

RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Recruitment Committee held on Monday 8 March 2004 in Committee Room 2, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton at 5.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors Denis Agnew, Margaret Bootland, Geoff Calvert, James McCallum, Craig McLaughlin and Andy White.

Attending: Tim Huntingford, Chief Executive; and Gerry McInerney, Head of Personnel Services.

Councillor Andy White in the Chair

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

2085 The Committee approved the following resolution:-

2086 "That under Section 50A (4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act."

POST OF DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES

2087 The Committee reconvened to consider media reports on the appointment of Ms. Carole McAlpine as Director of Education and Cultural Services.

2088 The Chief Executive reported to the Committee the details of a meeting he had with Ms. McAlpine. This report fully explored the background to the media claims. In addition the Chief Executive outlined accurate police records information he had received from the Chief Constable.

2089 The Committee heard from the Head of Personnel Services who advised on the associated employment contract issues and recruitment procedures. The Head of Personnel confirmed that the Council screened candidates on their skills, knowledge, experience, qualifications, health and criminal records. It was noted that nothing in the information obtained on Ms. McAlpine challenged the recommendation to appoint her.

2090 Following discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to confirm the initial recommendation for the post of Director of Education and Cultural Services;

- (2) to note some Members' concerns about the need to maintain trust and confidence in the Director of Education and Cultural Services as well as highlighting its commitment to provide strong support to Ms. McAlpine while she is working for West Dunbartonshire Council; and
- (3) that a copy of the Minutes of the Meeting be issued to Ms. McAlpine for her information.

The Meeting closed at 5.45 p.m.