

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Educational Services Committee held in the Council Chamber, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 7 March 2018 at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Provost William Hendrie and Councillors Jim Brown, Karen Conaghan, Ian Dickson, Diane Docherty, Jim Finn, Caroline McAllister, Jonathan McColl, John Millar, John Mooney and Martin Rooney, and Mrs Barbara Barnes, Mr Gavin Corrigan, Mr Iain Ellis, Miss Ellen McBride and Miss Sheila Rennie.

Attending: Angela Wilson, Strategic Director - Transformation & Public Service Reform; Laura Mason, Chief Education Officer; Andrew Brown, Senior Education Officer - Performance and Improvement; Julie McGrogan, Senior Education Officer - Raising Attainment/Improving Learning; Craig Jardine, Capital Investment Programme Manager; Geraldine Lyden, HR Business Partner; Susan Mullin, Transport Co-ordinator, Education, Learning & Attainment; Alan Douglas, Legal Manager; and Scott Kelly, Committee Officer.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Daniel Lennie and Ms Julia Strang.

Councillor Karen Conaghan in the Chair

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 MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Educational Services Committee held on 6 December 2017 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 12 December 2017 were submitted and all decisions contained therein were approved.

OPEN FORUM

The Committee noted that no open forum questions had been submitted by members of the public.

ALEXANDRIA SCHOOLS' ESTATE – UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update in relation to the Alexandria Schools' Estate.

At the request of Councillor Rooney, there was submitted (tabled) and noted a copy of a letter from the Parent Council of St Martin's Primary School which related to the schools' estate.

Following discussion and having heard the Chief Education Officer and the Capital Investment Programme Manager in answer to Members' questions, Councillor Conaghan moved:-

That the Committee agrees:-

- (1) to note the plans for Renton Primary, Renton Language and Communication Base and a new Riverside Early Learning and Childcare Centre;
- (2) to note the retention of Riverside Early Years Learning and Childcare Centre on the existing site until a new Renton Primary, Language and Communication Base and Early Years Learning and Childcare Centre is opened in 2020; and
- (3) to note the people implications identified in section 5 of the report and the financial implications identified in section 6.

Councillor McColl asked Councillor Conaghan if she would be willing to accept the following as an addendum to her motion:-

Committee agrees that today's decisions do not exclude any option being considered for St Martin's Primary School and its pupils and agrees that the Committee reserves the right to amend the above plans at our June 2018 meeting.

Councillor Conaghan agreed to accept the addendum to her motion which Councillor McColl then seconded.

Following further discussion the motion, as amended, was agreed unanimously by the Committee.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT TENDERING PROCEDURES SESSION 2018/19

A report was by the Chief Education Officer:-

- (a) informing of the proposed timetable for the processing of tenders for mainstream home-to-school contracts and for the transportation of pupils with additional support needs; and
- (b) seeking approval to proceed with the proposed timetable in order to secure contracts for school transport for session 2018/2019, and up to session 2022/2023 where contracts are for 5 years duration.

Having heard the Transport Co-ordinator, Education, Learning & Attainment, in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to give approval for the Chief Education Officer to proceed with the necessary arrangements to secure tenders for the transport of children with additional support needs for session 2018/2019 and beyond for contracts of up to 3 years duration;
- (2) the authorise the Chief Education Officer to make the necessary arrangements in liaison with Strathclyde Partnership of Transport (SPT) to renew mainstream contracts for session 2018/2019, and beyond for contracts of up to 5 years; and
- (3) that following the completion of the tendering process, any tenders received would be considered by the Tendering Committee.

STRATEGY TO RAISE ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT IN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE – UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update on activity and progress with regard to implementing West Dunbartonshire's Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement.

Having heard the Senior Education Officer - Raising Attainment/Improving Learning, in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the progress made in the past three months with the Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement in West Dunbartonshire.

EARLY YEARS IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update on draft planning for the expansion of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) in West Dunbartonshire Council (WDC).

Following discussion and having heard the Chief Education Officer in further explanation of the report and in answer to a Member's question, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the current updated version of the Delivery Plan following the original submission to the Scottish Government on 29 September 2017; and
- (2) that a further update be provided to the Committee at the next meeting on 6 June 2018.

EDUCATION, LEARNING AND ATTAINMENT STANDARDS AND QUALITY REPORT 2016/17

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer informing of the publication of Education, Learning and Attainment's Standards and Quality Report for 2016/17 which had been made available online at:

<https://sites.google.com/ourcloud.buzz/sqr16-17/home>.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Education Officer and the Senior Education Officer - Performance and Improvement in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to approve changes to the cycle of publishing Standards and Quality Reports to bring them close into line with the academic year;
- (2) to approve the proposals for the distribution of the Standards and Quality Report; and
- (3) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

EDUCATION, LEARNING AND ATTAINMENT DELIVERY PLAN 2018/19

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer presenting the 2018/19 Delivery Plan.

It was noted that, following the issue of the papers for the meeting, an erratum notice had been issued which contained a revised version of the report.

The Committee agreed to note the content of the 2018/19 Delivery Plan.

REGIONAL IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE PLAN

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update on the progress of the Glasgow City Region Education Improvement Collaborative, known as the West Partnership, and the associated draft Regional Improvement Collaborative (RIC) plan which formed Appendix 1 to the report.

After discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) that the progress of the West Partnership should be a standing item of business for future meetings of the Committee; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

WORKING WELL TOGETHER – ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT: QUARTER 3 (1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2017)

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing detailed analysis on the attendance performance for Quarter 3.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Education Officer and the HR Business Partner in further explanation of the report and in answer to a Member's questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the decrease in sickness of 0.03 FTE days lost (-1.8%) for teachers and an increase of 0.21 FTE days lost (8.5%) for support staff compared to the same period last year, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report; and
- (2) to note the decrease in Council wide sickness absence of 81.12 FTE days lost (-3.1%) compared to the same period last year, as outlined in Appendix 2 to the report.

GENERAL SERVICES BUDGETARY CONTROL REPORT TO 31 JANUARY 2018 (PERIOD 10)

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update on the financial performance of Educational Services to 31 January 2018 (Period 10).

The Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note a projected full year favourable revenue variance of £0.015m (less than 0.3%); and
- (2) to note a projected full year favourable capital variance of £7.666m (36.8% of budget) of which £7.821m relates to project re-phasing and £0.154m to an in-year overspend.

The meeting closed at 3.00 p.m.