

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 17 JANUARY 2017

Education and Communities Committee

Tuesday 17 January 2017 at 2pm

Present: Councillors Brennan, Brooks, Campbell-Sturgess, Clocherty, Loughran, McCabe, Provost Moran (for Councillor 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: Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy, Acting Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities, Community Safety & Wellbeing Manager, Libraries, Museums & Archives Manager, Mr H Scott (Community Learning & Development), Head of Legal & Property Services, Ms G Murphy and Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services), Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Mr C Given (Finance Services), Head of Education, Property Services Manager, Ms K Barclay and Ms E Hamilton (Education Services) and Corporate Communications Manager.

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

40 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

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Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor McColgan, with Provost Moran substituting, Councillor Jones and Mr Thomson.

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:

Agenda Item 9 (Education Scotland Report on St Ninian's Primary School) – Councillor McCabe.

Agenda Item 18 (Governance of Council Commissioned External Organisations) – Councillors Campbell-Sturgess, Clocherty and McCabe.

Agenda Item 19 (Annual Update on the Beacon Arts Centre: The Greenock Arts Guild Limited) – Councillor McCabe.

41 Communities 2016/17 Revenue Budget – Period 7 to 31 October 2016

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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 7 to 31 October 2016.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the current projected overspend of £16,000 for the 2016/17 Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2016; and

(2) that the Committee note that the current projected overspend of £16,000 is being contained within the overall Education & Communities Directorate Revenue Budget due to a projected underspend of £515,000 in the Education Revenue Budget.

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- 42 Communities Capital Programme 2016-2018 42**
- 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 Wilson entered the meeting during consideration of this item of business).
Decided: that the Committee note the progress of the specific projects detailed in appendix 1 to the report and the projected acceleration of £998,000 or 9.8% expenditure.
- 43 Watt Complex Closure – Alternative Service Provision 43**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval to use an alternative location from which to deliver a Library and Museum service to residents and visitors to Inverclyde during the closure period of the Watt Complex for refurbishment works.
Decided:
(1) that the Committee approve use of part of the Business Store as a temporary location from which to run the Watt Library and the McLean Museum for a total estimated period of around 18 months, with the building being open to the public for around 12 months of that time; 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.
- 44 Implementing a Trusted Trader Scheme in Inverclyde 44**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval to implement a Trusted Trader Scheme in Inverclyde.
Decided:
(1) that the Committee approve the development and launch of an Inverclyde Trusted Trader Scheme and that an update on the implementation of the scheme be submitted to the Committee in due course; and
(2) that the Committee approve a charge to participating firms of £50 in the first year of the scheme, increasing to £100 in subsequent years.
- 45 Public Space CCTV Provision - Update 45**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the outcome of the formal approach to Police Scotland for funding for the ongoing maintenance and monitoring of the CCTV system, as agreed by the Inverclyde Council at its meeting on 29 September 2016.
Decided:
(1) that the Committee note that there is no commitment of new, current or future funding for CCTV provision in Inverclyde from Police Scotland; and
(2) that it be agreed to continue to pursue this issue through CoSLA and with Police Scotland.

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46 Grants to Voluntary Organisations 2017-2018 46

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development requesting the Committee to give consideration to funding from the Grants to Voluntary Organisations Budget in 2017-18.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee agree to the one year extension of funding to all organisations previously in receipt of three year awards, which meet all conditions of grant; and
- (2) that it be noted that the cost of the one year extension is contained within the existing 2017-18 core budget for Grants to Voluntary Organisations.

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 three 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.

Item	Paragraph(s)
Clune Park Estate	6 and 12
Governance of Council Commissioned External Organisations	6
Annual Update on the Beacon Arts Centre: The Greenock Arts Guild Ltd	6

47 Clune Park Estate 47

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services (1) on the progress of the regeneration plan for the Clune Park Estate, Port Glasgow and (2) reflecting the critical legal advice on the next steps.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the contents of the report;
- (2) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development to continue to implement the course of action set out in section 6 of the report, all in consultation with the Head of Legal & Property Services; and
- (3) that it be noted that progress reports will continue to be submitted to the Committee at its standing meetings.

48 Governance of Council Commissioned External Organisations 48

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the governance of external organisations which deliver commissioned services to the Council or which are in receipt of grants supporting service delivery.

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Councillor McCabe declared a non-financial interest in this item as a member of the Board of Kilmacolm Community Centre Co Ltd and River Clyde Homes and Councillors Campbell-Sturgess and Clocherty declared a non-financial interest 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 agree the funding for Craighends Community Centre, Branchton Community Centre and Youth Connections for 2017-18 as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report;
- (2) that the Committee note the governance arrangements for the self-managed community centres and Inverclyde Leisure detailed at appendix 1;
- (3) that the Committee note the national governance arrangements for Housing Associations described at paragraph 5.3 of the report; and
- (4) that an annual report be submitted to the Committee on the performance of River Clyde Homes against the stock transfer agreement from 2017-18 onwards.

49 Annual Update on the Beacon Arts Centre: The Greenock Arts Guild Ltd

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an annual update on the Beacon Arts Centre/ Greenock Arts Guild Ltd as part of the Council's commitment to reporting on the governance of external organisations.

Councillor McCabe declared a non-financial interest in this item as a member of the Board of Greenock Arts Guild. 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.

The Committee agreed to note the position as detailed in the report and agree the continuation of established governance procedures and the submission of a further report, all as detailed in the appendix.

The Communities business concluded at 3.35pm.

The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4pm with Mr Macdougall, Rev Donaldson, Mrs Gilpin and Mr Tracey joining the meeting.

50 Education Scotland Report on St Ninian's Primary School

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising the Committee of an Education Scotland external inspection of St Ninian's Primary School. The report advised that the school had received a positive report from Education Scotland with all four indicators of quality being found to be satisfactory and no more visits requiring to be made in connection with the inspection.

Councillor McCabe did not return to the meeting for this item, having declared a personal interest as the spouse of the Head Teacher of the school.

The Committee heard Mrs Lesley McCabe, Head Teacher, who spoke in relation to the improvement plans put in place following the inspection.

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Decided: that the Committee note the Education Scotland report on St Ninian's Primary School.

Councillor McCabe returned to the meeting and Councillor Campbell-Sturgess left the meeting at this juncture.

51 Education 2016/17 Revenue Budget – Period 7 to 31 October 2016 51

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 7 to 31 October 2016.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £515,000 for the 2016/17 Education Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2016; and
- (2) that the Committee approve the virement of £41,000 as detailed in paragraph 7.1 and appendix 5 of the report.

52 Education Capital Programme 2016-2018 Progress 52

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) providing an update 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; and
- (2) that the Committee approve the issue of tenders for the Lady Alice Primary School refurbishment project and for delegated authority to be granted to the Head of Legal & Property Services to accept the most economically advantageous tender provided that the cost is within the budget allocation for the project, as detailed in paragraph 6.2 of the report.

53 Education and Communities Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2016/19 - Performance Report 53

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 (CDIP) 2016/19, focusing on improvement actions which sit within the Education, Inclusive Education & Culture and Safer & Inclusive Communities Services.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress made in implementing the Education, Communities & Organisational Development Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2016/19;
- (2) that a report be submitted to the Committee on the roll-out of the pilot project for schools on-line payments; and
- (3) that the third progress report be submitted to the meeting of the Committee on 13 June 2017.

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- 54 Update in Respect of the Governance of External Early Learning and Childcare Partner Establishments 54**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update in respect of the governance of external Early Learning and Childcare partner establishments.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the contents of the report and the governance arrangements in place to monitor the position of external Early Years partner centres; and
 - (2) that it be noted that all of the information and checks carried out indicate that all of the Council's external partner centres are in a sustainable position to continue partnership working with the Council.
- 55 National Improvement Framework for Scottish Education 55**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development informing the Committee of the Scottish Government's National Improvement Framework for Scottish Education which is intended to drive both excellence and equity in Scottish Education.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the key priorities outlined in the National Improvement Framework for Scottish Education and the drivers of improvement which support these priorities; and
 - (2) that the Committee note the associated legislative duties from the Education (Scotland) Act 2016 which are scheduled to take effect from August 2017.
- 56 Outcome of the Consultation on the Relocation of Glenbrae Children's Centre and Kelly Street Children's Centre 56**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing information on the outcome of the public consultation on the proposed relocation of Glenbrae Children's Centre and Kelly Street Children's Centre.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee agree the content of the outcome reports of the public consultation on the proposed relocation of Glenbrae Children's Centre and Kelly Street Children's Centre; and
 - (2) that approval be given to the decision to relocate Glenbrae Children's Centre and Kelly Street Children's Centre, as detailed in the reports.
- 57 Draft Revised Policy for Admission and Pupil Placement in Mainstream Schools 57**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval for proposed changes to the 2009 Policy on Admission and Pupil Placement in Mainstream Schools, following a statutory consultation exercise.
(Councillor Wilson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided: that it be agreed to implement the revised Policy on Admission and Pupil Placement in Mainstream Schools as outlined in appendix B of the report, subject to any reference to “Catholic Faith” being changed to “Roman Catholic Faith”.

58 Bailey Gwynne Report – Inverclyde Response

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There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy informing the Committee of the recommendations from the recently published report to Aberdeen Council on the circumstances of the death of Bailey Gwynne in 2015 and the proposed response by Inverclyde Council to these recommendations.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee acknowledge the contents of the report and the annotated recommendations contained in appendix 1;
- (2) that the Committee agree to the formation of a short life strategic implementation group to consult with all stakeholders with a view to implementing the agreed amended recommendations contained in appendix 1; and
- (3) that the Committee take account of the advice given in the report with regard to changes to policy and practice in Inverclyde educational establishments.