

COMMUNITY SERVICES STANDING SCRUTINY PANEL.

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,
13th June 2012 at 10.00 a.m.

- Present: Councillors John Hampton (Chair), Kirsty Darwent, Hugh Hunter, Nan McFarlane and Corri Wilson.
- Apologies: Councillors Andy Campbell and Ian Cavana.
- Attending: J. Cronin, Acting Head of Community Development; V. Andrews, Head of Legal and Administration; B. McInroy, Head of Service and School Management; D. Strang, Manager (Schools and Service Support); and A. Gerrish, Committee Services Officer.

1. Items for Call-in – Schools for the Future – Phase 3.

Reference was made to the Minutes of the Leadership Panel of 6th June 2012 (Page 304, paragraph 1) when that Panel having considered a report of May 2012 by the Executive Director - Children and Community had approved the submission of a bid to the Scottish Government for funding from the Schools for the Future Programme as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

The Panel was advised that the report had been the subject of a call-in (issued) for the following reasons:-

To ask the Portfolio Holder:-

- (1) Why Dailly Primary School rebuild “leapfrogged” Tarbolton Primary School on the priority list?
- (2) What progress had been made to identify a suitable site in Tarbolton?
- (3) What was the model for Tarbolton i.e. which community buildings would be replaced etc.?
- (4) What financial consideration had been given to replace Tarbolton Primary school that would provide additional income towards the rebuild of Dailly Primary School?
- (5) Was the purchase of Marr College building finalised?
- (6) What was the cost of purchasing the Marr College building?
- (7) Why has the educational contribution from the developer of the North East Residential Development reduced from £3 million to £1.3 million?
- (8) Why has Ayr Grammar not appeared on this report?

The answers to the questions as detailed in the call-in requisition had been circulated prior to the meeting being held.

The Chair invited Councillors Allan and McFarlane to explain their reasons for the call-in and, thereafter, the Panel heard them enquire in relation to (1) to (8) above and the relevant officers and Portfolio Holder responded accordingly.

The Chair then invited the Portfolio Holder to comment on the issues raised and Councillor McFarlane to sum up.

Questions and comments were raised by Members of the Panel in relation to the issues intimated and the relevant Officers and Portfolio Holder responded accordingly.

Councillor McFarlane seconded by Councillor Wilson then moved that the report be referred back to the Leadership Panel to finalise the sale of land and footprint of Marr College before being submitted to the Scottish Government.

By way of Amendment Councillor Hunter seconded by Councillor Hampton moved that the recommendations made by the Leadership Panel at its meeting on 6th June 2012 be accepted.

On a vote being taken by a show of hands three Members voted for the Amendment and two for the Motion. The Amendment was accordingly declared to be carried.

Decided: following review, that the decision of the Leadership Panel in respect of this matter be confirmed and implemented.

2. Minutes of previous meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting of 22nd February 2012 (issued) were submitted and noted.

3. Matters Arising.

Councillor Darwent referred to the previous minutes and enquired as to the progress being made on the Improvement Plan for the Housing Repair Service and the Acting Head of Community Development advised that a report on this matter would be submitted to the next meeting of this Panel.

A discussion took place with Panel Members in relation to having Matters Arising included in this Panel's Agenda and the Head of Legal and Administration and Acting Head of Community Development responded accordingly.

Decided: to include Matters Arising in this Scrutiny Panel's Agenda.

4. Extracts from the Council's Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation.

There were submitted extracts (issued) from the Council's Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation outlining the role of the Scrutiny Panel including the "Call-in" Process and the Annual Programme of Scrutiny Reviews together with the remit of this Panel.

Decided: to note the terms of the extracts.

5. Consideration of Programme of Scrutiny Reviews.

The Chair advised that the Executive Director – Children and Community

- (1) would be giving a presentation on his Directorate to Panel Members; and
- (2) would provide a list of previous reviews undertaken by this Panel;

Issues and comments were made by Panel Members in relation to social inclusion, mobility training, modern apprenticeships and copyright payments to the Performing Rights Society for school performances and the Acting Head of Community Development responded accordingly.

The Head of Legal and Administration advised that following the Presentation by the Executive Director – Children and Community, the Panel would have the opportunity to discuss the item or items that they wished to review and decide on the appropriate manner in which to progress them, in accordance with Standing Orders.

Decided: to note

- (a) that the Executive Director – Children and Community would be giving a presentation on his Directorate to the next meeting of this Panel; and
- (b) that a list of previous reviews undertaken by this Panel would be provided to its Members; prior to consideration of further Reviews.

The meeting ended at 12 noon