

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 1 NOVEMBER 2016

Education and Communities Committee

Tuesday 1 November 2016 at 2pm

Present: Councillors Brennan, Brooks, Campbell-Sturgess (for Education items only), Clocherty, Jones, Loughran, Provost Moran (for Councillor McCabe), McColgan, McEleny, Shepherd and Wilson, Mr T Macdougall, Rev F Donaldson and Mrs F Gilpin, Church Representatives and Mr T Tracey, Teacher Representative.

Chair: Councillor Loughran presided.

In attendance: Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities, Community Safety and Wellbeing Manager, Health Protection Services Manager, Libraries, Museums & Archives Manager, Community Learning & Development Manager, Ms G Murphy (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services), Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Mr C Given (Finance Services), Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy, Head of Education, Mr J Ferrie (Education Services), Property Services Manager and Corporate Communications Manager.

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

650 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 650

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor McCabe, with Provost Moran substituting.

Councillors Clocherty and McColgan declared an interest in Agenda Item 12 (Inverclyde Leisure – Annual Review of Business Plan).

651 Communities 2016/17 Revenue Budget – Period 5 to 31 August 2016 651

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the 2016/17 Communities Revenue Budget position as at Period 5 to 31 August 2016.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the current projected overspend of £37,000 for the Communities 2016/17 Revenue Budget as at Period 5 to 31 August 2016;
- (2) that the Committee note that the current projected overspend of £37,000 is being contained within the overall Education & Communities Directorate Revenue Budget due to a projected underspend of £197,000 in the Education Budget; and
- (3) that the Committee approve the virements totalling £125,000 as detailed in paragraph 7.1 and appendix 5 of the report.

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- 652 Communities Capital Programme 2016-2018 652**
- 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 Communities Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.
(Councillor Brooks entered the meeting during consideration of this item of business).
Decided: that the Committee note the progress of the specific projects as detailed in appendix 1 and the projected acceleration of £55,000 or 2% of expenditure.
- 653 A 3 Year Plan for Co-ordinating Community Learning and Development (CLD) in Inverclyde 2015-2018: Progress Report Year 1 653**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the progress made in implementing the 3 year plan for co-ordinating Community Learning and Development in Inverclyde 2015-2018.
It was noted that this would be Ms Maggie Paterson's last meeting of the Committee prior to her retirement. On behalf of the Members of the Committee, the Convener asked that his appreciation for the work undertaken by Ms Paterson be recorded and he extended his best wishes to her for the future.
Decided:
(1) that the Committee note the progress made in the implementation of a 3 year plan for Community Learning and Development; and
(2) that approval be given to the recommendations as set out in Section 5 of the review.
- 654 Watt Complex Refurbishment – Progress Report 654**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) informing the Committee of progress on the Watt Complex Refurbishment project, the necessary decant of library and museum archives, books and artefacts and the likely service disruption period during the contract works and (2) seeking authority to tender for two phases of contract works.
Decided:
(1) that authority be granted to proceed to tender for two phases of works and that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal & Property Services to accept the lowest acceptable tenders provided the costs are within the budget allocation for the project;
(2) that approval be given for the decant plan and likely closure periods of the library and museum to allow the contract work, decant and reinstatement to take place and that it be noted that, subject to approval by the Watt Trust Trustees, Phase 1 of the decant will be funded from the Watt Trust Cy-pres Scheme;
(3) that the Committee note the options for the potential temporary delivery of service during the closure of the library and museum will be submitted to the January meeting of the Committee;
(4) that the Committee note that Officers are continuing to examine ways of funding further internal works to the Watt Complex and will submit reports at the appropriate time; and
(5) that the decision of the Committee be referred, for noting, to the next meeting of the Inverclyde Council, as Trustees of the Watt Institution.

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655 McLean Museum Draft Collections Development Policy 655

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval of an updated Collections Development Policy for the McLean Museum and Art Gallery, the adoption and implementation of which are a requirement of the Arts Council England (ACE) Accreditation Scheme which sets nationally agreed standards for museums in the United Kingdom.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee approve the McLean Museum Collections Development Policy to meet the requirements of the Arts Council England (ACE) Accreditation Scheme; and
- (2) that the decision of the Committee be referred, for noting, to the next meeting of the Inverclyde Council, as Trustees of the Watt Institution.

656 Inverclyde Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2017/18 – 2021/22 656

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval for submission to the Scottish Government of the new 5 year Inverclyde Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) covering the period from 2017/18 to 2021/22.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee approve the Strategic Housing Investment Plan for the five year period from 2017/18 to 2021/22 for submission by the Council to the Scottish Government by 30 November 2016; and
- (2) that the Committee note the projects included in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2017/18 – 2021/22, as detailed in the appendix to the report.

657 Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy 2017-2022 657

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval to submit the consultative draft of the Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy 2017-2022 to the Scottish Government for the “peer review” process, previously agreed by CoSLA and for public consultation.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee approve the submission of the consultative draft of the Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy 2017-2022 to the Scottish Government for “peer review”; and
- (2) that the Committee approve the submission of the consultative draft of the Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy 2017-2022 for public consultation.

658 Inverclyde Youth Participation Strategy 2016-2019 658

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking (1) endorsement of the Inverclyde Youth Participation Strategy 2016-2019 and (2) commitment in principle to support the establishment of a Joint Summit for Youth Participation.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee endorse the Inverclyde Youth Participation Strategy 2016-2019; and
- (2) that it be agreed to make a commitment in principle to support the establishment of a Joint Summit for Youth Participation.

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659 Gourock Highland Games**659**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development recommending a permanent move for the Gourock Highland Games to the Battery Park, following the success of the event staged there in 2016.

Councillor Ahlfeld was present as a Member with a specific ward-based interest in the item and, with the consent of the Convener, participated in the debate.

Decided:

- (1) that the successful delivery of the 2016 Gourock Highland Games be welcomed;
- (2) that the Council's thanks be expressed to Chieftain Isabel Lind OBE;
- (3) that it be agreed that the Battery Park become the permanent home of the Games;
- (4) that it be agreed that the event continue to have free entry; and
- (5) that the report be remitted to the Policy & Resources Committee with the recommendation that consideration be given to making appropriate one-off funding available to continue with Gourock Highland Games week, in consultation with Gourock Regeneration Forum.

660 Future Funding for Under 19 Sports Clubs**660**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing options relative to the saving previously agreed to the waivers budget.

There was circulated to the Committee, amended appendix 3 (Future Funding Options). Councillor Ahlfeld was present as a Member with a specific interest in the item as the Council's Sports Champion and, with the consent of the Convener, participated in the debate.

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

Decided: that the Committee agree to Option 2(a) as set out in the amended appendix 3 circulated to the Committee reducing the grant to existing clubs proportionately for 2017/18, making provision of £30,000 for new entrants to the scheme but excluding the provision of a challenge fund.

661 Inverclyde Leisure – Annual Review of Business Plan**661**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the second annual review of Inverclyde Leisure's 3 year Business Plan (2014-17) for approval.

Councillors Clocherty and McColgan declared a non-financial interest in this item 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.

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

Decided: that approval be given to the Annual Report for Inverclyde Leisure 2015/16 as appended to the report.

The Communities business concluded at 3.55pm.

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The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4.05pm with Councillor Campbell-Sturgess, Mr Macdougall, Rev Donaldson, Mrs Gilpin and Mr Tracey joining the meeting. Councillor Brennan did not return to the meeting at this juncture.

662 Education 2016/17 Revenue Budget – Period 5 to 31 August 2016 662

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the 2016/17 Education Revenue Budget position as at Period 5 to 31 August 2016.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £197,000 for the 2016/17 Education Revenue Budget as at Period 5 to 31 August 2016; and
- (2) that the Committee approve the virement of £95,000 from the Education Revenue Budget to the Communities Revenue Budget as detailed in paragraph 7.1 and appendix 5 of the report.

663 Education Capital Programme 2016-2018 Progress 663

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.

(Councillor Brennan entered the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress of the specific projects detailed in appendix 1 of the report; and
- (2) that the Committee approve the issue of tenders for the Bluebird Family Centre refurbishment project and grant delegated authority 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, as detailed in paragraph 7.4 of the report.

664 Tackling Unnecessary Bureaucracy and Undue Workload in Schools 664

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the review by Education Scotland of the actions taken by Inverclyde Education Services to tackle unnecessary bureaucracy and undue workload within schools. The report advised that Inverclyde Council had been placed in the top group and that inspectors had found that the local authority had been proactive in providing support and guidance which minimises workload demands for staff within its schools.

Decided: that the Committee note the contents of the report.

665 Secondary Attainment Challenge 665

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the progress of the secondary plan for the Scottish Attainment Challenge.

Decided: that consideration be continued to the private session of the meeting to allow consideration of the full bid for Attainment Challenge funding for secondary schools.

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- 666 Review of School Estate Funding Model 2016 666**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Chief Financial Officer (1) providing an update on the current position of the School Estate Funding Model and (2) seeking approval of the revised model.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee approve the revised School Estate Funding Model and the associated changes and revisions highlighted in sections 4 and 5 of the report; and
 (2) that the Committee note that the financial implications of the revised model will be built into the Council's revised Financial Strategy due to be submitted to the Inverclyde Council in December 2016.
- 667 Inverclyde Summer Literacy Lunch Clubs 2016 667**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the Summer Lunch Clubs 2016.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the contents of the report be noted; and
 (2) that the Committee continue to support the provision of lunches and family learning sessions during the school holiday period.
- 668 Establishing the Capacity of Secondary Schools in Inverclyde 668**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) on the proposed capacities and maximum intake to year groups for secondary schools in Inverclyde and (2) requesting approval of a number of recommended changes.
- Decided:** that the Committee agree to the staged approach to the revision of capacities and the maximum intake for year groups in secondary schools, as detailed in 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.**
- 669 Secondary Attainment Challenge – Appendix 1 669**
- There was submitted appendix 1 relative to Agenda Item 16 (Secondary Attainment Challenge) comprising Inverclyde Council's full bid for Attainment Challenge funding for secondary schools.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the contents of the bid and the identified spending plan; and
 (2) that the Committee agree to the appointment of Barnardo's in terms of Contract Standing Order 19.2.