by the findings and aligned outcomes.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the report and approve the publication of the research findings including further circulation to the wider locality planning structures such as SOA4, SOA6 and Inverclyde Alliance Board;
- (2) that agreement be given to the further work required in the analysis of the findings, through engaging with the young people, schools and the communities together with partner agencies to take forward agreed and appropriate actions;
- (3) that approval be given to the continuing work required in the dissemination of the research findings in partnership with Inverclyde CHCP;
- (4) that the Committee accept an invitation to be an integral part of the ongoing work and developments and agree to participate actively in the seminars/summits mentioned in paragraph 5.2 of the report; and
- (5) that a further report be submitted to the Committee including a detailed analysis of the findings in comparison with other data sources such as the surveys of neighbouring authorities, the Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS) and the World Health Organisation's Health Behaviours in School Age Children Survey and that the Committee be kept apprised of developments.

Councillor McColgan left the meeting at this point.

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**547 School Term Dates – Session 2015/16****547**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Education seeking approval for the setting of school term dates for session 2015/16.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the term dates for 2015/16 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

**548 Additional In-Service Day for Primary Schools****548**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising of an additional in-service day during session 2014/15 for primary schools (including ASN schools) which was announced by the Scottish Government in June 2014.

(Councillor Wilson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the additional in-service day on Tuesday 21 October 2014 for primary and secondary schools; and
- (2) that approval be given to the extension of the in-service day to include early years establishments where the delivery of Curriculum for Excellence begins for children aged 3 years.

**549 Update on 600 Hours of Early Learning and Child Care****549**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) providing an update on the implementation of 600 hours of early learning and childcare for session 2014/15, (2) identifying further developments for 2014/15 and possible developments for 2015/16 and (3) providing information on the resource requirements and financial implications of the increase in entitlement.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the progress made for 2014/15;
- (2) that agreement be given to the financial commitments as detailed in the report; and
- (3) that it be noted that a further report will be submitted to the Committee in November 2014.