

Motherwell, 13 April 2000 at 2 pm.

A Meeting of the **EDUCATION (RESOURCES) SUB-COMMITTEE**

PRESENT

Councillor Morgan, Convener, Councillors Burns, Curley, Glavin, Gray, Holloway, Love, McKinlay, Moran, G. Murray and M. Murray.

CHAIR

Councillor Morgan (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Committee Services Officer, Head of Contracts and Provision, Head of Parks and Catering, Head of Design Services and Accounting Manager.

APOLOGIES

Councillors H. McGuigan and Sullivan.

CONTRACTS

(1) ST. BERNARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, COATBRIDGE - DESIGN AND BUILD OF PRE-5 NURSERY UNIT

1. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 16 March 2000 by the General Manager, Construction Services, advising (1) that the lowest tender for the design and build of a pre-5 nursery unit at St. Bernard's Primary School, Coatbridge, was that of Clark Contracts Limited, Paisley, in the sum of £302,851; (2) that as a result of the tendering process, additional associated works had been identified; (3) that following negotiations with the Company, the variation to the contract required additional funding of £49,654; and (4) that the Director of Administration, in terms of his delegated powers, had accepted the tender by Clark Contracts Limited for the contract, including the additional associated works, at a total cost of £352,505.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

(2) ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, STEPPS - DESIGN AND BUILD OF PRE-5 NURSERY UNIT

2. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 16 March 2000 by the General Manager, Construction Services, advising (1) that the lowest tender for the design and build of a pre-5 nursery unit at St. Joseph's Primary School, Stepps, was that of Clark Contracts Limited, Paisley in the sum of £296,961; (2) that as a result of the tendering process, additional associated works had been identified; (3) that following negotiations with the Company, the variation to the contract required additional funding of £22,039, and (4) that the Director of Administration, in terms of his delegated powers, had accepted the tender by Clark Contracts Limited for the contract, including the additional associated works, at a total cost of £319,000.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

(3) GREENHEAD COMMUNITY HALL, WISHAW - DEVELOPMENT OF PRE-5 NURSERY UNIT

3. There was submitted a report dated 21 March 2000 by the General Manager, Construction Services, advising (1) that the lowest tender for the development of a pre-5 nursery unit in Greenhead Community Hall, Wishaw, was that of John Buchanan (Joiners) Limited, Motherwell, in the sum of £133,477; (2) that as the tender was in excess of the budget for the project, negotiations had been carried out with the Company to identify savings; (3) that the Company had submitted a revised tender in the sum of £99,724, and (4) the Director of Administration had progressed the matter in terms of his delegated powers.

Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor Gray, moved that the terms of the report be noted.

Councillor G. Murray, seconded by Councillor Glavin, moved as an amendment that the matter be referred to the Policy and Resources Committee for a full report on the Scottish Executive's contribution and the Council's contribution for contracts to be funded under the School Development Fund 1999/2000.

On a vote being taken 3 Members voted for the amendment and 8 Members voted for the motion, which was according declared to be carried.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

(4) PROVISION OF A SCHOOL MEALS CASHLESS PAYMENT SYSTEM - PILOT SCHEME

4. There was submitted a joint report dated April 2000 by the Directors of Education and Community Services advising (1) that the lowest tender for the installation of a school meals cashless payment system at Old Monkland Primary School, St. Monica's Primary School, Columba High School and Rosehall High School, Coatbridge, on a pilot basis, was that of Cash Registers Buccleugh Limited in the sum of £65,046, the cost of which would be spread over 1999/2000 and 2000/2001, and (2) that the Director of Administration had progressed the matter in terms of his delegated powers.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted;
- (2) that the report be remitted to the Social Inclusion Committee for information, and
- (3) that further reports on the pilot scheme be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

SCHOOLS CATERING CONTRACT 1999/2000 - PERFORMANCE REVIEW

5. There was submitted a joint report (docketed) dated 3 March 2000 by the Directors of Education and Community Services (1) reviewing the performance of the Schools Catering Contract for the period from April 1999 to February 2000, and (2) providing an analysis of the uptake of school meals in primary and secondary schools and the budget performance for the period in comparison to 1998/99.

Decided:

- (1) that the performance of the Schools Catering Contract for the period from April 1999 to February 2000 be noted, and

- (2) that a further performance report on the Contract be submitted to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee and that there be included in that report (a) a breakdown of the cost of school meals; (b) details of the content of packed lunches, and (c) a sample copy of the service delivery questionnaire.

SCHOOLS CLEANING CONTRACT 1999/2000 - PERFORMANCE REVIEW

6. There was submitted a joint report (docketed) dated 4 April 2000 by the Directors of Education and Community Services reviewing the performance of the Schools Cleaning Contract for the period from 1 April 1999 to 27 February 2000.

Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor Gray, moved (1) that the performance of the Schools Cleaning Contract for the period from 1 April 1999 to 27 February 2000 be noted; (2) that the Director of Education be requested to remind Head Teachers of the requirement to complete the service delivery questionnaire to facilitate a fuller assessment of the Contract, and (3) that further performance reports on the Contract be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

Councillor G. Murray, seconded by Councillor M. Murray, moved as an amendment that the report be not accepted and that a report detailing how the staffing shortfalls, as a result of the various reasons identified in the report, had been addressed, be submitted to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

On a vote being taken 3 Members voted for the amendment and 8 Members voted for the motion, which was accordingly declared to be carried.

Decided:

- (1) that the performance of the Schools Cleaning Contract for the period from 1 April 1999 to 27 February 2000 be noted;
- (2) that the Director of Education remind Head Teachers of the requirement to complete the service delivery questionnaire to facilitate a fuller assessment of the Contract, and
- (3) that further performance reports on the Contract be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

SCHOOLS JANITORIAL SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT 1999/2000 - PERFORMANCE REVIEW

7. There was submitted a joint report (docketed) dated 4 April 2000 by the Directors of Education and Community Services (1) reviewing the performance of the Schools Janitorial Service for the period from 1 April 1999 to 27 February 2000, and (2) commenting on the feedback received from the Head Teachers in respect of the fourth service delivery questionnaire.

Decided:

- (1) that the performance of the Schools Janitorial Service for the period from 1 April 1999 to 27 February 2000 be noted, and
- (2) that a further performance report on the Service including details of janitorial duties and responsibilities be submitted to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

EDUCATION GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 1999/2000 - PERFORMANCE REVIEW

8. There was submitted a joint report (docketed) dated 2 April 2000 by the Directors of Education and Community Services (1) reviewing the performance of the Education Grounds Maintenance Contract for the period from January to February 2000, and (2) advising that grounds maintenance services were currently subject to Best Value Service Review.

Decided:

- (1) that the performance of the Grounds Maintenance Contract for the period from January to February 2000 be noted, and
- (2) that further performance reports on the Contract be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL AND/OR MEDICAL NEEDS 1999/2000 - PERFORMANCE REVIEW

9. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 4 April 2000 by the Director of Education reviewing the performance of the Contracts for the Provision of School Transport for Children with Special Educational and/or Medical Needs for the period from 18 August 1999 to 31 March 2000 (1) advising that the Contracts were monitored, on behalf of the Council, by the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority (SPTA); (2) setting out in Appendix 1 to the report samples of SPTA vehicle and driver inspections; (3) setting out in Appendix 2 to the report a sample of a service delivery questionnaire which had been issued to a sample group of parents of children with special educational and/or medical needs; (4) summarising the questionnaire responses received from parents in Appendix 3 to the report, and (5) commenting on the financial status of the Contracts.

Decided:

- (1) that the performance of the Contracts for the Provision of School Transport for Children with Special Educational and/or Medical Needs for the period 18 August 1999 to 31 March 2000 be noted, and
- (2) that further performance reports on the Contracts be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

USE OF PLAYING FIELDS AT CLELAND ESTATE, MOTHERWELL - RE-NEGOTIATION OF USER AGREEMENT

10. With reference to paragraph 9 of the Minute of the meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 2 March 2000, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated April 2000 by the Director of Education (1) setting out details of a draft Agreement which had been negotiated with Dalziel Sports Management Limited, as lessee of Cleland Estate, Motherwell, from Dalziel High School Memorial Trust, for the use of the playing fields and sports facilities at Dalziel Park by pupils of Dalziel High School and by other pupils in North Lanarkshire Schools, subject to the terms and conditions detailed therein; (2) attaching, as an Appendix to the report, the draft Agreement; (3) advising that the Agreement was for a period of nine years, with effect from 1 April 1998, at an annual rental of £24,000 subject to review at three yearly intervals, and (4) recommending that the Council enter into the Agreement with Dalziel Sports Management Limited.

Decided: that the draft Agreement between the Council and Dalziel Sports Management Limited, as attached to the Appendix to the report, for the use of the playing fields and sports facilities at Cleland Estate, Motherwell, by pupils of Dalziel High School and by other pupils in North Lanarkshire Schools for a nine year period, with effect from 1 April 1998 at an annual rental of £24,000 subject to review at three yearly intervals, be approved.

RATIONALISATION OF SCHOOL PROVISION IN CUMBERNAULD - INTERIM FUNDING PROPOSALS

11. With reference to paragraph 17 of the Minute of the meeting of the Education Committee held on 20 October 1998 when, *inter alia*, it had been agreed that, as part of the review of primary school provision in Cumbernauld, any savings generated from the rationalisation proposals and capital receipts generated from the subsequent disposal of land and property in the Cumbernauld area which had been declared surplus to the requirements of the Department of Education be used to fund the construction of a new primary school and the adaptation/remedial works of schools receiving pupils from schools to be closed, there was submitted a joint report dated May 2000 by the Directors of Education and Housing and Property Services (1) advising that it was necessary for the requisite adaptation/remedial works to Abronhill, Whitelees, Melrose and St. Joseph's Primary Schools to be completed by the start of the academic session 2000/2001, at a total estimated cost of £575,967, and (2) proposing that, in light of the circumstances and in anticipation of the Council allocating capital funds for that purpose as part of the Capital Programme for 2000/2001, the proposed works be funded, in the meantime, from the Central Repairs Account of the Housing and Property Maintenance and Repairs Budget.

Decided: that the proposals for the use of financial resources from the Central Repairs Account of the Housing and Property Services Budget, on a temporary basis, to expedite the construction of a new primary school and the adaptation/remedial works at Abronhill, Whitelees, Melrose and St. Joseph's Primary Schools, Cumbernauld, be approved.

CUMBERNAULD PRIMARY SCHOOL - TEMPORARY CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATION

12. There was submitted a report dated 5 April 2000 by the General Manager, Construction Services, advising (1) that the lowest tender for the lease of temporary classroom accommodation at Cumbernauld Primary School for a two year period was that of S. Wernick and Son, Coatbridge, in the sum of £179,027; (2) that following negotiations with the Company to identify the additional cost of purchasing the modular units, the variation to the contract required additional funding of £7,240, and (3) that the Director of Administration, in terms of his delegated powers, would arrange for the acceptance of the revised tender by S. Wernick & Son, Coatbridge, for the contract to purchase modular units at a total cost of £186,267.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.