

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Children's Services Committee held in the Council Chambers, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 17 May 2006 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: *Provost Alistair Macdonald, Councillors Denis Agnew, Dennis Brogan, Geoff Calvert, Gail Casey, James McCallum, Jackie Maceira, Martin Rooney, Andy White and Ms Olean Allison, Mrs Barbara Barnes, Mrs Jan Cleife, Ellen McBride and Ms Annie Hair.

*Arrived later in the meeting.

Attending: Bob Cook, Director of Education and Cultural Services; Lynne Townsend, Head of Service, Liz McGinlay, Head of Service; Terry Lanagan, Head of Service for the Schools' Estate; Anne Ritchie, Head of Social Work (Operations); Ronald Dinnie, Head of Land Services, Housing and Technical Services; Dave Clarke, Manager, Schools' Estate; Alan Douglas, Manager of Best Value and Special Projects and Lorraine Beveridge, Administrative Assistant, Legal and Administrative Services.

Also Attending: Lesley Robertson, Head Teacher, Aitkenbar Primary School and Charlie Rooney, Head Teacher, Our Lady and St. Patrick's High School.

Apologies: Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillor James Flynn and Connie O'Sullivan.

Councillor Martin Rooney in the Chair

CONVENER'S REMARKS

9048 Before commencing with the business of the meeting Councillor Rooney, Convener, informed the Committee that following Councillor Pilkington's resignation as an elected member, Councillor Agnew, Spokesperson for Education and Cultural Services, had taken his place on the Children's Services Committee.

9049 Thereafter, Councillor Rooney, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Councillor Pilkington for his contribution to the Children's Services Committee.

**PRESENTATION BY HEADTEACHER OF CLYDEBANK HIGH SCHOOL
ON MEASURES TAKEN TO PROMOTE AND RAISE ATTAINMENT AND
ACHIEVEMENT FOR PUPILS**

- 9050 With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Children's Services Committee held on 16 November 2005 (Page 2048, paragraph 7549(3) refers), Councillor Rooney invited Mr Stewart Young, Head Teacher of Clydebank High School (present for this item only), to give a presentation on promoting attainment and achievement in Clydebank High School.
- 9051 In so doing, Mr Stewart informed the Committee that as Clydebank High School was the first secondary school to achieve Charter Mark status his presentation would focus on the work that the school does for Charter Mark.
- 9052 He advised that there were two aspects to Charter Mark: (i) a standard for customer service excellence; and (ii) a self-evaluation tool which could be readily used to support improvement. Charter Mark also provided the opportunity for formal assessment and feedback by a body external to the school.
- 9053 In this respect, there was submitted a report by the Director of Education and Cultural Services providing information on the work of Clydebank High School in taking forward attainment and achievement of all pupils.
- 9054 After discussion and having heard Mr Stewart in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-
- (1) to note that the school was continually seeking ways in which to raise the number of pupils who attained 5 Higher Grades A-C; and
 - (2) to note that the Head Teacher and staff were working very closely with the Education Department to cover a whole range of issues in relation to the amalgamation of Braidfield High School and Clydebank High School and viewed the amalgamation positively and as a new challenge.
- 9055 Thereafter, the Convener, on behalf of the Committee congratulated Mr Stewart for the excellent work being carried out in the school and for his very informative presentation.

**PRESENTATION BY DR ELIZABETH MORRIS AND MARY BERRILL,
INCLUSION OFFICER, ON THE TRANSFORMING RELATIONSHIPS
PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOL STAFF**

- 9056 Councillor Rooney, Convener, introduced Dr Elizabeth Morris and Ms Mary Berrill, Inclusion Officer, to give a presentation to the Committee on the Transforming Relationships programme currently being provided to staff in West Dunbartonshire schools.

- 9057 After discussion and having heard Dr Morris and Ms Berrill in answer to Members' questions, the Convener, on behalf of the Committee thanked them for their presentation.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 9058 The Minutes of Meeting of the Children's Services Committee held on 15 March 2006 were submitted and approved as a correct record.
- 9059 After hearing the Convener, the Committee agreed:-
- (1) to note that the Director of Education and Cultural Services would provide Members of the Committee with a copy of his response to HMle on comments made by the Committee in relation to HMle's report on the Choices Programme which did not reflect the achievements of pupils involved in the Programme nor its effectiveness; and
 - (2) to note that Education and Cultural Services Annual Quarterly Performance Report would summarise the Department's performance against all services delivered.
- 9060 Councillor Rooney, Convener, then took this opportunity, on behalf of the Committee, to recognise the work and tireless effort made by Councillor McCallum, former Spokesperson for Education, in the last three years during the proposed Schools' Regeneration Project.
- 9061 Thereafter, the Director of Education and Cultural Services echoed Councillor Rooney's words and on behalf of the Department thanked Councillor McCallum for the tremendous support and encouragement given to staff during his time as Education Spokesperson.

LOCAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR TEACHERS

- 9062 There were submitted and approved the Minutes of Meetings of the Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers held on 14 March 2006 and 24 April 2006, subject to the first paragraph in Appendix 1 to the Minutes of Meeting held on 24 April 2006 being amended to read as follows:-
- 9063 "It was agreed that from 1 August 2002 the working year for Music Instructors would continue to be 195 days, of which 190 days would coincide with the school year for pupils."

PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

- 9064 With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Children's Services Committee held on 18 January 2006 (Page 2151, paragraph 7981(1) refers), there was submitted a report by the Acting Director of Social Work Services containing information:-
- (a) on actions taken to improve the performance of Social Work in the submission of Social Background Reports to the Scottish Children Reporter Administration; and
 - (b) on the proportion of children and young people who have been made the subject of a supervision order and who were seen within fifteen working days.
- 9065 After discussion and having heard Councillor Rooney and the Head of Social Work (Operations) in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed that a progress report on the performance actions for children's services would be included as part of the Annual Performance report to be submitted to a meeting of the Children's Services Committee to be held on 16 August 2006.

LIBRARY USAGE

- 9066 With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Children's Services Committee held on 18 January 2006 (Page 2151, paragraph 7983(1) refers), there was submitted a report by the Director of Education and Cultural Services containing a breakdown of active borrowers and computer users in libraries in West Dunbartonshire.
- 9067 After hearing Councillor Agnew, the Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

PROGRESS REPORT ON WORK RELATING TO THE CLOSURE OF BRAIDFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

- 9068 With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Children's Services held on 15 March 2006 (Page 2304, paragraph 8554 refers), there was submitted a report by the Director of Education and Cultural Services providing a progress report on work relating to the closure of Braidfield High School in June 2006 and the transfer of pupils, staff and resources to Clydebank High School in August 2006.
- 9069 After discussion and having heard the Head of Service for the Schools' Estate and the Head of Land Services, in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that the Scottish Executive had approved 3 additional days closure to assist with the transfer of pupils;
- (2) to note that assessments had been made in relation to eligibility for free school transport and that a letter in relation to this had been issued to parents this week;
- (3) to note that some building works had been undertaken during the Easter holidays and a building warrant had been made available yesterday and further works would now commence;
- (4) to note that there was daily contact between the Director of the Head Teacher to discuss any special points arising from the amalgamation;
- (5) to note that a road traffic management development design had been agreed and works would be completed before the new school session commenced;
- (6) that the Director of Education and Cultural Services would provide a detailed newsletter on the amalgamation, in particular in relation to finance issues; and
- (7) that a further progress report on work relating to the closure of Braidfield High School in June 2006 and the transfer of pupils, staff and resources to Clydebank High School in August 2006 would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

PROPOSAL FOR INCREASED SWIMMING LESSON CHARGES IN 2006/2007

9070 With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Children's Services Committee held on 15 March 2006 (Page 2306, paragraph 8567 refers), a report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services:-

- (a) seeking approval to increase current charges applied to swimming lessons delivered by the Sports Development Unit, Education and Cultural Services Department;
- (b) providing additional information on the number of people accessing swimming lessons from outwith West Dunbartonshire Council; and
- (c) providing a further analysis of swimming lesson prices with comparator local authorities.

9071 After hearing Ms McGinlay, Head of Service in further explanation, the Committee agreed to approve the proposed increase in charges for the "Learn to Swim" scheme, to be effective from May 2006.

REVISED MUSEUM COLLECTION MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- 9072 A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services advising of the National Accreditation Scheme for Museums and the requirement to adopt a revised Collections Management and Development Plan to govern Clydebank Museum's collecting strategy.
- 9073 After hearing the Manager of Best Value and Special Projects and Councillor Agnew in further explanation, the Committee agreed:-
- (1) to note the contents of the report and the progress being made by the collections service toward the National Accreditation Scheme standards; and
 - (2) to approve the Museums Collections Management and Development Plan as detailed in the Appendix to the report.

PROGRAMME OF CULTURAL SERVICES EVENTS FOR 2006/07

- 9074 A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services providing information on a programme of Cultural Services events which had been organised for the financial year 2006/07.
- 9075 After hearing Councillor Agnew in further explanation, the Committee agreed to note the programme of cultural events scheduled to take place in the forthcoming year.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOR SCHOOLS

- 9076 A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services:-
- (a) containing information on the percentage of the revenue budget devolved to primary and secondary schools within the terms of West Dunbartonshire Council's local scheme of devolved school management (DSM), known within West Dunbartonshire Council as Resource Management for Schools (RMS); and
 - (b) outlining measures currently underway to review operation of the scheme of RMS and, specifically, to gauge head teachers' degree of satisfaction with the scheme as it operates currently.
- 9077 After discussion and having heard the Director of Education and Cultural Services in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) that the Director of Education and Cultural Services would write to the national press to advise them that the figures quoted in a recent article on the percentage of finance provided by Ministers for education and made available to head teachers in West Dunbartonshire schools was incorrect and should have read 82%;
- (2) that a further report detailing the outcome of the current, limited review of the operation of West Dunbartonshire Council's scheme of Resources Management for Schools would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee; and
- (3) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

DEVELOPMENTS IN SCHOOL TRANSPORT SERVICE

9078 A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services providing information on recent developments and improvements in the school transport service.

9079 After discussion and having heard Ms Townsend in further explanation, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that following discussions with the contractors it had been agreed that seatbelts would be provided on all secondary school buses from August 2006;
- (2) that the Director of Education and Cultural Services would investigate ways in which to promote the use of seatbelts on secondary school contracts;
- (3) to note that during May and June 2006, a pilot programme which was the first of its kind in Britain, would commence on the use of seatbelts on a secondary school contract with the added safeguard of CCTV and with the bus being painted yellow to emphasise its use for children for the benefit of other road users; and
- (4) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS TRANSPORT – TENDERS TO BE AWARDED 2006/2007, 2007/2008, 2008/2009

9080 A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services providing information on contracts awarded in 2006/2007, 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 and making recommendations thereon.

9081 After hearing Ms Townsend in further explanation, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the acceptance of contracts awarded for sums not exceeding £30,000 for Additional Support Needs Transport, as shown in Appendix 1 to these Minutes:
- (2) to note the acceptance of those contracts for sums exceeding £30,000 but not exceeding £60,000 for Additional Support Needs Transport, as shown in Appendix II to these Minutes; and
- (3) that the Director of Education and Cultural Services be authorised to re-award contracts not exceeding £60,000, as required.

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

9082 A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services providing information on contracts arranged for West Dunbartonshire Council by Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) (formerly Strathclyde Passenger Transport) (SPT) and making recommendations thereon.

9083 After hearing Ms Townsend in further explanation, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the acceptance of those contracts awarded, in conjunction with SPT, for sums not exceeding £30,000 as shown in Appendix III to these Minutes; and
- (2) to approve the acceptance of those contracts awarded, in conjunction with SPT, for sums in excess of £60,000, as shown in Appendix IV to these Minutes.

**UPDATE ON CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUILDING PROGRAMME
2005/2006/2007**

9084 There was submitted a report by the Director of Education and Cultural Services providing up-to-date information on the status of Education and Revenue Building Projects within the department of Education and Cultural Services and drawing attention to significant issues or problems with the progress of any particular project.

9085 After discussion the Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

The meeting closed at 11.55 a.m.

Appendix I

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS/MEDICAL SCHOOL TRANSPORT

SUMMARY OF SUCCESSFUL TENDERS 2006/2007, 2007/2008, 2008/2009

Contracts for sums not exceeding £30,000 for the information of the Children's Services Committee.

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>CONTRACT NUMBER</u>	<u>VALUE OF CONTRACT</u> *	<u>DURATION OF CONTRACT</u> **
Mr B Austin	WDH04	£ 5,130.00	1 Year
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£ 5,130.00	
Mr A Buist	WDS08	£ 9,120.00	2 Years
	WDS17	£ 2,280.00	1 Year
	WDS18	£ 1,520.00	1 Year
	WDH07	£ 5,320.00	1 Year
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£18,240.00	
Mr D Carr	WDS19	£ 4,864.00	2 Years
	WDS21	£ 4,750.00	1 Year
	WDP04	£ 912.00	1 Year
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£10,526.00	

Clydebank TOA	WD016	£ 3,990.00	1 Year
	WDS04	£ 342.00	1 Year
	WDS09	£ 1,653.00	1 Year

TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT £5,985.00

* This figure represents the maximum contract value over the maximum contract duration.

** This represents the maximum duration of the contract.

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>CONTRACT NUMBER</u>	<u>VALUE OF CONTRACT</u> *	<u>DURATION OF CONTRACT</u> **
Mr S Dines	WDO02	£ 6,498.00	1 Year
	WDO10	£ 9,234.00	1 Year
	WDO13	£ 5,054.00	1 Year
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£20,786.00	
DJ Driver Services	WDS01	£ 570.00	1 Year
	WDH02	£ 9,500.00	2 Years
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£10,070.00	
Mr G Gilliland	WDS16	£ 1,235.00	1 Year
	WDH01	£ 2,470.00	1 Year
	WDP03	£ 5,187.00	3 Years
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£ 8,892.00	

Gleniffer Taxis	WD012	£ 8,493.00	1 Year
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TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT	£ 8,493.00
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KWM Taxis	WDS02	£ 1,026.00	1 Year
	WDS07	£ 6,270.00	1 Year
	WDS14	£ 3,800.00	1 Year

TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT	£11,096.00
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* This figure represents the maximum contract value over the maximum contract duration.

** This represents the maximum duration of the contract.

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>CONTRACT NUMBER</u>	<u>VALUE OF CONTRACT</u> *	<u>DURATION OF CONTRACT</u> **
Mr J McCaughey	WDH06	£5,320.00	2 Years
	WDM02	£ 760.00	1 Year
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£6,080.00	
Mr G Murphy	WDO03	£ 6,080.00	1 Year
	WDN01	£ 4,180.00	1 Year
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£10,260.00	
T & K Cars	WDP01	£ 3,800.00	2 Years
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£ 3,800.00	
Mr R Williamson	WDO05}	£12,160.00	1 Year
	WDO07}		
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£ 12,160.00	

* This figure represents the maximum contract value over the maximum contract duration.

** This represents the maximum duration of the contract.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS/MEDICAL SCHOOL TRANSPORT

SUMMARY OF SUCCESSFUL TENDERS 2006/2007, 2007/2008, 2008/2009

Contracts for sums exceeding £30,000 but not exceeding £60,000 for information and noting by Members of the Children's Services Committee

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>CONTRACT NUMBER</u>	<u>VALUE OF CONTRACT</u> *	<u>DURATION OF CONTRACT</u> **
Clydebank Taxis	WDO09	£ 7,980.00	1 Year
	WDO11	£ 9,500.00	1 Year
	WDS10	£ 2,850.00	1 Year
	WDS11	£ 912.00	1 Year
	WDP02	£ 4,940.00	2 Years
	WDP05	£ 1,900.00	1 Year
	WDP08	£ 4,180.00	1 Year
	WDP10	£ 2,660.00	1 Year
	WDP12	£ 1,330.00	1 Year
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£36,252.00	

* This figure represents the maximum contract value over the maximum contract duration.

** This represents the maximum duration of the contract.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES

MAINSTREAM SCHOOL TRANSPORT

SUMMARY OF SUCCESSFUL TENDERS 2006/2007, 2007/2008, 2008/2009

Contracts for sums not exceeding £30,000 for the information of the Children's Services Committee.

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>CONTRACT NUMBER</u>	<u>VALUE OF CONTRACT*</u>	<u>DURATION OF CONTRACT**</u>
Clydebank TOA	2695H3	£ 9,690.00	3 Years
	2754A3	£ 9,120.00	3 Years
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£18,810.00	
McColl's Coaches Ltd	8121C3	£ 1,805.00	1 Year
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£ 1,805.00	

* This figure represents the maximum contract value over the maximum contract duration.

** This represents the maximum duration of the contract.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES

MAINSTREAM SCHOOL TRANSPORT

SUMMARY OF SUCCESSFUL TENDERS 2006/2007, 2007/2008, 2008/2009

Contracts for sums exceeding £60,000 for the approval of the Children's Services Committee.

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>CONTRACT NUMBER</u>	<u>VALUE OF CONTRACT*</u>	<u>DURATION OF CONTRACT**</u>
John Morrow's Coaches	2147H3	£ 37,050.00	3 Years
	2399J3	£ 34,200.00	3 Years
	2464G3	£ 31,350.00	3 Years
	2613E	£ 3,192.00	3 Years
	8008I1	£ 51,300.00	3 Years
TOTAL VALUE OF CONTRACT		£157,092.00	

* This figure represents the maximum contract value over the maximum contract duration.

** This represents the maximum duration of the contract.