

EDUCATION EXECUTIVE

At a meeting of the Education Executive, held in the Council Chambers, Council Offices, Rosebery Place, Clydebank on Wednesday 23 May, 2001 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Andrew White, John Trainer, James McElhill, Duncan McDonald Daniel McCafferty, Anthony Devine, Margaret McGregor, James Flynn, Connie O’Sullivan and Mr Ronald Alexander, Mrs Barbara Barnes, Miss Sheila Rennie, Miss Margaret Wallace and Miss Ellen McBride.

Attending: Tim Huntingford, Chief Executive; Ian McMurdo, Director of Education and Cultural Services; Eric Walker, Director of Corporate Services; Dan Henderson, Director of Economic, Planning and Environmental Services; Alexis Jay, Director of Social Work and Housing Services; Stephen Brown, Head of Legal and Administrative Services; Bob Cook, Head of Resource Development; Frank Newall, Head of Children’s Services and George Hawthorn, Administrative Officer.

Also

Attending: Rose Anson, Childcare Partnership Officer.

Apology: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor John McCutcheon.

Councillor Andrew White in the Chair

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EDUCATION EXECUTIVE HELD ON 28 MARCH 2001

The Minutes of Meeting of the Education Executive held on 28 March 2001 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

TIME FOR TEACHING - ACTION PLAN TO EASE THE BURDEN OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER NON-TEACHING TASKS IN SCHOOLS

A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services seeking approval of the Action Plan “Time for Teaching” which aims to ease the burden of administration and other non-teaching tasks on teaching staff in schools.

Having heard the Head of Resource Development and Councillor McCafferty, Portfolio Holder for Education and Cultural Services, the Education Executive agreed:-

- (1) to approve the plan, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, as West Dunbartonshire Council's response to the Time For Teaching proposals, subject to reference being made in Key Area 11 - Social Inclusion: behaviour support/indiscipline to the Council's Policy and Procedures on Violence against Staff in Schools, which would be considered later in the meeting; and
- (2) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

VIOLENCE AGAINST STAFF IN SCHOOLS: POLICY AND PROCEDURES

A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services seeking approval for the department's policy and procedural guidelines on Violence Against Staff in Schools.

Having heard the Head of Resource Development in further explanation and after discussion, the Education Executive agreed:-

- (1) to approve the Policy and Procedural Guidelines on Violence Against Staff in Schools as produced by the Officer/Member Working Group, subject to the following points:-
 - (a) that the procedures should include a more defined mechanism for the victims of violence to be kept informed of what is happening in their respective cases; and
 - (b) that the document be amended to clarify the procedure to be adopted if a Head Teacher was the victim of violence;
- (2) that this Council's Policy and Procedures, once amended to take into account the above points, be sent to the National Task Group on Continual Professional Development for consideration when devising training courses for teachers; and
- (3) to note that the Director of Education and Cultural Services would keep the Policy and Procedures under review and, if necessary, re-constitute the Officer/Member Working Group to review them.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE CHILDCARE PARTNERSHIP - EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE PLAN 2001 - 2004

A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services providing details on the West Dunbartonshire Childcare Partnership Plan for 2001-2004 and seeking approval for particular proposals within the Plan which have implications for Council Services.

Having heard the Head of Children's Services and following discussion, the Education Executive agreed:-

- (1) to note the distribution of Partnership funds outlined in the Childcare Partnership Plan 2001-2004 as detailed in the Appendix to the report;

- (2) that the Childcare Partnership Plan 2001/2004 should now be submitted to the Scottish Executive;
- (3) that the section concerning the establishment of a sub-group to develop a corporate and systematic approach to planning, recording and assessment for maths should be referred to the Partnership with the view that the remit of the sub-group be widened to encompass “knowledge and understanding of the world” and should not focus on maths alone; and
- (4) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

SPECIAL NEEDS TRANSPORT - TENDERS TO BE AWARDED 2001/2002

A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services making recommendations in respect of Tenders to be awarded for Special Needs Transport 2001/2002.

The Education Executive agreed:-

- (1) to note those contracts listed for sums not exceeding £30,000 for Special Needs Transport, as detailed in Appendix I to the report;
- (2) to note the acceptance of those contracts listed for sums exceeding £30,000 but not exceeding £50,000 for Special Needs Transport, as detailed in Appendix II to the report; and
- (3) to authorise the acceptance of those contracts in excess of £50,000 listed for Special Needs Transport, as detailed in Appendix III to the report.

MAINSTREAM SCHOOL TRANSPORT - CONTRACTS ARRANGED FOR WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL BY STRATHCLYDE PASSENGER TRANSPORT (SPT)

A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services making recommendations in respect of Tenders to be awarded for Mainstream School Transport - Contracts arranged for West Dunbartonshire Council by the SPT.

The Education Executive agreed:-

- (1) to note the acceptance of those contracts to be awarded in conjunction with Strathclyde Passenger Transport for sums not exceeding £30,000 as detailed in Appendix I of the report; and
- (2) to note the acceptance of those contracts to be awarded in conjunction with Strathclyde Passenger Transport for sums exceeding £30,000 but not exceeding £50,000 as detailed in Appendix II of the report.

UPDATE CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUILDING PROGRAMME 2000/2001

A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services providing an update on the status of Education Capital and Revenue Building Projects within the Educational and Cultural Services Department.

The Education Executive agreed to note the contents of this report.

CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES' CONFERENCE

There was submitted for consideration, details of a Church of Scotland Conference for Church Representatives to be held in the St Margaret's Centre, Kildean, Stirling on 15 June 2001. The cost per delegate was £25.

Having heard Councillor McCafferty, Portfolio Holder for Education and Cultural Services, the Education Executive agreed:-

- (1) that all Church Representatives serving on this Executive be authorised to attend the Conference and that the Council should pay any reasonable travel expenses incurred;
and
- (2) to note that Miss Margaret Wallace would not be able to attend the above Conference.

The meeting closed at 10.35 a.m.