

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Educational Services Committee held in Committee Room 3, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, on Wednesday, 15 May 2013 at 10.05 a.m.

Present: Councillors George Black, Gail Casey, William Hendrie, David McBride, Jonathan McColl, John Millar, John Mooney, Ian Murray, Tommy Rainey*, Martin Rooney, Kath Ryall, Hazel Sorrell and Michelle Stewart, and Mrs Barbara Barnes, Mrs Gemma Doyle, Mr George Hill*, Miss Ellen McBride, Ms Josephine McDaid and Miss Sheila Rennie.

* Arrived later in the meeting.

Attending: Terry Lanagan, Executive Director of Educational Services; Laura Mason, Head of Service, Educational Services; Gill Graham, Section Head, Libraries & Cultural Services; Joe Traynor, Senior Officer, Arts & Heritage; Shona Crawford, Principal Educational Psychologist; Craig Jardine, Corporate Asset Manager; Alan Douglas, Manager of Legal Services; and Scott Kelly, Committee Officer, Legal, Democratic and Regulatory Services.

Also Attending: Ms Janice McIntyre, Head of Centre, Auchnacraig Early Education and Childcare Centre; Charlie Kennedy, Headteacher, St Mary's Primary School, Alexandria; and Ms Catriona Robertson, Headteacher, Vale of Leven Academy.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Provost Douglas McAllister and Mrs Lorraine Bonnar.

Councillor Michelle Stewart in the Chair

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Stewart, McBride and Millar declared a non-financial interest in the item under the heading 'Regeneration of the Schools Estate: Our Lady & St Patrick's High School', being parents of pupils at the school.

Note: Councillor Rainey entered the meeting at this point.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Educational Services Committee held on 20 February 2013 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

Having heard the Head of Service, Educational Services, in response to a Member's question concerning the item under the heading 'Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement in West Dunbartonshire – Update', the Committee agreed to note the position in respect of discussions which had taken place between Management and the Trades Unions in relation to teachers' workloads.

LOCAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR TEACHERS

The Minutes of Meeting of the Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers held on 19 March 2013 were submitted and all decisions contained therein were approved.

Note: Mr Hill entered the meeting at this point.

STRATEGY TO RAISE ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT IN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE – UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services providing an update on activity and progress with regard to implementing West Dunbartonshire's Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement.

It was noted that incorrect drafts of the appendices to the report had been issued with the original papers for the meeting, and the correct versions of these appendices, presenting the same information in a different format, were made available to the Members of the Committee.

Having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services and the Head of Service, Educational Services, in explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the progress made in the past three months with the Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement in West Dunbartonshire; and
- (2) to note that a further update would be submitted to the Committee at its August 2013 meeting.

REGENERATION OF THE SCHOOLS ESTATE: KILPATRICK SECONDARY SCHOOL

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 3 April 2013 (Pages XXX refer), the relevant excerpt from the minutes of that meeting was submitted together with a report by the Executive Director of Educational Services seeking approval of processes required to allow the Council to proceed with a project to construct new buildings and campus to replace the existing Kilpatrick Secondary School.

Following discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services and the Corporate Asset Manager in explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to approve the design, procurement and construction of a new Kilpatrick Secondary school for pupils with Additional Support Needs on the current Kilpatrick campus and instruct the Executive Director of Educational Services and the Corporate Asset Management Team to take all necessary measures to progress this project;
- (2) to note that the project would be procured through Hub West Scotland;
- (3) to authorise that site investigations be undertaken on the current school site, adjacent to the primary school building; and
- (4) to authorise the Executive Director of Educational Services, in consultation with the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development, the Head of Finance and Resources and the Head of Legal, Democratic and Regulatory Services to procure the necessary technical, legal and financial support through the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) Framework Agreement.

REGENERATION OF THE SCHOOLS ESTATE: BELLSMYRE SCHOOLS & EECC CO-LOCATION

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 3 April 2013 (Pages XXX refer), the relevant excerpt from the minutes of that meeting was submitted together with a report by the Executive Director of Educational Services seeking approval of processes required to allow the Council to proceed with a project to construct new buildings and campus to replace the existing Aitkenbar Primary School, St Peter's Primary School, St Peter's Early Education and Childcare Centre (EECC) and Andrew B Cameron EECC.

Following discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services and the Corporate Asset Manager in explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to approve the construction of new buildings and campus to replace the existing Aitkenbar Primary School, St Peter's Primary School, St Peter's Early Education and Childcare Centre (EECC) and Andrew B Cameron EECC;
- (2) to note that the project would be procured through Hub West Scotland;
- (3) to note that the present St Peter's site had been identified as the most appropriate site following informal consultation;
- (4) to authorise that site investigations be undertaken on the St Peter's site;
- (5) to note that, following completion of site investigations, a further report would be tabled at a future Educational Services Committee meeting detailing the results of the investigations and seeking authority to commence statutory consultation under terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010; and
- (6) to authorise the Executive Director of Educational Services, in consultation with the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development, the Head of Finance and Resources and the Head of Legal, Democratic and Regulatory Services to procure the necessary technical, legal and financial support through the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) Framework Agreement.

REGENERATION OF THE SCHOOLS ESTATE: OUR LADY & ST PATRICK'S HIGH SCHOOL

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council held on 3 April 2013 (Pages XXX refer), the relevant excerpt from the minutes of that meeting was submitted together with a report by the Executive Director of Educational Services seeking approval of processes required to allow the Council to proceed with a project to construct new buildings and campus to replace the existing Our Lady and St Patrick's High School (OLSP).

Following discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services, the Corporate Asset Manager, and the Manager of Legal Services in explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to approve the construction of a new school building and campus for Our Lady and St Patrick's High School;
- (2) that the Council would comply with Scottish Government funding conditions;
- (3) to note that the project would be procured through Hub West Scotland and to authorise the Executive Director of Educational Services, in consultation with relevant officers, to progress the project to conclusion;

- (4) to note that Posties Park had been identified as the highest scoring site following a desk-top feasibility study;
- (5) to authorise that desk-top investigations be carried out on three additional sites; Cunninghame Graham Memorial Park and Dumbarton Joint Hospital (as extensions to the existing school site) and Knowetop Farm;
- (6) to authorise that site investigations be undertaken on the Posties Park site and on other high scoring alternative sites, these investigations to be funded from the Capital Programme;
- (7) to note that the approximate cost of each site investigation would be £20,000 to £30,000;
- (8) to note that, following completion of site investigations on all high-scoring sites, and further investigation regarding the potential need for a footbridge, a further report would be tabled at a future Educational Services Committee meeting detailing the results of the investigations and seeking authority to commence statutory consultation under the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010; and
- (9) to authorise the Executive Director of Educational Services, in consultation with the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development, the Head of Finance and Resources and the Head of Legal, Democratic and Regulatory Services to procure the necessary technical, legal and financial support through the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) Framework Agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

Having heard Councillor Stewart, Chair, the Committee agreed to adjourn for a short period.

The meeting reconvened at 11.20 a.m. with all those members shown on the sederunt in attendance, with the exception of Councillor Mooney.

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS REVIEW

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Educational Services Committee held on 20 February 2013 (Pages XXX refer), a report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services providing details of the action plan emanating from the Employability Skills Review.

It was noted that an incorrect draft of the appendix to the report had been issued with the original papers for the meeting, and the correct version of the appendix was submitted (tabled) to the Members of the Committee.

Following discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services and the Head of Service, Educational Services, in explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the content of the Action Plan from the Employability Skills Review.

Note: Councillor Mooney entered the meeting during consideration of this item.

STRATEGIES FOR LITERACY, NUMERACY AND HEALTH & WELLBEING IN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services providing information on three key strategies in West Dunbartonshire which are the "responsibility of all" – Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing.

Following discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services, the Head of Service, Educational Services, and the Principal Psychologist in explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the content of the report and its appendices; and
- (2) to note that the Head of Service, Educational Services, would speak with Ms McDaid outwith the meeting in relation to the Continuing Professional Development opportunities relating to Health & Wellbeing which existed for teachers.

VALIDATED SELF-EVALUATION

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services providing information on the forthcoming Validated Self-Evaluation (VSE) and giving an overview of the process.

Having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services, the Committee noted that Education Scotland had announced a delay in the VSE process and there was submitted (tabled) an updated schedule for the process.

The Committee agreed:-

- (1) to seek an update as to the progress with the VSE at the November 2013 Committee meeting; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE CPP INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLAN 2013-15

A report was submitted by the Director of the Community Health and Care Partnership and the Executive Director of Educational Services presenting the West Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Integrated Children's Services Plan (ICSP) 2013-15.

Having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services in explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to endorse the local CPP ICSP;
- (2) to re-affirm its commitment to the priorities within the ICSP across West Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partners; and
- (3) to commend the work of the CHCP staff who led and were involved in its development and on-going implementation.

BOOKBUG PROGRAMME PARENT SURVEY

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services:-

- (a) providing information on the feedback from the recent Parent Consultation Survey regarding the changes to the Early Years Programme in Libraries, and in particular those affecting Bookbug sessions; and
- (b) advising of changes to the delivery of Bookbug and Storytime sessions as a result of parent feedback.

It was noted that an incorrect draft of the report had been issued with the original papers for the meeting, and that the correct version had been issued to Members of the Committee in advance of the meeting.

Following discussion and having heard the Section Head, Libraries & Cultural Services, in explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, Councillor Black moved:-

That the Committee agrees:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report and the results of feedback from parents of children attending Bookbug sessions, and to instruct officers to continue to work on resolving issues identified; and
- (2) to note the impact of feedback from parents, staff, and volunteers on the future delivery of Bookbug and Storytime Sessions.

Thereafter, as an amendment, Councillor Rooney moved:-

That the Committee agrees:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report and the results of feedback from parents of children attending Bookbug sessions; and
- (2) to note the impact of feedback from parents, staff, and volunteers on the future delivery of Bookbug and Storytime Sessions.

Having then heard the Manager of Legal Services in answer to a Member's question, Councillor Hendrie seconded Councillor Black's motion and Councillor McBride seconded Councillor Rooney's amendment.

On a vote being taken 16 Members voted for the amendment and 3 Members for the motion. The amendment was accordingly declared carried.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION AWARD: WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE SEWING MACHINE COLLECTION

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services providing information on:-

- (a) the prestigious award of status of 'Nationally Recognised Collection' to the Council's historical sewing machine collection by Museums Galleries Scotland, the national development organisation for museums in Scotland and the awarding body for Recognised status; and
- (b) the potential positive impact of this status ahead of a joint public announcement of the award by West Dunbartonshire Council and Museums Galleries Scotland.

It was noted that an incorrect draft of the report had been issued with the original papers for the meeting, and that the correct version had been issued to Members of the Committee in advance of the meeting.

Following discussion and having heard the Section Head, Libraries & Cultural Services, and the Senior Officer, Arts & Heritage, in explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report and the efforts being made by staff to ensure a national presence for West Dunbartonshire's museum collections;
- (2) to note the effort taken by officers in compiling the Recognition portfolio and application documentation;
- (3) to note the strategic development being made by Libraries and Culture as part of Educational Services to preserve, conserve and improve access to West Dunbartonshire's museum collections; and

- (4) to note the potential for increased external funding to support conservation of and access to the Council's museum collections through this award.

2012/17 EDUCATION SERVICE PLAN 2012/13 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services providing information on the 2012/13 Annual Performance Report on the 2012/17 Education Service Plan prepared by the Department of Educational Services which highlights performance across all of the services delivered by the Department for the period April 2012 to March 2013. A copy of the Service Plan Progress Report was provided as Appendix 1 to the report.

Following discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services and the Head of Service, Educational Services, in explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that further information on masterclasses in schools would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

VALEDICTORIES

Councillor Stewart, Chair, on behalf of the Committee, expressed her thanks to Mary Devine, Quality Improvement Manager, who was retiring from Council service, and to Mary Berrill, Quality Improvement Manager, who would be taking up a new appointment with Education Scotland.

The meeting closed at 12.15 p.m.