

LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 22 February 2006 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors Hayton, Baird, Bushby, Coburn, Doig, A Grant, E Grant, Howie, Lennie, MacLellan, Scott (substituting for Culliven), Simpson, Stewart, Mr I Jackson, Mr C Mackie and Mrs J Whitfield.

In Attendance: Councillor Miller and Councillor Wilson; L McConnell, Interim Executive Director (Education & Children's Services); M Wells, Interim Depute Director (Education & Children's Services); G Boland, J Cockburn, N Copland, D Lingley, G Lynn, I Mason, W McCullough, B Renton, K Robertson, V Robertson, M Taylor, A Turnbull, M Walker and S Watson (all Education & Children's Services); A Wilson and C Irons (Corporate Services).

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Culliven, Mr A Dunlop, Father K McCaffrey, Mr F Shewan and Mr D Stewart.

Councillor Hayton, Convener, Presiding.

123. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

124. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minute of Meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 11 January 2006 (Arts 1-14) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

125. MINUTE OF MEETING OF ATTENDANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Attendance Sub-Committee of 26 January 2006 was submitted and noted. (*Appendix I*)

126. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF JOINT NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR TEACHING STAFF

- (a) The minute of meeting of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff of 30 January 2006 was submitted and noted, amending "preferred bidder" to "favoured bidder" in paragraph 7. (*Appendix II*)
- (b) The minute of Special Meeting of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff of 13 February 2006 was submitted and noted. (*Appendix III*)

127. DRAFT RAISING ACHIEVEMENT STRATEGY

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/130) seeking approval to consult with key stakeholders on the Draft Raising Achievement Strategy.

Resolved:

- (i) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to consult with key stakeholders on the Draft Raising Achievement Strategy attached as Appendix 1 to Report 06/130.
- (ii) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to report back to the Lifelong Learning Committee on the outcome of this consultation by 31 May 2006.

128. DRAFT IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/131) seeking approval to consult with key stakeholders on the Draft Improvement Framework for Education and Children's Services.

Resolved:

- (i) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to consult with key stakeholders on the Draft Improvement Framework for Education and Children's Services as attached at Appendix 1 to Report 06/131.
- (ii) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to report back to the Lifelong Learning Committee on the outcome of this consultation by 31 May 2006.

129. FOSTERING SERVICES

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/132) (1) updating the Committee on Additional Fostering Monies and the Care4 Specialist Fostering Scheme and making proposals for Year 2 of the Additional Fostering Monies; and (2) linking these proposals with the continuation of Care4 Specialist Fostering Scheme, initially funded under the Intensive Support Fund.

Resolved:

- (i) The proposals for the use of the Year 2 additional fostering monies be agreed.
- (ii) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to provide an update on the progress of the Care4 Specialist Fostering Scheme and of the recruitment drive by March 2007.
- (iii) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to provide a progress report on the review of the foster care strategy by June 2006.

130. SECONDARY MANAGEMENT RESTRUCTURING REPORT – STRENGTHENING SCHOOL LEADERSHIP FOR LEARNING

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/133) outlining the proposals for Secondary Middle Management Restructuring, specifically in relation to the post of Principal Teacher.

Resolved:

- (i) The implementation of the Middle Management proposals be approved.
- (ii) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to report back to the Lifelong Learning Committee in August 2007 regarding progress and impact relating to the proposals.

131. SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/134) (1) detailing the proposed policy for Sports Development; (2) clarifying the principles underlining the Sports Development service, the type of service that will be provided and (3) proposing the adoption of service standards for the provision of Sports Development.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 06/134 be noted.
- (ii) The service standards for Sports Development provision within Perth and Kinross be agreed.
- (iii) The priority sports and levels of support for such sports for 2006-2009, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 06/134, be agreed.

132. RESERVED PLACES IN SCHOOLS 2006/2007

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/135) proposing the number of reserved places for session 2006/2007 within primary and secondary schools in accordance with Section 28A of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 as amended.

Resolved:

- (i) The number of reserved places within schools which appeared to be close to capacity for session 2006/2007 as shown in Appendix A to Report 06/135, be approved.
- * (ii) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to revise the numbers each year to reflect historical or anticipated patterns of migration, information about known movements of families into or out of an area, and any current residential development.
- * (iii) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be delegated responsibility for reviewing the reserved places for all schools in light of any building work and in light of residential development.

133. CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR FINANCIAL YEARS 2006/2007 TO 2008/2009

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/136) summarising the Education and Children's Services capital budget proposals for financial years 2006/07 to 2008/09.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 06/136 be noted.
- (ii) The proposed capital budget programme for Education and Children's Services for 2006/2007 to 2008/2009, as set out in Appendix 2 to Report 06/136, be approved.

134. ARTS PROVISION IN PERTH CITY CENTRE

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/137) giving the background to the development of a strategic solution to meeting arts needs in Perth City, and seeking approval to develop the idea further in consultation with key partners and stakeholders.

Resolved:

- (i) The Strategic Outline Case for Arts Provision in Perth City Centre be noted.
- (ii) The further development of the scheme in consultation with stakeholders, with a view to submission of an Outline Business Case to a future meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee and the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, be approved.
- (iii) Progress of the scheme be reported to a future meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee.

135. REVIEW OF CHARGES 2006/2007

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/138) detailing the proposed service charges for financial year 2006/2007 in the following areas: (1) Blairgowrie High School Recreation Centre, (2) Consultancy, Staff Development Opportunities and Curriculum Materials accessed by other organisations or third parties, (3) School meals, and (4) lets charges.

Resolved:

- (i) The proposed 2006/2007 charges for Blairgowrie High School Recreation Centre, as outlined in Appendix 1 to Report 06/138, be approved.
- (ii) The proposed 2006/2007 charges for Consultancy, Staff Development Opportunities and Curriculum Materials, as detailed in Appendix 2 to Report 06/138, be approved.
- (iii) The new school meal charges, as previously agreed at the Special Meeting of the Council on 9 February 2006 (Article 95 refers) and as outlined in Appendix 3 to Report 06/138, be noted.
- (iv) The Lets charges for 2006/2007, as previously agreed at the Special Meeting of the Council on 9 February 2006 (Article 95 refers) and as outlined in Appendix 4 to Report 06/138, be noted.

136. PROPOSALS FOR MERGER OF GLEBE AND CHERRYBANK SCHOOLS

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/139) (1) proposing the merger of Glebe School with Cherrybank School into a single establishment; (2) that a single management structure be created; and (3) outlining the statutory consultation arrangements on the proposal.

Resolved:

- (i) The merger of Glebe School and Cherrybank School into a single establishment with a single management structure be approved in principle.
- (ii) Consultation with School Boards, parents and the wider public on this proposal be authorised.
- (iii) Formal consultation with the relevant Trade Unions on this proposal be authorised.
- (iv) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to report back to the Lifelong Learning Committee on 19 April 2006.

137. SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS – 2007/2008

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/140) detailing the draft scheme of dates for School Terms and Holidays for the session 2007/2008.

Resolved:

The draft scheme of dates for School Terms and Holidays for session 2007/2008, as attached to Report 06/140, be approved.

138. HMIE INSPECTION OF COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORTH PERTH AREA

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/141) updating the Committee on progress made between April and October 2005 on the five main points for action identified by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) for Community Learning and Development in North Perth.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress made on the five main points for action between April and October 2005 be noted.
- (ii) The Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to bring forward another update on progress to the Committee after the follow up visit from HMIE to the North Perth areas.
- (iii) It be noted that the Standards and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting of 25 January 2006 had warmly welcomed the progress report.

139. HMIE, CARE COMMISSION AND EDUCATION AUTHORITY REPORTS ON STANDARDS AND QUALITY IN SCHOOLS, PRE-SCHOOL CENTRES AND OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/142) advising the Committee of the key findings and progress with main points for action as set out in three summary reports (Appendices 1-3) from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE), Care Commission and Education Authorities.

Resolved:

- (i) The following summary reports, as attached in Appendices 1-3 to Report 06/142, be noted:
 - (a) Summary of the Care Commission/HMIE Integrated Inspection Report on Errol Primary School Nursery Class (Appendix 1);
 - (b) Summary of the Care Commission/HMIE Integrated Inspection Report on The Honey Pot Children's Nursery (Appendix 2); and
 - (c) Summary of the Care Commission/HMIE Integrated Inspection Report on The Community School of Auchterarder (Primary) Nursery Class (Appendix 3).
- (ii) It be noted that the Standards and Scrutiny Committee on 25 January 2006 had welcomed the positive nature of the HMIE/Care Commission reports.

Obituary – Mr Iain MacRae

Following the conclusion of business, the Convener advised of the recent death of Iain MacRae who had retired recently from the post of Principal Librarian and expressed sympathy on behalf of the Committee to Iain's family.