

Motherwell, 14 October 2004 at 2.15 pm.

An Adjourned Meeting of the **EDUCATION (RESOURCES) SUB-COMMITTEE**

PRESENT

Councillor Morgan, Convener, Councillors Gray, Holloway, McCulloch, Moran, G. Murray, Robertson, Smith and Stocks.

CHAIR

Councillor Morgan (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Committee Services Manager, Head of Commercial Operations (Cleaning and Related Services), Head of Design Services, Education Officer (Building Provision), Principal Officer (Contracts/Provisions Section), Assistant Principal Officer, Catering Services Manager, Travel Plan Co-ordinator and Accountant.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

John Robin, Strathclyde Passenger Transport.

APOLOGIES

Councillors Donnelly, Lyle, McAuley and Sullivan.

SCHOOL CLEANING CONTRACT 2004/05 - PERFORMANCE REVIEW

1. There was submitted a joint report dated September 2004 by the Directors of Education and Community Services (1) reviewing the performance of the Schools Cleaning Contract for the period from 1 April to 20 August 2004, and (2) providing a budgetary analysis of the contract together with explanations of the variances from the projected budget expenditure to date.

Decided:

- (1) that the performance of the Schools Cleaning Contract for the period from 1 April to 20 August 2004 be noted, and
- (2) that further performance reports on the contract be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

SCHOOLS CATERING CONTRACT 2004/05 - PERFORMANCE REVIEW

2. There was submitted a joint report dated September 2004 by the Directors of Education and Community Services (1) reviewing the performance of the Schools Catering Contract for the period from April to August 2004; (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 2003/04, and (3) containing sample customer care comments for the period.

Decided:

- (1) that the performance of the Schools Catering Contract for the period April to August 2004 be noted, and
- (2) that further performance reports on the contract be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

CATERING SERVICES - DEVELOPMENTS IN SCHOOL MEALS

3. There was submitted a joint report dated September 2004 by the Directors of Education and Community Services (1) providing an update on initiatives and developments in the School Meals Service; (2) containing in an Appendix to the report a summary of the schools operating those new initiatives which include (a) the Web-bite Initiative; (b) the Digi-Dude Fast Track Concept; (c) Regeneration Meal System; (d) Cashless Payment System, and (e) Sports Bars Initiative; (3) outlining details of the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Scottish Executive's Hungry for Success report, together with details of further initiatives to be developed during the current financial year, and (4) indicating that, in terms of the Scottish Executive's publication notice of 22 June 2004 which detailed the results of its annual survey of school meals, a sample of the menu findings had shown a preference of continuous improvement for the Council

Decided:

- (1) that a full report on the provision of the Breakfast Service in schools be submitted to a future meeting of this Sub-Committee, and
- (2) that the report be otherwise noted.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT ARRANGED BY STRATHCLYDE PASSENGER TRANSPORT EXECUTIVE - PERFORMANCE REVIEW

4. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated September 2004 by the Director of Education reviewing (1) the financial performance of the Mainstream School Transport Contracts which had been arranged by the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive on behalf of the Council, and (2) the general performance of the Transport Contractors for the period 18 August 2003 to 25 June 2004.

Decided:

- (1) that the performance of the Mainstream School Transport Contracts which had been arranged by Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive for the period 18 August 2003 to 25 June 2004 be noted, and
- (2) that further performance reports on the contracts be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

TRANSPORT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL / MEDICAL NEEDS - CONTRACTS FOR PERIOD 2004/07

5. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated September 2004 by the Director of Education (1) providing an analysis of offers received for School Transport for Children with Special Educational/Medical Needs for school sessions 2004/07; (2) indicating that (a) 87 Contracts had been awarded to contractors who submitted the lowest tender; (b) 77 individual contracts had been awarded to contractors whose offer was not the lowest, and (c) 11 contracts had been awarded to

contractors whose offer was equal lowest with the other contractors; (3) setting out in Appendix 1 to the report, a list of the contracts, together with details of their individual annual cost and total cost, and (4) outlining the financial implications of the contracts.

Decided: that the report be noted.

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLANS

6. There was submitted a joint report (docketed) dated September 2004 by the Directors of Education and Planning and Environment (1) providing an update on the Scottish Executive Initiative to fund School Travel Co-ordinator Posts in all of Scotland's local authorities; (2) reiterating that the Director of Planning and Environment, in association with the Director of Education, had appointed a School Travel Co-ordinator in 2003 and an Assistant School Travel Co-ordinator in August 2004, with funding from the Scottish Executive; (3) summarising the strategic aims of the School Travel Plan Initiative, and (4) outlining the progress to date.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress being made through the Scottish Executive Initiative, the cross Departmental working necessary to delivery the strategy and the appointment of an Assistant School Travel Co-ordinator be noted, and
- (2) that an evaluation of the progress be reported to a future meeting.

SPECIAL NEEDS TRANSPORT QUALITY REPORT

7. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 29 September 2004 by the Director of Education (1) advising of the checks carried out by Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive (SPTe) on Contracts for Transport of Children with Special Educational and/or Medical Needs for the Session 2003/04; (2) outlining the background relative thereto; (3) providing details of the process involved in the monitoring of vehicles; (4) indicating that SPTe, in association with the Vehicle Operator Services Agency, Strathclyde Police and HM Customs and Excise, ensured that the vehicles were roadworthy and that drivers were correctly licensed, and (5) setting out in Appendix 1 to the report, the results of inspections carried out on vehicles.

Decided: that the performance of the Contracts for Transport for Children with Special Educational and/or Medical Needs for the Session 2003/04 be noted.

SCHOOL JANITORIAL SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT FOR 2003/04 - PERFORMANCE REVIEW

8. There was submitted a joint report (docketed) dated September 2004 by the Directors of Education and Community Services reviewing the performance of the Schools Janitorial Service for the period from 1 April to 20 August 2004.

Decided:

- (1) that the performance of the Schools Janitorial Service for the period from 1 April to 20 August 2004 be noted, and
- (2) that further reports on the service for 2003/04 be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

RECLAIM LAND AT VICTORIA PRIMARY SCHOOL, AIRDRIE

9. With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of the Policy and Resources (Property) Sub-Committee held on 2 September 2004, when, *inter alia*, that Sub-Committee had agreed (1) to rescind its previous decision to sell land extending to 1,059 square metres or thereby forming part of Victoria Primary School grounds at Aitchison Street, Airdrie, to the adjoining landowner, and (2) to re-allocate the land concerned to the Department of Education for additional play area space to comply with statutory standards, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated September 2004 by the Director of Education recommending that the re-allocated area of land be used for the development of nursery play facilities.

Decided:

- (1) that the decision of the Policy and Resources (Property) Sub-Committee to return the land at Victoria Primary School, Airdrie to the Department of Education for use as Nursery Play Facilities be noted, and
- (2) that the development of Nursery Play Facilities on the site be approved.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2004/2005 - PERFORMANCE REVIEW

10. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 September 2004 by the Director of Education (1) summarising the performance of the Capital Programme for 2004/05 in relation to Major Building Programmes; (2) detailing in Appendix 1 to the report, the progress of projects funded from outwith the mainline capital programmes; (3) providing in Appendix 2 to the report, detailed progress of all projects which had been committed to date, and (4) indicating that from a total allocation of £12.672m, 51% of the capital building projects had been committed and that the actual expenditure to date was 19% on these projects.

Decided:

- (1) that the financial performance of the 2004/2005 Major Building Programmes be noted, and
- (2) that further reports on the programmes for 2004/05 be submitted to future meetings of the Sub-Committee.

SCHOOL BUILDING MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS - ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS

11. There was submitted reports by the Director of Housing and Property Services (1) providing details of tenders received for various school building contracts, and (2) advising that following consultation with the Convener, the Director of Administration had arranged for acceptance of the lowest tender for each of the projects to be progressed, all in terms of his delegated powers and as detailed below:-
- (a) the lowest tender for re-roofing works at Newmains Primary School, Newmains was, after checking, that submitted by Faskin Contracts, Paisley, in the sum of £133,803.16;
 - (b) the lowest tender for built-up roofing felt works at Dunrobin Primary School, Airdrie, was, after checking, that submitted by Braedale Roofing Limited, Wishaw, in the amended sum of £77,750;
 - (c) the lowest tender for re-roofing works at Mossend Primary School, Bellshill was, after checking, that submitted by Rennie Roofcare Limited, Glasgow, in the sum of £119,286.02;

- (d) the lowest tender for the provision of a fire escape at Tollbrae Primary School, Airdrie was, after checking, that submitted by David H. Allan Limited, Glasgow, in the sum of £222,845.52, and
- (e) the lowest tender for re-roofing works at Belvidere Primary School, Bellshill was, after checking, that submitted by Rennie Roofcare Limited, Glasgow, in the amended sum of £95,221.79.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the reports by the Director of Housing and Property Services be noted, and
- (2) that the action taken by the Director of Administration, following consultation with the Convener, in accepting each of the tenders, as detailed in the reports, be noted.