

## **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

At a Meeting of the Educational Services Committee held in Committee Room 3, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton on Wednesday, 4 June 2014 at 2.00 p.m.

**Present:** Provost Douglas McAllister and Councillors George Black, Gail Casey, William Hendrie, David McBride, Michelle McGinty, John Millar, Ian Murray, Tommy Rainey, Martin Rooney, Kath Ryall and Hazel Sorrell, and Mrs Gemma Doyle, Miss Ellen McBride and Miss Sheila Rennie.

**Attending:** Terry Lanagan, Executive Director of Educational Services; Laura Mason, Head of Service, Educational Services; Chris Smith, Service Manager, Educational Services; Alan Douglas, Manager of Legal Services; and Scott Kelly, Committee Officer, Legal, Democratic and Regulatory Services.

**Also Attending:** Ms Catriona Robertson, Headteacher, Vale of Leven Academy; Ms Janice McIntyre, Head of Centre, Auchnacraig Early Education and Childcare Centre; Mr Stewart Paterson, Teachers' Convener, E.I.S.; and Mr Phil Denning and Ms Marion Burns, Education Scotland.

**Apologies:** Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Jonathan McColl and John Mooney, and Mrs Barbara Barnes and Ms Josephine McDaid.

**Councillor Michelle McGinty in the Chair**

### **CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Before commencing with the business of the meeting, Councillor McGinty, Chair, welcomed Mr Phil Denning and Ms Marion Burns, representatives of Education Scotland, to the meeting.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

## **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Minutes of Meetings of the Educational Services Committee held on 5 March 2014 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

## **LOCAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR TEACHERS**

The Minutes of Meeting of the Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers held on 25 March 2014 were submitted and all decisions contained therein were approved.

## **EARLY YEARS: PROVISION FOR 2 YEAR OLDS**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services seeking approval to implement a proposal to provide Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) to eligible children in 2014/15, in accordance with the requirements of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act.

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

- (1) to approve a change in provision at Meadowview Early Learning and Childcare Centre (EECC) from 0-5 years to 0-3 years;
- (2) to note that the Executive Director of Educational Services would provide an update on the development of this option and proposals to accommodate the further expansion in eligibility for 2015/16 by November 2014; and
- (3) to note the position in respect of Scottish Government funding for ELC.

Note: Ms McIntyre left the meeting at this point.

## **LANGUAGE LEARNING 1+2 APPROACH IN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE**

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

- (a) the Educational Services Implementation Strategy for Language Learning 1+2; and
- (b) the cluster learning community Language Two choices for West Dunbartonshire schools.

After hearing the Executive Director, it was noted that the report had been circulated to Members without the Annex to Appendix 1 and there was submitted (tabled) a copy of the missing Annex.

Following discussion and having heard the Head of Service, Educational Services, and Mr Paterson, Teachers' Convener, E.I.S., in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) the content of the Educational Services Implementation Strategy for Language Learning 1+2;
- (2) the cluster learning community Language Two choices as follows:-
  - Clydebank High School: Spanish
  - Dumbarton Academy: Spanish
  - Our Lady and St. Patrick's High School: Spanish
  - Vale of Leven Academy: French;
- (3) to note the content of the action plan;
- (4) that further discussion of any concerns of teaching staff in relation to the implementation of Language Learning 1+2 should take place in the first instance at meetings of the Sub-Group of the Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers (LNCT); and
- (5) that thereafter any teacher workload issues relating to the implementation of Language Learning 1+2 should be discussed at meetings of the LNCT whose minutes would in due course be submitted to the Educational Services Committee for ratification.

### **DRAFT 2014 UPDATE TO THE 2012/17 SERVICE PLAN**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services informing of the content of the draft update for the reporting year 2014/15 of the 2012/17 Service Plan prepared by Educational Services and seeking comment on the content of the Plan, a copy of which was provided as Appendix 1.

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

- (1) to note the content of the draft prior to the finalising of the 2014 update of the departmental Service Plan for 2012/17; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

## **2012/17 EDUCATION SERVICE PLAN – 2013/14 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services informing of the 2013/14 Annual Performance Report on the 2012/17 Education Service Plan prepared by Educational Services which highlighted performance across all the services delivered by the Department for the period April 2013 to March 2014. A copy of the Service Plan Progress Report was provided as Appendix 1 to the report.

Having heard the Executive Director in answer to a Member's question, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that a report on the next phase of the Schools Estate Management Plan would be submitted to the September 2014 meeting of the Infrastructure, Regeneration and Economic Development Committee and that thereafter a report on the same subject would be submitted to a future meeting of the Educational Services Committee; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

## **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.

Following discussion and having heard the Executive Director, the Head of Service, Educational Services, and the Headteacher, Vale of Leven Academy, 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; and
- (2) to note that a further update would be submitted to the Committee at its September 2014 meeting.

## **VALIDATED SELF-EVALUATION**

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services informing of the publication of West Dunbartonshire Council's Validated Self-Evaluation (VSE) Report for Educational Services, a copy of which was provided as Appendix 1.

The Executive Director was heard in explanation of the report. He then invited Mr Phil Denning, Education Scotland, to speak. Mr Denning provided the Committee with an overview of the VSE process and expressed his thanks to West Dunbartonshire Council staff, partner agencies and Elected Members for their involvement in the process.

The Executive Director then expressed his own thanks to Elected Members for their engagement with VSE.

The Committee agreed:-

- (1) to acknowledge the significant contribution of staff, young people and partners to the VSE activity and the subsequent positive report; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the positive report.

The meeting closed at 3.30 p.m.