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## EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Meeting of Tuesday 26 February 2008  
at 10.30am in Council Offices, English Street, Dumfries

### Members

<b>Sandra McDowall</b> (Chairman)	- Mid Galloway
<b>Gail MacGregor</b> (Vice Chairman)	- Annandale North
<b>Ivor Hyslop</b> (Leader)	- Lochar
<b>Patsy Gilroy</b> (Convener)	- Dee
<b>Ian Blake</b>	- Abbey
<b>Ted Brown</b>	- Annandale North
<b>Ian Carruthers</b>	- Annandale South
<b>John A Charteris</b>	- Lochar
<b>Brian Collins</b>	- Castle Douglas & Glenkens
<b>James H Dempster</b>	- Mid & Upper Nithsdale
<b>Michael Dickie</b>	- Annandale North
<b>John Dougan</b>	- Stranraer & North Rhins
<b>Gillian Dykes</b>	- Mid & Upper Nithsdale
<b>Jack Groom</b>	- Nith
<b>Thomas Jacques</b>	- Dee
<b>Jeff Leaver</b>	- Lochar
<b>Ian Lindsay</b>	- Annandale East
<b>Jane S Maitland</b>	- Dee
<b>Sean W Marshall</b>	- Annandale South
<b>John Martin</b>	- Nith
<b>Lorna McGowan</b>	- Lochar
<b>Ronnie Nicholson</b>	- North West Dumfries
<b>Doug Snell</b>	- North West Dumfries
<b>David Stitt</b>	- Abbey
<b>Alastair Witts</b>	- Nith
<b>Robert McQuistan</b>	- Church Representative
<b>Mgr Peter Magee</b>	- Church Representative
<b>Canon Robin Paisley</b>	- Church Representative
<b>Timothy Birrell</b>	- Secondary Teacher Representative
<b>Elizabeth Ross</b>	- Primary Teacher Representative

**Alex Haswell**

Group Manager Corporate Support & Governance

# EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Meeting of Tuesday 26 February 2008  
at 10.30am in Council Offices, English Street, Dumfries

## 1. MINUTE OF MEETING OF 29 JANUARY 2008 (copy enclosed)

### FINANCIAL ITEMS

2. **SCHOOLS SERVICES REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT AS AT 28 DECEMBER 2007** - Report dated 19 February 2008 by Acting Director of Finance. *[Recommendations – to note (1) the projected over-spend of £8K in Schools Services as at December 2007; (2) the current core budget pressure for Schools Services amount to £1,224K within 2008/09, including £300K relating to Single Status; (3) that the Scottish Government Finance Settlement includes a reduction in National Priority Action Fund funding, resulting in a potential shortfall of £503K within 2008/09, which is included in the budget pressures; and (4) that the Schools Services Management Team is currently investigating options to address the budget pressures, including the reduction in National Priority Action Fund funding.]*
3. **COMMUNITY SERVICES REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING FOR 2007/08** - Report dated 18 February 2008 by Acting Director of Finance. *[Recommendations – note (1) the projected potential overspend of £319k and the reasons for the projected outturn variances; and (2) that officers are working on ways to reduce the overspend.]*
4. **CULTURAL SERVICES – SAVINGS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN** - Report dated 19 February 2008 by Group Manager Community Services. *[Recommendations – to (1) note the background to the proposed saving; (2) agree the implementation plan outlined within the report; and (3) note that the level of saving achieved during 2008-09 will be dependant on the level of turnover of staff within Cultural Services and will be reported to a future committee.]*

### SCHOOLS SERVICES

5. **SCHOOLS SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND PROPERTY ISSUES - FEBRUARY 2008-** Report dated 19 February 2008 by Service Director Schools Services. *[Recommendations – to (1) note the significant progress made on the Schools Services Capital programme, which has resulted in an investment of £7.6M across the school estate during 2007/08; (2) note the information on spend across the key drivers: Health & Safety, Education Improvement Plan, including HMle/Care Commission and Wind and Watertight; (3) approve the proposed additional projects for inclusion in the Schools Services Capital Maintenance Programme; and (4) note the Net Resources and latest Projected Costs for each funding block in 2007/08,*

2008/09 and 2009/10.]

6. **DUMFRIES HIGH SCHOOL - REPORT ON CURRENT STRUCTURAL POSITION AND THE CONTINGENCY PROVISION OF A DEMOUNTABLE FACILITY TO CONTINUE SERVICE DELIVERY** - Report dated 19 February 2008 by Service Director Schools Services. *[Recommendations – to (1) note the position statement on the remedial and monitoring works at Dumfries High School as provided by Design Services (Para 11.1), which confirm that this area of the school is currently safe; (2) note the current progress and proposed location of a demountable classroom facility located at Dumfries High School (Para 11.2.) (Appendix 1); (3) agree to the implementation of an Action Plan to take the proposals to planning approval and pre-tender position and to implement if further deterioration becomes evident; (4) note the contents of the attached risk register, in relation to both educational service delivery and works on site (Appendix 2); and (5) note that the structural condition of Dumfries High School will be taken into account in the Dumfries Secondary Review.]*
  
7. **FUTURE PROVISION FOR PUPILS WITH PROFOUND AND COMPLEX NEEDS CURRENTLY ATTENDING LANGLANDS SCHOOL** - Report dated 19 February 2008 by Service Director Schools Services. *[Recommendations – to (1) note the continuing views of parents as detailed at Paragraph 9.7; (2) approve the closure of Langlands School, but defer its closure until the end of 2010/2011 academic year, by which time the majority of the current pupils will have progressed through the school;(3) agree to the building of a new integrated provision, which will open at the beginning of academic year 2011/12, or at later date when the new facility is complete; (4) agree that the design of the new facility should not include hydrotherapy provision; (5) support the continued engagement with parents and staff to develop optimum outcomes for children, through the proposed transition phase; and (6) agree to remit to the Social Work Services Committee the concerns regarding the appropriateness and adequacy of post school provision for young people with complex needs.]*
  
8. **NATIONAL CHILDCARE STRATEGY FUNDING 2007/08** - Report dated 19 February 2008 by Service Director Schools Services. *[Recommendations – to (1) note the payment plan for the financial year 2007/08; (2) note the position in relation to predicted financial deficits for 2008/09 as follows: (a) Georgetown Playcare Limited and Moffat Small 'n Tall – both organisations have advised that they do not expect to require funding from the Council; (b) Galloway Childcare Company – predicted deficit - £43,250; and (c) Lincluden After School Group – predicted deficit - £11,356 Langholm Playcare Ltd, Laurieknowe Out of School Care and Lochmaben Playcare – position not confirmed; and (3) agree to receive a further report on the final outcome of the generation of SMART Action Plans, to include actual funding needs of organisations for the financial year 2008/09.]*

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

9. **DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY ARTS ASSOCIATION LIMITED** - Report dated 19 February 2008 by Group Manager Community Services. *[Recommendations – to (1) note the financial position of Dumfries and Galloway Arts Association as detailed at section 6 of the report; (2) agree the Recovery Plan outlined in the report subject to the Association meeting salary costs as they are incurred by the Council and repaying all outstanding debt to the Council by 31 March 2010 as detailed at section 11 and the Appendix to the report; (3) note the actions taken by officials to assist the Association and the continuing negotiations with the Scottish Arts Council, and (4) agree to receive further reports on the success of the Recovery Plan or, should it prove necessary, to identify to Members any concerns that officers may have about the ability of Dumfries and Galloway Arts Association to continue to meet the requirements of the Recovery Plan.]*
10. **THIRD SECTOR FUNDING: FINANCIAL YEARS 2008/09 TO 2010/11** - Report dated 19 February 2008 by Group Manager Community Services. *[Recommendations – to agree (1) that the balance of £3,592 from the Third Sector Strategic Budget 2007/08 (Community Learning & Development) be transferred into the Third Sector Strategic Budget 2008/09 (Community Learning & Development); (2) that the Working Group to identify strategic partners should change its focus to strategic activities, in order to assist in achieving the strategic objectives flowing down from the “Government Economic Strategy” (Scottish Government 2007); (3) that for 3 year funding awards commencing 2008/09, award levels for Years 2 and 3 are “in principle” so that the Council may reserve the right to increase or reduce these awards depending on the outcome of the ongoing work to identify strategic activities, appreciating that work on the identification of strategic activities is programmed for completion and reporting to Members prior to March 2009; and (4) the implementation of a more robust financial monitoring system (as detailed at Section 10.3) to be developed and continuously improved by Officers.]*
11. **CANONBIE PUBLIC HALL AND PLAYING FIELD RECREATION CENTRE – LEASE – OUTSTANDING ISSUES** - Report dated 19 February 2008 by Group Manager Community Services. *[Recommendations – to (1) note that the Trustees of Canonbie Public Hall and Playing Field Recreation Centre Management Committee were awarded a grant of up to £100k from the Scottish Rural Partnership Local Capital Grant Scheme in March 2003 on the condition that the property was owned by the community or leased to them on a long term basis and that a total of £91,736 was claimed and received; (2) note the lease to the Trustees of Canonbie Public Hall and Playing Field Recreation Centre Management Committee, in particular the signing of the 25 year Lease with the Council effective from 17 September 2004; (3) note the most recent condition survey for the property, as detailed in Appendix, identifies outstanding capital works valued at £81,700 (excluding professional fees); (4) note that the Trustees of Canonbie Public Hall and Playing Field Recreation Centre Management Committee owe Dumfries and Galloway Council £30,827.64 for “construction work and fees” to construct a large extension comprising of male and female changing rooms, showers, toilets*

*and a store; (5) note that the Trustees of Canonbie Public Hall and Playing Field Recreation Centre Management Committee do not have funds to pay both the outstanding balance owed to the Council and deal with the outstanding property work, as detailed in the condition survey; and (6) agree to fund the outstanding balance of £30,827.64 from the Community Learning and Development Service Capital (Maintenance) Programme 2007/08 as the Council's contribution to making the property fit for purpose, on the basis that the outstanding works and any future work (both repairs and capital) is completed by, and is the sole responsibility of the Trustees of Canonbie Public Hall and Playing Field Recreation Centre Management Committee.]*

12. **ALL OF SCOTLAND GROUP 2014 [GLASGOW COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2014]** - Report dated 18 February 2008 by Group Manager Community Services. *[Recommendations – to nominate an Elected Member representative to the reconvened All of Scotland Group 2014.]*
13. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN MAY DECIDE IS URGENT DUE TO THE NEED FOR A DECISION**