

EDUCATION RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 1 June 2010

Chair:

Councillor Mary Smith

Councillors Present:

Alex Allison (Depute), David Baillie, Jackie Burns, John Cairney, Bev Gauld, Eileen Logan, Anne Maggs, Lesley McDonald, Jim McGuigan, Brian McKenna, Alice Marie Mitchell, Graham Scott, Graham Simpson, Hamish Stewart, George Sutherland, Chris Thompson, Sheena Wardhaugh, David Watson

Councillor Also Present:

David McLachlan

Councillors' Apologies:

Gerry Convery, Tommy Gilligan, Bobby Lawson, Edward McAvoy, Pat Watters

External Members Present:

John Hannah, David Kerr, Linzi Moore

External Members' Apologies:

Terri Connolly, Dr Nagy Iskander, Joan Kyle, Rev Sarah Ross

Attending:

Corporate Resources

T Slater, Administration Officer

Education Resources

L Forde, Executive Director; A Batchelor, Head of Education (Inclusion); D Dickson, Operations Manager; S Fellows, Head of Education (Resources); R Gallacher, Youth Learning Manager; J Gilhooly, Head of Education (Quality and Personnel); J Humphreys, Personnel Services Manager; C Mason, Head of Education (Clydesdale); L Sherry, Head of Education (Finance); M Wilson, Schools of Ambition Project Co-ordinator

Finance and Information Technology Resources

M Murphy, Accountant

1 Declaration of Interests

No interests were declared.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Education Resources Committee held on 16 March 2010 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

The Committee decided: that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

3 Education Resources - Workforce Monitoring - February and March 2010

A joint report dated 10 May 2010 by the Executive Directors (Corporate Resources) and (Education Resources) was submitted on the following employee information for Education Resources for the period February and March 2010:-

- ♦ attendance statistics
- ♦ occupational health statistics
- ♦ accident/incident statistics
- ♦ disciplinary hearings, grievances and Dignity at Work cases
- ♦ analysis of leavers
- ♦ Joint Staffing Watch as at 13 March 2010

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 16 March 2010 (Paragraph 6)]

Councillor McGuigan entered the meeting during this item of business

4 Education Resources' Resource Plan 2010/2011

A report dated 12 May 2010 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on Education Resources' Resource Plan for 2010/2011. Details were provided on:-

- ♦ Resource achievements and performance during 2009/2010
- ♦ Resource objectives and actions for 2010/2011
- ♦ capital and revenue resources for 2010/2011
- ♦ the organisational structure of the Resource

In line with the Council's performance management arrangements, a mid year progress report on actions identified in the 2010/2011 Resource Plan would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

The Committee recommended to the Executive Committee: that the Education Resources' Resource Plan for 2010/2011 be approved.

[Reference: Minutes of 19 January 2010 (Paragraph 6)]

Linzi Moore entered the meeting during this item of business

5 'The Street' Project Update

A report dated 11 May 2010 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on 'The Street' Project.

This pilot project was a targeted diversionary scheme aimed at young people involved in, or on the brink of becoming involved in, youth disorder and anti-social behaviour. The project was supported by professional and experienced Youth Workers and used hard-hitting and immersive theatre to demonstrate to those young people involved the potentially serious and dangerous consequences of their actions.

'The Street' Project was monitored and reviewed by the young people who had experienced it. Information was provided on the feedback gained throughout the duration of the project in the appendices to the report.

'The Street' Project had been funded through Regen:fx Youth Trust and the Fairer Scotland Fund. The annual cost of running the project was £82,000 and Regen:fx Youth Trust was looking to secure additional external funding sources to sustain the long-term viability of the project.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the progress made by 'The Street' Project as a diversionary scheme to address issues of youth disorder and anti-social behaviour be noted; and
- (2) that the efforts by the Regen:fx Youth Trust to secure additional external funding to further develop and sustain 'The Street' Project be endorsed.

6 Education Resources' Gender Equality Statement of Commitment 2010 to 2013

A report dated 10 May 2010 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of a consultation exercise undertaken on the draft Gender Equality Statement of Commitment 2010 to 2013 and the arrangements for the publication of the Statement.

Under the Equality Act 2006, education authorities were required to produce a written statement of gender equality policy. The Statement placed a requirement on education authorities to have due regard to the need to:-

- ♦ eliminate unlawful sex discrimination and harassment
- ♦ promote equality of opportunity between women and men

The Council required to publish the Gender Equality Statement of Commitment 2010 to 2013 by 28 May 2010. The Council is also required to publish a Single Equality Scheme with which Education Resources complies.

Both the Council's Single Equality Scheme and the Education Resources' Gender Equality Statement of Commitment would be taken into account in planning, delivering and monitoring the effectiveness of education services.

The Committee decided: that the outcome of the consultation process for Education Resources' Gender Equality Statement of Commitment 2010 to 2013 and the arrangements to publish the Statement of Commitment be noted.

[Reference: Minutes of 19 May 2009 (Paragraph 9)]

7 Schools of Ambition Project - Lanark Learning Community

A report dated 11 May 2010 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the progress achieved within the Lanark Learning Community through the Schools of Ambition Programme.

The Schools of Ambition Programme had been launched in 2005 by the then Scottish Executive and the Lanark Learning Community's bid for inclusion in the Programme had been approved in February 2007. Involvement in the Programme had enabled Lanark Learning Community to address challenges particular to the wider rural community and to enhance education provision. Since gaining approval, the Lanark Learning Community Schools of Ambition Programme had focused on the themes of:-

- ◆ raising ambition and broadening horizons
- ◆ empowering pupils to make successful decisions in a variety of contexts
- ◆ enhancing pupil/teacher sharing of responsibility for learning

To sustain and build on the progress achieved so far, it had been proposed that:-

- ◆ each establishment would sustain and further develop their learning links through GLOW
- ◆ establishments within the Learning Community would use the experience of the Schools of Ambition Programme as they implemented Curriculum for Excellence
- ◆ continuing professional development activities would continue to focus on sharing good practice and enhancing leadership capacity

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the progress achieved by establishments within the Lanark Learning Community involved in the Schools of Ambition Programme and the actions proposed to build on the progress achieved so far be noted; and
- (2) that the report be referred to the Clydesdale Area Committee for information.

8 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.