

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: EDUCATION (RESOURCES) SUB-COMMITTEE		Subject: SECURE UPLIFT OF CASH
From: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION		
Date: 5 AUGUST 2003	Ref: MM/KF/CG	

Purpose of Report

At the meeting on 21 February 2002, the education (resources) sub-committee approved the introduction of a cash uplift system for education establishments in North Lanarkshire for a period of one year.

Prior to this system being introduced janitors had to visit banks on a daily basis to lodge money. The contract was awarded to Group 4. An evaluation report on this pilot was requested by the committee at the end of session 2002/2003.

Recommendations

The education (resources) sub committee is recommended to

- a) approve that the cash uplift system be incorporated into normal working practice for all educational establishments



Members wishing further information about this report should contact:

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NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL : DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Secure Uplift of Cash

Report by the Director of Education

1. Background

At the meeting on 21 February 2002, the education (resources) sub-committee approved the introduction of a cash uplift system for education establishments in North Lanarkshire for a period of one year.

Prior to this system being introduced janitors had to visit banks on a daily basis to lodge money. The contract was awarded to Group 4. An evaluation report on this pilot was requested by the committee at the end of session 2002/2003.

2. Consultation

2.1 Questionnaires were issued to all heads of establishments asking for their views on the level of satisfaction on the system; and asking if they wished the cash uplift arrangement to be extended following the end of the pilot.

2.2 The results of the questionnaire have shown that 90% of all schools were very satisfied/satisfied with the pilot system and wished the cash uplift system to continue. 10% were dissatisfied with the pilot.

3. Benefits of the Cash Uplift System

The benefits of the secure uplift system have been highlighted by a large number of head teachers:-

- 1) Enhanced janitorial service to perform duties such as litter picking and maintenance
- 2) Schools are tidier inside and out
- 3) Janitor has more available time to deal with workmen and deliveries
- 4) Janitors have greater involvement in playground supervision
- 5) Current arrangement benefits establishment as janitor is now in school when needed
- 6) A safer method of depositing large sums of money

4. Problems of Current System

A small number of schools highlighted the following problems with the cash uplift system:

- 1) Delay in money reaching bank accounts. This matter has been addressed and schools are advised to contact the treasury department if they are experiencing any problems with deposits of money.
- 2) Clerical staff not undertaking duties involving catering monies. This matter was resolved following discussions with UNISON.
- 3) Janitor no longer able to run errands whilst out at bank. The janitors are now providing an enhanced service within the school grounds.

5. Budget 2002/2003

The original estimate for the cash uplift system was £87,000. However, due to the frequency of uplifts being increased in primary and secondary schools the cost of providing this service is £130,000 and this can be met from the school security budget.

6. Recommendations

The education (resources) sub committee is recommended to

- a) approve that the cash uplift system be incorporated into normal working practice for all educational establishments