

EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee held in Meeting Room 3, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton on Wednesday, 13 June 2012 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Gail Casey, William Hendrie, David McBride*, Jonathan McColl, Patrick McGlinchey, Marie McNair, John Millar, Ian Murray, Tommy Rainey, Martin Rooney, Kath Ryall and Michelle Stewart, and Mrs Barbara Barnes, Mrs Gemma Doyle, Mr George Hill, Mr Brian Kirk, 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; Mary Berrill, Quality Improvement Manager; Gill Graham, Section Head, Libraries & Museums; Sally Michael, Principal Solicitor; and Scott Kelly, Committee Officer, Legal, Democratic and Regulatory Services.

Also Attending: Ms Janice McIntyre, Head of Centre, Auchnacraig Early Education and Childcare Centre; Mr Charlie Kennedy, Headteacher, St Mary's Primary School, Alexandria; Ms Catriona Robertson, Headteacher, Vale of Leven Academy; Ms Trudy Johnson, Director, Children's Hour Nursery; Ms Susan Boyce, Owner, and Ms Rebecca Poole, Manager, Bright Beginnings Nursery; Mr Simon Simpson, Headteacher, Levenvale Primary School; Ms Margaret Kenny, Headteacher, St. Mary's Primary School, Clydebank; and Mr Michael Vassie, Headteacher, St. Peter the Apostle High School.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors John Mooney and Hazel Sorrell.

Councillor Patrick McGlinchey in the Chair

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair, Councillor McGlinchey, welcomed all those present to the first meeting of the Committee under the new Council, and in particular those who were attending for the first time.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

PRESENTATION ON EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

A presentation was given by the Executive Director of Educational Services on the range of work carried out by Educational Services.

The main points covered in the presentation were:-

- An overview of the senior members of staff in Educational Services.
- An outline of the range of establishments and services overseen by the department.
- A description of the composition of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee.
- Background information on Education Scotland and its role in inspecting educational establishments.
- The key priorities for Educational Services.

In this respect a report was submitted by the Executive Director providing information relating to the presentation.

Having heard the Executive Director in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the content of the presentation.

Note: Councillor McBride and Miss Rennie entered the meeting during consideration of this item.

HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF EDUCATION: REPORT ON CHILDREN'S HOUR NURSERY

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services informing of the inspection of Children's Hour Nursery by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) and the subsequent report published by HMIE on 11 April 2012.

Having heard Ms Trudy Johnson, Director, Children's Hour Nursery, in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to congratulate the staff, parents and children of Children's Hour Nursery, for their achievements as recognised by HMIE in the report published on 11 April 2012; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

INTEGRATED INSPECTION BY THE CARE COMMISSION AND HM INSPECTORATE OF EDUCATION: FOLLOW-THROUGH REPORT ON BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services informing of the follow-through inspection of Bright Beginnings, one of the Council's Partnership Nurseries, carried out by West Dunbartonshire Council's Quality Improvement Service, and of the report published in April 2012.

Having heard Ms Rebecca Poole, Manager, Bright Beginnings Nursery, in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to congratulate the Manager, Senior Nursery Nurse, staff and children of Bright Beginnings, for their achievements as recognised by West Dunbartonshire Council Quality Improvement Service in the report published in April 2012; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Note: Ms Johnson, Ms Boyce and Ms Poole left the meeting at this point.

HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF EDUCATION: REPORT ON FOLLOW-THROUGH INSPECTION OF LEVENVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services informing of the follow-through inspection of Levenvale Primary School by the Quality Improvement Team of Educational Services and the subsequent report published by West Dunbartonshire Council in 2012.

Having heard the Head of Service, Educational Services, and Mr Simon Simpson, Headteacher, Levenvale Primary School, in further explanation of the report and in answer to a Member's questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to congratulate the Headteacher, staff and pupils of Levenvale Primary School, for their achievements as recognised by the Quality Improvement Unit in the report published in May 2012; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF EDUCATION: REPORT ON FOLLOW- THROUGH INSPECTION OF ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL (CLYDEBANK)

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services informing of the follow-through inspection of St. Mary's Primary School, Clydebank, by the Quality Improvement Team of Educational Services and the subsequent report published by West Dunbartonshire Council in May 2012.

Having heard the Head of Service, Educational Services, and Ms Margaret Kenny, Headteacher, St. Mary's Primary School, in further explanation of the report and in answer to a Member's questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to congratulate the Headteacher, staff and pupils of St. Mary's Primary School, for their achievements as recognised by the Quality Improvement Unit in the report published in May 2012; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF EDUCATION: REPORT ON ST. PETER THE APOSTLE HIGH SCHOOL

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services informing of the inspection of St. Peter the Apostle High School by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) and the subsequent report published by HMIE on 29 May 2012.

After discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services and Mr Michael Vassie, Headteacher, St. Peter the Apostle High School in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to congratulate the Headteacher, staff, parents and young people of St. Peter the Apostle High School, for their achievements as recognised by HMIE in this outstanding report published on 29 May 2012; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

Note: Mr Simpson, Ms Kenny and Mr Vassie left 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.

After discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services and the Head of Service, Educational Services, in answer to Members' questions, 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;
- (2) to seek a further update for the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee at its next meeting; and
- (3) that the Executive Director should forward the Raising Attainment booklet, attached as Appendix 2 to the report, to all Parent Councils.

CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – PROGRESS

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services providing a progress check on West Dunbartonshire's Implementation Plan for Curriculum for Excellence (CfE).

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

- (1) to note the contents of the report;
- (2) to request that an updated Implementation Plan be brought to the next meeting of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee; and
- (3) to note the concerns expressed by teaching staff in respect of the implementation of Curriculum of Excellence and its potential to have a detrimental effect on teachers' workloads, and the assurance provided by the Executive Director that such concerns were taken seriously.

LIBRARIES & MUSEUMS SERVICE UPDATE

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

- (a) advising of the recent expansion and current progress within the revised Libraries & Museums Service;
- (b) informing of achievements and forthcoming initiatives within Libraries & Museums; and
- (c) recommending that the Libraries & Museums Section is re-named 'Libraries & Cultural Services'.

After discussion and having heard the Executive Director of Educational Services and the Section Head, Libraries & Museums, in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the recent expansion of the amalgamated Libraries & Museums Section, and current progress;
- (2) to note the achievements and forthcoming initiatives within Libraries & Museums; and
- (3) the change of name to Libraries and Cultural Services.

SCOTTISH SURVEY OF LITERACY AND NUMERACY 2011 (NUMERACY)

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services informing of the results of the numeracy survey undertaken in Scottish schools and published in March 2012, the full publication being attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

After discussion and having heard officers in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to receive further information regarding West Dunbartonshire's progress in literacy and numeracy; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

SCOTTISH EDUCATION AWARDS 2012 AND TIMES EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT AWARDS 2012

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services informing of the schools and individuals from West Dunbartonshire which have been short listed for the 2012 Scottish Education Awards and the 2012 Times Educational Supplement Awards (TESAs).

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

- (1) to note the success of West Dunbartonshire Council in the 2012 Scottish Education Awards and TESAs;
- (2) to congratulate the schools and individuals concerned, and to note that Councillor McGlinchey would write to them on behalf of the Committee; and
- (3) to note that the Scottish Education Awards had taken place on 12 June 2012 and that Mr Iain Ellis had won the Parents as Partners in Learning Award.

The meeting closed at 11.45 a.m.