

Public Document Pack



ABERDEEN
CITY COUNCIL

To: Councillor Laing, Convener; Councillor Thomson, Vice Convener; Councillors Boulton, Cameron, Carle, Cooney, Crockett, Lesley Dunbar, Greig, Malik, May, McCaig, Noble, Samarai, Jennifer Stewart, Stuart, Taylor, Townson and Young; and Mr S Duncan (Teacher Representative (Primary Schools)), Mr M Maclean (Parent Representative (Secondary Schools)), Reverend E McKenna (Church of Scotland Religious Representative), Mr A Nicoll (Parent Representative (Primary Schools and ASN)), Mr M Paul (Teacher Representative (Secondary Schools)), Mrs I Wischik (Roman Catholic Religious Representative) and Mrs A Tree (Third Religious Representative).

Town House,
ABERDEEN 23 January, 2013

EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE

Members of the **EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE** are requested to meet in the Council Chamber on **THURSDAY, 31 JANUARY 2013 at 2pm.**

JANE G. MACEACHRAN
HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

B U S I N E S S

1 MINUTES, COMMITTEE BUSINESS STATEMENT AND MOTIONS LIST

- 1.1 Minute of the Previous Meeting of 22 November 2012 - for approval
(Pages 1 - 12)
- 1.2 Minute of Meeting of the Culture and Sport Sub Committee of 7 November, 2012 - for noting (Pages 13 - 16)
- 1.3 Committee Business Statement (Pages 17 - 22)

2 SERVICE ISSUES

2.1 Revenue Monitoring (Pages 23 - 36)

2.2 Capital Monitoring (Pages 37 - 40)

3 EDUCATION

3.1 City Campus Evaluation (Pages 41 - 46)

3.2 Primary School Estate Feedback from Engagement Exercise (Pages 47 - 102)

3.3 Science Policy (Pages 103 - 118)

4 CULTURE

4.1 Accreditation Status for Museums and Galleries (Pages 119 - 122)

5 SPORT

5.1 Tullos Pool - Verbal Report

5.2 Sports Grants (Pages 123 - 130)

5.3 Rubislaw Field Agreement (Pages 131 - 142)

6 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

6.1 Performance Report (Pages 143 - 172)

Website Address: www.aberdeencity.gov.uk

To access the Information Bulletins for this Committee please use the following link:
<http://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13009&path=13004>

If you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Rebecka Coull (tel. (52)2869 or e-mail rcoull@aberdeencity.gov.uk).

EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 22 November, 2012 – minute of meeting of the EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE. Present: Councillor Laing (Convener); Councillor Thomson (Vice Convener); and Councillors Boulton, Cameron, Cooney, Lesley Dunbar, Grant (as substitute for Councillor Malik), Greig, Jaffrey (as substitute for Councillor Stuart for articles 1 - 10), Lawrence (as substitute for Councillor Crockett), McCaig, May (for articles 1 - 16), Jean Morrison (as substitute for Councillor Carle), Noble, Samarai, Stewart (for articles 1 – 10), Taylor, Townson and Young; and Mr S Duncan (Teacher representative - primary schools – for articles 1 - 9), Mr M Maclean (Parent representative – secondary schools), Reverend E McKenna (Church of Scotland religious representative), Mr A Nicoll (Parent representative – primary schools and ASN), Mr M Paul (Teacher representative – secondary schools – for articles 1 - 9), Mrs A Tree (Third religious representative) and Mrs I Wischik (Roman Catholic religious representative).

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be located at the following link:

<http://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=143&MId=2518&Ver=4>

INTRODUCTION

1. The Convener introduced Mrs Anne Tree (Third religious representative), and Reverend Edward McKenna McKenna (Church of Scotland religious representative) and welcomed them to their first meeting of the Committee.

GOOD NEWS

2. The Convener advised the Committee as to a number of good news stories as follows –

- Children in Need – the Beach Ballroom had hosted the national Children in Need programme on Friday 16 November, 2012, and the event had been a huge success.
- Challenge Mum – the project had secured £1,500 funding from Cash for Kids and the Co-op, which had been used to take sixteen families to the Planet Energy exhibition at Satosphere.
- Primary Science Quality Mark – thirteen of the city's schools had achieved this award as recognition of a high standard of science education.
- Arts Development – the project had organised an open day as part of Luminare (Scotland's first national Creative Ageing festival), which had offered practical suggestions of activities to use in cross generational projects.

DETERMINATION OF EXEMPT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

3. The Convener proposed that the Committee consider those reports identified on the agenda as being for determination in private, with the press and public excluded.

Councillor McCaig, seconded by Councillor Stewart, moved as a procedural motion: that the report at item 9.2 of today's agenda (Community Centre's – Current Issues – article 17 of this minute refers) be redacted in terms of the information relating to recommendation (d) in order that the remainder of the report be heard in public on this day.

On a division, the votes cast were as follows: for the procedural motion (11) – Councillors Cameron, Greig, Jaffrey, McCaig, May, Noble, Samari, Stewart, and Townson, Reverend McKenna and Mrs Tree; against the procedural motion (13) – the Convener, the Vice Convener, and Councillors Boulton, Cooney, Lesley Dunbar, Grant, Lawrence, Jean Morrison, Taylor and Young, Mr Maclean, Mr Nicoll, and Mrs Wischik; declined to vote (2) – Mr Duncan and Mr Paul.

The Committee resolved:

in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the press and public from the meeting for items 9.1 and 9.2 of the agenda (articles 16 and 17 of this minute) so as to avoid disclosure of information of the class described in the following paragraphs of Schedule 7(A) to the Act: article 16 (paragraph 9), and article 17 (paragraphs 9 and 12).

REQUESTS FOR DEPUTATION

4. The Committee had before it a number of requests for deputation as follows:

In relation to item 5.1 of the agenda (Progress towards Implementation of New Lease and Management Agreement) –

- (1) Andy Cowie and Alex Mess – Powis Community Centre
- (2) Paul O'Connor – Chair of Inchgarth Community Centre
- (3) Scott Beattie – Vice Chair of Inchgarth Community Centre
- (4) Phil D'Arcy, Wilma Mackland and Brian Allan - Community Learning Centres Forum
- (5) Martin Fraser, Partner – A. C. Morrison & Richards
- (6) Sylvia Davidson
- (7) David Forbes, Chairman, Future Choices
- (8) Marie Adams, Create Aberdeen

In relation to item 9.2 of the agenda (community centres – Current Issues) –

- (9) Sylvia Davidson

The Committee was advised that requests (6) – (9) as detailed above had not been received within the terms outlined in Standing Orders, and received advice from the Legal Manager (Advice and Procurement) in relation to request (5) above. The Legal Manager advised that as officers was currently negotiating on the issues detailed in the report, that it would not be appropriate for members to hear the legal

representative for the community centres, as the negotiations were an operational matter.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to agree to hear requests (1) – (4) at the appropriate point in the agenda;
- (ii) to decline to hear Mr Fraser on this day (request (5) above); and
- (iii) to suspend Standing Order 10, and to agree to hear requests (6) – (9) at the appropriate point in the agenda.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5. The Committee had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 20 September, 2012.

The Committee resolved:

to approve the minute as a correct record.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS STATEMENT

6. The Committee had before it a statement of pending and outstanding committee business which had been prepared by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services,

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to remove items 6 (Pupil Support Assistants) and 10 (Library and Information Service – New Ways of Working); and
- (ii) to otherwise note the updates as contained within the statement.

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING (ECS/12/056)

7. With reference to article 4 of the minute of its previous meeting of 20 September, 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Head of Finance which advised members of the current year revenue budget performance to date for the Service, and outlined any areas of risk and management action being taken in this regard.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to request that officers monitor the long term absence rate of teachers, and provide updates on this in future monitoring reports;
- (ii) to request officers to provide an update on status of ECS_E37 (Change the Delivery Model of Music Tuition);
- (iii) to note the forecast outturn on the revenue budget and the information on areas of risk and management action being taken; and
- (iv) to instruct officers to continue to review budget performance, and report on Service strategies.

CAPITAL MONITORING (EPI/12/213)

8. With reference to article 8 of the minute of its meeting of 23 February, 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which detailed the capital spend to date for Service projects included within the non housing capital programme.

The Committee resolved:

to note the current position.

DRUGS ACTION FUNDING (ECS/12/048)

9. The Committee had before it a report by the Acting Director of Education, Culture and Sport which requested approval for a contract to be entered into between the Council and Drugs Action, in order for this organisation to provide drugs education services in a partnership initiative with the Youth Development team.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to approve that Drugs Action be identified as the delivery partner for this project due to the specialist nature of the work;
- (ii) to approve that a contract be entered into with Drugs Action without obtaining quotes from any other providers; and
- (iii) to approve the expenditure of £14, 918.72 from the Education, Culture and Sport budget to be paid to Drugs Action for the period from December, 2012 until July, 2013.

COMMUNITY CENTRES – PROGRESS TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW LEASE AND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT (ECS/12/050)

10. With reference to article 7 of the minute of its previous meeting of 20 September, 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Acting Director of Education, Culture and Sport which updated members (1) in relation to moving community centres to the “leased” type model, and (2) on the current position of the seven community centres which had leases that were operating on the basis of tacit relocation, and were due to come to an end on 28 November, 2012.

With reference to article 4 of this minute, the Committee heard from (1) Andy Cowie and Alex Mess – Powis Community Centre, (2) Paul O'Connor – Chair of Inchgarth Community Centre, (3) Scott Beattie – Vice Chair of Inchgarth Community Centre, (4) Phil D'Arcy, Wilma Mackland and Brian Allan - Community Learning Centres Forum, (5) David Forbes, Chairman, Future Choices, (6) Marie Adams, Create Aberdeen, and (7) Sylvia Davidson (who spoke both in relation to this item and item 9.2 of the agenda). At this juncture, Councillor McCaig asked if the Convener would consider revisiting the decision to take item 9.2 of the agenda in private, depending on the information forthcoming from Mrs Davidson. The Convener indicated that this decision would not be revisited.

Mr Cowie and Mr Mess intimated that the personable liability issue was the biggest concern for them and asked that the matter be deferred for consideration at a later date; Mr O'Connor also raised the issue of personal liability and suggested that he

was being asked to sign a schedule that he had not had sight of; Mr Beattie advised that a petition had been set up online, and read out a number of the comments which had been logged in this regard; Mr D'Arcy, Ms Mackland and Mr Allan asked that all parties get back around the table for further discussions; Mr Forbes spoke about the importance of the community centres in relation to the disabled community; Ms Adams suggested that the Council was ignoring the needs of vulnerable people in the city; and Mrs Davidson requested that members take decisions on this day in the best interest of the community centres.

Members asked a number of questions of the deputations.

The Service Manager for Communities introduced the report and circulated a supplementary paper which updated members on the position of different centres in relation to signing up to the new lease agreements, and legal negotiations which had been ongoing. The supplementary paper also advised that in 2011, Ruthrieston community centre had become a leased centre, at which time the individuals involved decided to set up a new management committee to run the centre. The previous management committee, which had been responsible for running the centre prior to the transfer to the leased model took a decision at that time to dissolve and transfer all their funds to the new management committee.

In working through the paperwork involved in transferring the funds, it had emerged that the former management committee did not have a dissolution clause in its constitution. In the absence of such a clause, the Education, Culture and Sport Committee was (as parent committee of the former management committee) was requested to agree to the transfer of funds to the new Ruthrieston management committee.

The report recommended –
that the Committee:

- (a) notes the progress of the Balnagask, Balgownie, Catherine Street, Froghall, Inchgarth, Sheddocksley and Tillydrone community centres, where the leases are continuing on the basis of tacit relation, onto the new lease and management agreement arrangements';
- (b) in respect of these centres, where the management committee has been unable or unwilling to sign up to the new lease and management agreement prior to 28 November 2012, for each of these community centres, to either:
 - (1) instruct officers to provide a temporary licence for the management committee, within the same terms and conditions of the new lease and management agreement, through to 31 January 2013 (with the exception of constitutional requirements: the association may still be in the process of amending their constitution to one that meets the requirements of the lease and management agreement), **or**
 - (2) note that the management committee will cease to be legally responsible for, and will have no right to legally occupy the community centre from midnight on 28 November 2012, and instruct Council officers to take appropriate legal steps to terminate the occupancy and arrange to provide an interim service from, or mothball that community centre, until such time as a new management committee can be put in place, **or**
 - (3) confirm that the management committee will cease to legally be responsible for, and will have no right to legally occupy the

community centre from midnight on 28 November 2012, and instruct Council officers to take appropriate legal steps to terminate the occupancy and arrange to put in place a sustainable programme under the responsibility and management of the Council, **or**

- (4) confirm that the management committee will cease to legally be responsible for, and will have no right to legally occupy the community centre from midnight on 28 November 2012, and instruct Council officers to take appropriate legal steps to terminate the occupancy and mothball the community centre in the interim and report back with recommendations for the centre following the conclusion of the community asset review.

(all of the above subject to clause 5.2.9 in the report – “it is noted that there may be a situation whereby officers are instructed to provide a temporary licence and the management committee take a decision not to sign such a temporary licence. In such a situation, the management committee will, by default, cease to be legally responsible for the community centre from midnight on 28 November 2012. In these cases, officers will take appropriate legal steps to terminate the occupancy and take action to provide an interim service from that centre until such time as a new management committee can be put in place (option 2 above)”); and

- (c) notes the progress in relation to moving the remaining community centres onto the new lease and management agreement.

The Convener, seconded by the Vice Convener, moved –
that the Committee:

- (I) notes the progress of the following centres, where the leases are continuing on the basis of tacit relation, onto the new lease and management agreement arrangements: Balnagask, Balgownie, Catherine Street, Froghall, Inchgarth, Sheddocksley and Tillydrone community centres;
- (II) in respect of these centres, where the management committee has been unable or unwilling to sign up to the new lease and management agreement prior to 28 November 2012, for each of these community centres, to instruct officers to provide a temporary licence for the management committee, within the same terms and conditions of the new lease and management agreement, through to 31 January 2013 (with the exception of constitutional requirements: the association may still be in the process of amending their constitution to one that meets the requirements of the lease and management agreement), **subject to clause 5.2.9 in the report;**
- (III) notes the progress in relation to moving the remaining community centres onto the new lease and management agreement;
- (IV) instructs officers to introduce a scheme (including setting criteria) whereby Associations will be invited to apply to the Council around about November/December for financial assistance/contribution towards any outstanding or identified external repairs for which they are liable, but are struggling to afford;
- (V) approves the transfer of the funds from the former Ruthrieston management committee to the current Ruthrieston management committee; and
- (VI) instructs officers to offer management committees who do not wish to sign up to the lease and management agreement, an alternative option whereby the affected Community Centre would still require to sign a licence to

occupy prior to the 28 November 2012, but once the lease expires on 31 January 2013, would be operated in the same way as a community centre attached to a school: i.e. it would be run and managed by the Council, with the management committee inputting into the development of a programme at that site. In this situation, the management committee would no longer be entitled to a Development Grant (from 1 February 2013 onwards), but would still be eligible to receive £625 per year for the purpose of purchasing insurance. It is understood that the transition to such a model may require a reduction in programme at the affected site.

Councillor Stewart, seconded by Councillor Greig, moved as an amendment – that the Committee:

- (A) notes the content of the report;
- (B) instructs officers to continue discussions on the basis the Council will be responsible for external maintenance of lease centres;
- (C) agrees to allow community centres to continue to occupy the buildings during negotiations on the basis of a licence to occupy until December, 2013;
- (D) agrees that the Council will not take any action against individual community centre members; and further that no personal liability of committee members will be incurred or pursued;
- (E) note for clarity, that none of clause 5.2.9 is to be included;
- (F) approves that funding required will be taken from reserves; and
- (G) approves the transfer of the funds from the former Ruthrieston management committee to the current Ruthrieston management committee.

Councillor Townson, seconded by Councillor McCaig, moved as a further amendment –

that the Committee:

- (i) notes the progress of the Balnagask, Balgownie, Catherine Street, Froghall, Inchgarth, Sheddocksley and Tillydrone community centres, where the leases are continuing on the basis of tacit relation, onto the new lease and management agreement arrangements;
- (ii) in respect of any centres where the management committee have been unable to sign up to the new lease and management agreement prior to 28 November, 2012 because of legal requirements upon them to make amendments to the constitution to allow employees to be committee member office bearers and where such changes to be effected involves the holding of an extraordinary general meeting requiring 28 days notification, committee instructs officers to provide a temporary licence for such management committee with the same terms and conditions as the new lease and management agreement, subject to (iv) below, through to 31 January, 2013;
- (iii) instructs that the Development Grant should be reinstated for such centres through to 31 January, 2013;
- (iv) instructs that the management committee of any leased community centre can request the Council to fund a repair; Council can decide if this can be afforded by the Council; having full regard to health and safety issues if the Council decides not to fund such a repair that neither the management committee nor the Association such management committee represents shall be legally burdened in any way and shall not have to accept responsibility to fund this work but may however choose to fund this work; if

such a repair cannot be afforded by the Council and has implications regarding health and safety issues, officers should refer this back to this Committee for decision to terminate the lease;

- (v) notes the progress in relation to moving the remaining community centres to the new lease and management agreement; and
- (vi) approves the transfer of the funds from the former Ruthrieston management committee to the current Ruthrieston management committee.

On a division between the amendment by Councillor Stewart and the amendment by Councillor Townson, the votes cast were as follows: amendment by Councillor Stewart (2) – Councillors Greig and Stewart; amendment by Councillor Townson (8) – Councillors Cameron, Jaffrey, McCaig, May, Noble, Samarai, Townson and Reverend McKenna; declined to vote (14) – the Convener, the Vice Convener and Councillors Boulton, Cooney, Lesley Dunbar, Grant, Lawrence, Jean Morrison, Taylor and Young, Mr Maclean, Mr Nicoll, Mrs Tree, and Mrs Wischik; absent from the division (2) – Mr Duncan and Mr Paul.

On a division between the motion and the amendment by Councillor Townson, the votes cast were as follows: for the motion (14) – the Convener, the Vice Convener, and Councillors Boulton, Cooney, Lesley Dunbar, Grant, Lawrence, Jean Morrison, Taylor and Young, Mr Maclean, Mr Nicoll, Mrs Tree, and Mrs Wischik; for the amendment (9) – Councillors Cameron, Greig, Jaffrey, McCaig, May, Noble, Samarai, Stewart and Townson; declined to vote (1) – Reverend McKenna; absent from the division (2) – Mr Duncan and Mr Paul.

The Committee resolved:

to adopt the successful motion.

In terms of Standing Order 36(3), Councillor McCaig intimated he would like to refer this decision to the next meeting of full Council (19 December, 2012) for final determination. Councillor McCaig was supported by Councillors Cameron, Greig, Jaffrey, McCaig, May, Noble, Samarai, Stewart and Townson.

In terms of Standing Order 36(6), the Convener ruled that such a reference would have the effect of depriving the Council of the opportunity to make a meaningful or effective determination on the matter of this Committee's decision, due to the timescales involved.

In terms of Standing Order 15(6), Councillors Cameron, Greig, Jaffrey, McCaig, May, Noble, Samarai, Stewart and Townson declared dissent in relation to the preceding Committee decision.

AUDIT OF COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT AND LIBRARY PROVISION (ECS/12/049)

11. With reference to article 6 of the minute of its previous meeting of 20 September, 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Acting Director of Education, Culture and Sport which updated members on the ongoing work to audit the provision of community learning and development within Aberdeen, a requirement placed on Aberdeen's Community Planning Partnership by the Scottish Government through the recently published "Strategic Guidance for Community Planning Partnerships: Community Learning and Development".

The Committee resolved:

to note the progress of this project, and to request an update on the outcomes of the consultation and other related streams of work in April/May 2013.

REVIEW OF INCLUSION: PUPIL SUPPORT ASSISTANTS – IMPACT SURVEY (ECS/12/055)

12. With reference to article 17 of the minute of its meeting of 23 February, 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Acting Director of Education, Culture and Sport which presented the views of teachers, trades unions, pupil support assistants, parents and head teachers on the reduction in pupil support assistant allocations.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to note the outcome of the impact survey;
- (ii) to note that continuing personal development issues which were identified in the previous impact survey were being progressed;
- (iii) to instruct officers (1) to take account of the findings of the review within the overarching Review of Inclusion, and (2) to report back to a future meeting; and
- (iv) to instruct officers to investigate setting up a central fund to enable schools to apply for additional pupil support assistant resources, subject to the Finance and Resources Committee considering this as part of the budget process.

YOUTH IN ACTION PROGRAMME (ECS/12/051)

13. The Committee had before it a report by the Acting Director of Education, Culture and Sport which advised as to the Council's role within the newly funded Youth in Action Project (Promoting and Empowering Creative Resourceful, Enterprising Youngsters in Europe), and outlined the benefits that participating in the project would have on the Education, Culture and Sport Service.

The Committee resolved:

- (i) to approve the Council's participation in the European Commission Youth in Action programme for the project "Creative - Promoting and Empowering Creative Resourceful, Enterprising Youngsters in Europe";
- (ii) to note the success of the Service in drawing down external funding from Europe for this initiative; and
- (iii) to request that feedback from those who attend be collated and fed back to members of this Committee.

SPORTS GRANT (ECS/12/057)

14. With reference to article 12 of the minute of its previous meeting of 20 September, 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Acting Director of Education, Culture and Sport which presented an application for financial assistance from Aberdeen Sports Council.

The report recommended:

that the Committee –

- (a) does not award a Sports Grant to Aberdeen Sports Council at this time;
- (b) instructs officers to continue to work with Aberdeen Sports Council to develop their capacity to meet the Council's grant requirements;
- (c) notes that should the identified areas for development be achieved and the Council's requirements be met, Aberdeen Sports Council will be eligible to reapply for a Sports Grant; and
- (d) approves the allocation of £4,500, from the Sports Grants budget, towards a Interim Coach and Volunteer Development Grant Programme, to be administered by the Council, in order to ensure that this support is maintained.

The Convener, seconded by the Vice Convener, moved:
that the report's recommendations be approved.

Councillor Greig, seconded by Councillor McCaig, moved as an amendment:
that Aberdeen Sports Council's request for financial assistance be approved.

On a division, the votes cast were as follows: for the motion (11) – the Convener; the Vice Convener; and Councillors Boulton, Cooney, Lesley Dunbar, Lawrence, Jean Morrison, Taylor and Young; Mr Maclean and Mr Nicoll; for the amendment (7) – Councillors Cameron, Greig, McCaig, May, Noble, Samarai, and Townson; declined to vote (3) – Reverend McKenna, Mrs Tree and Mrs Wischik; absent from the division (5) – Councillors Grant, Jaffrey and Stewart, Mr Duncan and Mr Paul.

The Committee resolved

- (i) to approve the successful motion; and
- (ii) to request that in future, external members of the Committee be provided with access to all papers placed in the members' lounge.

PERFORMANCE REPORT (ECS/12/058)

15. With reference to article 15 of the minute of its previous meeting of 20 September, 2012, the Committee had before it a report by the Acting Director of Education, Culture and Sport which provided members with a summary of performance of the Service up to 30 September, 2012.

Members were circulated a replacement document for pages 211 and 212 of the report, which provided an update on the reports of violence against school staff in 2011/12.

The Committee resolved

- (i) to approve the performance report for the period up to 30 September, 2012;
- (ii) to approve the briefing note on the Scottish Qualification Authority attainment 2011/12;
- (iii) to approve the briefing note on violent incidents against Aberdeen city school staff in 2011/12; and
- (iv) to request that officers provide members with information on comparator authorities.

In terms of the decision taken at article 3 of this minute, the following items were considered with the press and public excluded.

PROVISION FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

16. With reference to article 16 of the minute of its previous meeting of 20 September, 2012, the Committee heard from the Acting Director of Education, Culture and Sport and the General Manager – Asset Manager who provided an update on the potential site for the new school with provision for children with additional support needs.

Members noted the intention of officers to report to the appropriate committee at the earliest possible date.

The Committee resolved

to note the update provided by the Acting Director and General Manager – Asset Management.

COMMUNITY CENTRES – CURRENT ISSUES (ECS/12/059)

17. With reference to article 7 of the minute of its previous meeting of 20 September, 2012, and article 10 of this minute, the Committee had before it a report by the Acting Director of Education, Culture and Sport which advised members on a number of operational issues in relation to a number of community centres.

The report recommended:

that the Committee –

- (a) instructs officers to work with the existing Woodside community centre management committee to strengthen their capacity, or if there is no evidence of any management committee at this location, to put in place support to develop a new management committee which can input into the development of the programme within the community wing of Woodside Fountain Centre;
- (b) agrees that due to the multiple occupancy of the building, the community wing of Woodside Fountain Centre, Woodside community centre, will not transfer to the new leased centre model, but will revert to the responsibility of the Council, with a local management committee inputting into the programming of the community wing within the building;
- (c) agrees that the management committees connected to the Woodside community centre will be provided with a grant of £625 per year, for the purpose of purchasing indemnity insurance, and public liability and employers insurances;
- (d) instructs officers to consult with the management committees for Cummings Park community centre and Henry Rae community centre on a proposal to merge these two community centres, and report back to this committee on the outcome of the consultation; and
- (e) declares Woodside Burgh Hall surplus to the requirements of the Education, Culture and Sport Service.

The Convener, seconded by the Vice Convener, moved:
that the report's recommendations be approved.

Councillor Townson, seconded by Councillor McCaig, moved as an amendment:
that the Committee:

- (1) instructs officers to work with the existing Woodside community centre management committee and fully support them in transition to the new leased model status;
- (2) recognises the successful multiple occupancy of the Woodside Fountain Centre and the value of the Woodside community centre management committee maximising usage of the majority of the floor space in the building and voluntarily running with great enthusiasm and commitment, an extensive programme such committee being the mainstay of the general running of the building;
- (3) instructs officers to expedite Woodside community centre management committee applying for full development grant entitlement to ensure continuation of such great voluntary works;
- (4) in respect of Cumming Park community centre and Henry Rae community centre, in the light of serious failings at both centres, to instruct officers to support volunteers to rebuild their confidence and the capacity of such volunteers to continue to operate as leased community centres as separate entities serving their respective communities at their existing locations;
- (5) to declare Woodside Burgh Hall surplus to the requirements of the Education, Culture and Sport Service.

On a division, the votes cast were as follows: for the motion (14) – the Convener, the Vice Convener, and Councillors Boulton, Cooney Lesley Dunbar, Lawrence, Jean Morrison, Taylor and Young, Mr Maclean, Reverend McKenna, Mr Nicoll, Mrs Tree and Mrs Wischik; for the amendment (6) – Councillors Cameron, Greig, McCaig, Noble, Samarai and Townson; absent from the division (6) – Councillors Grant, Jaffrey, May and Stewart, Mr Duncan and Mr Paul.

The Committee resolved

to approve the successful motion.

- JENNIFER LAING, **Convener**

CULTURE AND SPORT SUB COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 7 November, 2012 - minute of meeting of the CULTURE AND SPORT SUB COMMITTEE. Present: Councillor Laing (Convener); and Councillors Boulton, Cameron, Jean Morrison (as substitute for Councillor Lesley Dunbar), Jennifer Stewart, Thomson and Townson.

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be accessed at the following link:

<http://councilcommittees.acc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=470&MId=2706&Ver=4>

CONVENER'S WELCOME

1. The Convener welcomed members and officers to the inaugural meeting of the Culture and Sport Committee.

ITEM WITHDRAWN

2. Members noted that item 7 of the agenda (Presentation – Review of Arts and Sports Organisations) had been withdrawn, and that a report would instead be presented at the next meeting.

ORDERS OF REFERENCE

3. With reference to article 9 of the minute of meeting of the Education, Culture and Sport Committee of 20 September, 2012, members had before them the Orders of Reference of the Sub Committee for information.

The Sub Committee resolved:

to note the Orders of Reference of the Sub Committee.

DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

4. The Sub Committee had before it a list of proposed dates and times of future meetings. It was noted that meetings after the summer recess would be scheduled as part of the Council diary, which would be agreed by full Council in due course.

The Sub Committee resolved:

to agree that the Sub Committee would meet in the Town House at 10 am on the following dates –

- Thursday 10 January, 2013
- Friday 8 March, 2013
- Thursday 2 May, 2013.

SCHEDULE OF REPORTS

5. The Sub Committee had before it a report by the Head of Communities, Culture and Sport which presented a proposed schedule of reports to be submitted to future meetings.

An extensive discussion took place around potential declarations of interest, and the clerk to the Sub Committee reminded members to take cognisance of the Councillors' Code of Conduct at all times, and urged members to seek advice on potential declarations of interest at the earliest opportunity.

The Sub Committee resolved:

- (i) to approve the schedule as appended to the report; and
- (ii) to instruct officers to request the attendance of the Chief Executives of Sport Aberdeen, Aberdeen Performing Arts, and Aberdeen Sports Village to attend meetings of this Sub Committee in accordance with the schedule.

SPORTS GRANTS

6. The Sub Committee had before it a report by the Head of Communities, Culture and Sport which presented applications for financial assistance from five sports organisations.

Members requested that in future more detail be provided in the narrative section of the report in order that members have all of the information available to them in order to make an informed decision on each application.

The Sub Committee resolved:

to approve funding to organisations as follows –

- (1) Aberdeen Secondary Schools Football Association - £1,000
- (2) Hazlehead Netball Club - £317.50
- (3) Silver City Blues Swimming Club - £1,700
- (4) Special Olympics Grampian Area – Ski Group - £4,900
- (5) Wrestlezone - £0.

ABERDEEN AQUATICS CENTRE / 50 METRE POOL – BULLETIN REPORT

7. The Sub Committee had before it an information bulletin by the Service Manager for Culture and Sport which brought members up to date with progress on the construction of the 50 metre pool at Aberdeen Sports Village.

Officers confirmed that they were in active discussion with Aberdeenshire Council regarding its contribution to the revenue funding of the 50 metre pool.

The Sub Committee resolved:

to note the content of the bulletin.

**BON ACCORD INDOORE BOWLING CENTRE AND BON ACCORD 2000
BOWLING CLUB – BULLETIN REPORT**

8. The Sub Committee had before it an information bulletin by the Service Manager for Culture and Sport which advised as to the wind up of the Bon Accord Indoor Bowling Club, and updated members on developments relating to Bon Accord Bowling Club and the Skyline restaurant which were leased to the Council.

The Sub Committee resolved:

to note the content of the bulletin.

- **COUNCILLOR JENNIFER LAING, Convener**

This page is intentionally left blank

**EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT
COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

JANUARY 2013

Please note that this statement contains a note of every report which has been instructed for submission to this Committee. All other actions which have been instructed by the Committee are not included, as they are deemed to be operational matters after the point of committee decision.

<u>Minute Reference</u>	<u>Committee Decision</u>	<u>Update</u>	<u>Lead Officer(s)</u>	<u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue)	<u>Report Expected</u> (if known)
1. Education, Culture and Sport Committee 07/06/12 article 9	<u>School Estates Review</u> Officers were instructed to bring back a further report, summarising the feedback from the engagement exercise, and setting out detailed options and recommendations for a long-term School Estate Plan to the November 2012 Education, Culture and Sport Committee meeting.	A report is on the agenda and an additional meeting of the Committee is being held on 7 February on this matter.	Head of Educational Development, Policy and Performance	31/01/13	
2. Education, Culture and Sport 02/06/11 article 12	<u>Strategic Music Partnership – Big Noise: Sistema Scotland</u> The Committee resolved: to instruct officers to report to a future meeting of the Committee on the proposed business model, criteria for identifying an appropriate community, and possible funding sources.	A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.	Head of Communities, Culture and Sport	22/11/12	
3. Education, Culture and Sport 24/03/11 article 19 & 15/09/11 article 13	<u>Reduced Communities Team / Leased Community Centres –</u> to instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to review the number of community facilities within Aberdeen City, as part of the wider service asset	A review of the number of community facilities will be carried out as part of the analysis of funded activity, and an interim report was presented to the meeting of 7 June. An interim report was presented last	Head of Communities, Culture and Sport	autumn 2013	

Agenda Item 1.3

<u>Minute Reference</u>	<u>Committee Decision</u>	<u>Update</u>	<u>Lead Officer(s)</u>	<u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue)	<u>Report Expected</u> (if known)
	management plan for Education, Culture and Sport.	cycle. Update: This is included as part of the review of provision of community learning and library and information services as agreed at the meeting of 22/11/12 and forms part of item 9 on this statement. An update on the consultation will be reported to the committee in May 2013 and full report on autumn 2013.			
4. Education, Culture and Sport Committee 24/03/11 article 10 & 07/06/12 article 18	<u>Provision for Children With Additional Support Needs – Raeden</u> At its meeting of the 7/06/12, the Committee resolved: (i) to instruct officers to undertake further detailed investigations, including ground, environmental and ecological surveys, and to enter into discussion with planning officials on the development opportunities for the two preferred sites – Granitehill Road and former Smithfield School; and (ii) to instruct the General Manager, Asset Management to provide Members with costs and timescales for undertaking these surveys.	A verbal update was provided at the last meeting.	Head of Educational Development Policy and Performance	22/11/12	
5. Education, Culture and Sport 27/05/10 article 14 & 18/11/10 article	<u>Progress report on proposals to redevelop Aberdeen Art Gallery and report on improving access to the Museums and Galleries collections</u> The Committee instructed officers to	Update: Approval was granted to submit a funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund at the Urgent Business Committee of 29 November 2012. An application has been submitted and	Head of Communities, Culture and Sport		28/03/13

<u>Minute Reference</u>	<u>Committee Decision</u>	<u>Update</u>	<u>Lead Officer(s)</u>	<u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue)	<u>Report Expected</u> (if known)
21 & 07/06/12 article 19	prepare a capital business case for further consideration and report to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 16/09/10, and Finance and Resources Committee on 28/09/10, to include recommendations on the most appropriate option to redevelop the Art Gallery, and on the commitment the Council is being requested to make at that stage. At its meeting of 07/16/12, the Committee resolved: to report to Committee in advance of the deadline to make an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, to determine the Council's financial and wider commitment to the overall development.	the outcome is expected in Spring 2013.			
6. Education, Culture and Sport Committee 24/03/11 article 15 & 07/06/12 article 13	<u>Move to a Cultural Trust</u> To instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to progress, by way of an officers' working group, an options appraisal on the transfer of services to a cultural trust, and that the options appraisal (1) include consideration of which services could transfer, including the Beach Ballroom, (2) examine a preferred governance model, including the option of community ownership of assets, and (3) to request that the options appraisal include SWOT analysis and options for governance arrangements; and to report the findings of the options appraisal to Committee by 24/11/11. At its meeting of 07/06/12, the Committee	Update: Discussions are continuing with key partners. A report will be submitted to the next committee.	Head of Communities, Culture and Sport	22/11/12	28/03/13

<u>Minute Reference</u>	<u>Committee Decision</u>	<u>Update</u>	<u>Lead Officer(s)</u>	<u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue)	<u>Report Expected</u> (if known)
	agreed: to instruct officers to report to a future meeting of the Committee on the outcome of the discussions and appraisal.				
7. Education, Culture and Sport 15/03/11 article 15 & 23/02/12 article 12	<u>Newhills Primary School</u> The Committee agreed to ask the Finance and Resources Committee to earmark the land at Newhills School for future educational use, subject to the Scottish Government agreeing to transfer the site from the HRA to the General Services Account, and to receive a report on the long term use, date of transfer and transfer value of the site, once a business case and funding was approved for a new school at Newhills. At its meeting of 23/02/12, the Committee resolved: to instruct officers to continue to progress the matter in discussion with Scottish Futures Trust, and report back on progress and timelines to a future meeting.	A verbal update was provided at the last meeting.	Head of Educational Development Policy and Performance/ Head of Asset Management and Operations	22/11/12	
8. Council 06/10/11 article 8	<u>Pupil Representation</u> Council resolved: to instruct officers to prepare a full report into the membership of the Committee including how best to achieve pupil involvement.	Update: A Pupil Voice Group was established in September 2012. All secondary schools are represented and the pupils are engaging on strategic issues as well as pupil led city-wide projects. A progress and evaluation paper will be presented to ECS committee after	Head of Schools and Educational Establishments	22/11/12	

<u>Minute Reference</u>	<u>Committee Decision</u>	<u>Update</u>	<u>Lead Officer(s)</u>	<u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue)	<u>Report Expected</u> (if known)
		the end of this academic session.			
9.	<p><u>Audit of Community Learning and Development, and Library Provision</u></p> <p>To note the progress of this project, and to request an update on the outcomes of the consultation and other related streams of work in April/May 2013.</p>		Head of Communities, Culture and Sport	30/05/13	
10	<p><u>Review of Inclusion – Pupil Support Assistants</u></p> <p>To instruct officers (1) to take account of the findings of the review within the overarching Review of Inclusion, and (2) to report back to a future meeting.</p>		Head of Educational Development Policy and Performance		
11	<p><u>Community Centres – Current Issues</u></p> <p>To instruct officers to consult with the management committees for Cummings Park community centre and Henry Rae community centre on a proposal to merge these two community centres, and report back to this committee on the outcome of the consultation.</p>	A verbal update will be provided at today's meeting.	Head of Communities, Culture and Sport		
12	<p><u>Provost Skene's House</u></p> <p>To instruct officers to identify and cost extended opening hours at other museums and the Art Gallery, and to undertake a survey to gauge public demand for extended open hours at these locations.</p>	<p>Update: Report went to the Finance and resources Committee of 15 January. An update will come to the next committee meeting.</p>	Head of Communities, Culture and Sport	28/03/13	

<u>Minute Reference</u>	<u>Committee Decision</u>	<u>Update</u>	<u>Lead Officer(s)</u>	<u>Report Due</u> (items in bold are overdue)	<u>Report Expected</u> (if known)
	thereafter, to report to Education, Culture and Sport, and Finance and Resources Committees, with recommendations.				

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Education, Culture and Sport
DATE	31st January 2013
DIRECTOR	Gayle Gorman
TITLE OF REPORT	Budget Monitoring 2012/13
REPORT NUMBER:	ECS/13/006

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to
- i) bring to Committee members notice the current year revenue budget performance to date for the services which relate to this Committee; and
 - ii) advise on any areas of risk and management action.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
- i) Note this report on the forecast out-turn on the revenue budget and the information on areas of risk and management action that is contained herein;
 - ii) Instruct that officers continue to review budget performance and report on service strategies.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. The total Education, Culture & Sport revenue budget, amounts to £174m net expenditure. This is made up of £187m of gross expenditure, offset by £13m of Income and recharges.
- 3.2. Based upon present forecasts it is anticipated that the financial performance of the service will result in a favorable budget underspend of £1,292K. This is an improvement of £265K on the position reported to committee in November. This position will be reflected in the overall financial monitoring for the Council when it is reported to Finance and Resources Committee at the end of this Committee cycle.
- 3.3. Further details of the financial implications are set out in section 5 and the appendices attached to this report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Every organisation has to manage the risks inherent in the operation of large and complex budgets. These risks are minimised by the regular review of financial information by services and corporately by Members. This report is part of that framework and has been produced to provide an overview of the current operating position.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

- 5.1 This report informs members of the current year revenue budget performance to date, for the service budget and provides high level summary for the consideration of Members, to period 8 (end to November 2012).
- 5.2 The service report and associated notes on progress towards achievement of the 2012-13 savings targets are attached at Appendices A and B.

2012-13 Approved Savings

There are 17 approved savings, for 2012-2013 totaling £2.7M. These are listed at Appendix A. Against each of the savings is a narrative detailing the progress to date on each of these.

The monitoring of the Budgeted Savings is being carried out by the Programme Management Office. At this stage, all of the savings are forecast to be delivered, or alternative funding has been identified

5.3 Financial Position and Risks Assessment

The current forecast revenue out-turn is an underspend of £1,292K. The following areas of operation are highlighted together with any management action being taken.

a) Tullos Pool

There is budget provision of £200K including capital financing costs within the 2012/13 budget. This will not be required until 2013/14 and this underspend is included within the forecast.

b) Out of Authority Placements

This is an aligned budget with Social Care and Wellbeing which funds those costs associated with educating and accommodating children in specialist schools not run by Aberdeen City Council. The total aligned budget is £5.5M. The Education Culture and Sport part of this budget totals £2.4M.

The latest estimate as at 30 November 2012 is that the total aligned budget has commitments totaling £5.9M with a net over-commitment of £511K. The Education, Culture and Sport element is an over-commitment of £215K, which is little changed from the position reported to committee in November.

Officers from Education, Culture and Sport and Social Care and Wellbeing are continuing to work on short and long term strategies to reduce the number and duration of out of authority placements. This includes a series of rigorous case reviews and a review of current processes and alternative provision. It should be noted that this budget is subject to external factors out of our direct control: the council is required to fund placements instructed by the Children's Panel and needs to respond to the needs of children and young people in crisis which will on occasion require services outwith the authority. Officers advise that children currently being reviewed may require additional resources before the year end.

c) Property Costs

Rebates of £200K are now expected in relation to pre-paid contractual sums covering letting and malicious damage at 3R's schools.

A corporate re-allocation of rates budgets has cancelled out the previous overspend of £130K for rates at Cults Academy

(d) Letting Income

Letting income is expected to be £80K greater than budget. This is in line with trends over the past year.

It is estimated income of approximately £100K is due from Grampian Police and NHS Grampian in respect of those portions of the 3R's schools which they currently occupy. Officers across a range of services including ECS, and EP&I are progressing this with NHS and Grampian Police with a view to finalising lease agreements and charges for the shared accommodation. Estimated charges have been raised during this interim period.

(e) Teachers Long Term Absence Budget

Expenditure is forecast to be £300K greater than the available budget.

Whilst it is stressed that absence levels have not changed, costs are now being more fully attributed to the correct staff category rather than showing as an underspend in teaching budgets elsewhere.

The reimbursement rates for internal cover have been reviewed and from September, these are now more in line with external costs as these were too generous. It is hoped that this will bring final expenditure more into line with budget, but as yet, it is too early to tell.

(f) Payments to Trusts

A review of commitments against budget has established that there will be an underspend of £100k against this heading.

(g) CLD Property Works

This forecast includes provision of £160K of additional property works at Rosemount and Loirston CLD.

(h) Provost Skene House

Approval was given at Finance & Resources Committee to close Provost Skene House due to the commencement of further work on the St Nicholas House Site. At that time it was intended to close Provost Skene House around the end of December. This is now likely to have happened during February 2013. Any additional costs arising from this work in the current financial year will be met from within EC&S budgets. These are not expected to be of a material nature.

6. IMPACT

- 6.1 Corporate – as a recognised top priority, the Council must take the necessary measures to balance its budget. Therefore committees and Services are required to work within a financial constraint. Every effort is being focused on delivering services more efficiently and effectively.
- 6.2 Public – this report is likely to be of public interest due to the size of the budgets involved and the nature of the services provided by Education, Culture & Sport, a number of which are front line services delivered directly to citizens within the city.

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Brian Dow
Finance Partner
bdow@aberdeencity.gov.uk
01224 346352

Additional contributions to analysis of risks and management action by
Director & Heads of Service – Education, Culture & Sport

EDUCATION, CULTURE & SPORT

Appendix A

Items Accepted At February 2012 Committee		YEAR 1 (2012/13)									
PBB Ref	Project Name	Responsible Officer	Outline of Original Proposal for Achieving Savings	Monitored/Delivered	RAG Status	Cost £'000	Benefit £'000	Net Service Benefit £'000	Predicted Savings - Full Year £'000	Brief Description of Current Status	Position Statement
ECS1_C26	Reduce the number of specialist care placements by redesign and small addition to existing local services	Patricia Cassidy	Reduce the demand for out-of-authority residential placements by 18 over the next 5 years by: developing a local service; retain Kincaith Childrens unit; use one satellite unit and develop an intensive support and monitoring service	Monitored	Amber	0	(240)	(240)	(240)	This is a demand driven budget. Officers are continuing to monitor this, however the reduction in cost continues to be at risk. Officers continue to strive to reduce the number of Out of Authority Placements though decisions can be taken which are outwith Officer control. These decisions have an impact on the costs.	
ECS1-C3	Future Delivery of Cultural Services	Neil Bruce	Transfer the operation of Art Gallery and Museums from the Council to a charitable trust. Revised Proposal for Achieving Savings Scope to include catering venues (inc Beach Ballroom) and libraries. Combined with C22. Saving will not now be realised until 2013/14 but has been met from elsewhere within the service.	Monitored	Green	0	(85)	(85)	(85)	Change control done to bring together C3 and C22. KPMG has been commissioned to undertake Phase 2 development work with RGU and the University of Aberdeen.	
ECS_E11	City Campus Senior Phase	Derek Samson	In year one (2011/12) introduce 4 travel afternoons each week for S5 and S6 pupils, when pupils would attend another establishment to study a course. In year 2 (2012/13) consortia arrangements will be formalised for all secondary schools. A consortium will comprise 2 or 3 secondary schools in a given geographic area. The schools in the consortia will jointly plan the snr curriculum to ensure a breadth of choice and pupils will travel between schools to access provision. From year 1 onwards planning will begin for the introduction of a "blended learning" approach for the new Curriculum for Excellence S5 and S6 courses. This approach includes the development of e-learning options for approx 20% of each new course. Now combined with ECS_40	Monitored	Green	550	0	550	550	The delivery of savings from Year 2 onwards is at high risk due to the Scottish Government requirement to retain teacher numbers in line with pupil numbers. The proposal is still valid in that the service wish to retain a level of choice for students, however the saving will not be achieved as the Local Government financial settlement requires teacher numbers to be maintained. Change control will be completed after discussions with the Chief Accountant.	
ECS1_C25	RISK Potential shared services with other local authorities (EC&S)	Charlie Penman	Bring together services across local authorities in Education, Culture and Sport. Now combined with ECS1-C17	Monitored	Amber			0	0	EC&S Services continue to work with other local authorities to deliver joint/shared services. However since this service option was developed both Aberdeenshire and Moray Councils have appointed Directors of Education and Aberdeen City Council has appointed a new Director. Both other Councils have also appointed to Heads of Service posts. The majority of these savings were in relation to these senior posts. ECS1-C17 Review of Educational Psychology Service is included in this option. Officers are exploring opportunities for joint working with Aberdeenshire Council.	

Items Accepted At February 2012 Committee		YEAR 1 (2012/13)							
PBB Ref	Project Name	Responsible Officer	Monitored/ Delivered	RAG Status	Cost £'000	Benefit £'000	Net Service Benefit £'000	Predicted Savings - Full Year £'000	Position Statement
	Outline of Original Proposal for Achieving Savings								Brief Description of Current Status
ECS1-C10	Root and branch review of commissioned arts and sports services	Lesley Thomson	Delivered	Green	20	(239)	(219)	(219)	This saving is on target.
ECS_E19	Rationalise School Administration	Lesley Kirk	Delivered	Green	0	(193)	(193)	(193)	Saving delivered
ECS_E4	Provide one nursery teacher for each school - Option Removed, saving deducted from grant	David Leng	Delivered	Green	0	(88)	(88)	(88)	Saving delivered
ECS_E30/E	Changes to terms of engagement of casual teachers	David Leng	Delivered	Green	0	(140)	(140)	(140)	Saving delivered
ECS_E5	Nursery nurses to provide non class contact cover for nursery teachers	Liz Gillies	Delivered	Green	0	(27)	(27)	(27)	Saving delivered
ECS_E22	Reduce Pupil Support Assistants Provision by 50% in Primary Schools	Sohail Faruqi	Delivered	Green	0	(622)	(622)	(622)	Saving delivered

YEAR 1 (2012/13)										
Items Accepted At February 2012 Committee		Responsible Officer	Outline of Original Proposal for Achieving Savings	Monitored/ Delivered	RAG Status	Cost £'000	Benefit £'000	Net Service Benefit £'000	Predicted Savings - Full Year £'000	Position Statement
PBB Ref	Project Name									
ECS_E17a	Additional Support Needs: Increase teacher/pupil ratios to 1:10 - Secondary	Derek Samson	Adjust teacher staffing down from current level. This would mean increasing numbers of pupils per teacher in ASN bases in secondary schools from existing provision of 1:7 to e.g. 1:10. This would mean a reduction in staffing numbers of 13.6 fte	Delivered	Green	0	(200)	(200)	(200)	Saving delivered
ECS_E18a	Additional Support Needs: Increase teacher/pupil ratios to 1:10 - Primary	Sohail Faruqi	Adjust teacher staffing down from current level. This would mean increasing numbers of pupils per teacher in ASN bases in primary schools from existing provision of 1:7 to e.g. 1:10. This would result in a decrease in teacher numbers of 13.2 fte	Delivered	Green	0	(167)	(167)	(167)	Saving delivered
ECS_E24	Reduce Pupil Support Assistants Provision by 50% in Secondary Schools	Derek Samson	Reduce Pupil Support Assistants by 33% in Secondary Schools	Delivered	Green	0	(218)	(218)	(218)	Saving delivered
ECS1-C1	Integrated Communities Service	Gail Woodcock	Develop a streamlined management structure and move centres to leased centre status.	Delivered	Green	0	(800)	(800)	(800)	Saving delivered
ECS_E37	Change the delivery model of music tuition	Derek Samson	Restructure lesson plan, redesign fee policy	Monitored	Green	0	(170)	(170)	(170)	Officers are reviewing the fee and staffing structures. One area of concern is the small differential between group tuition fees and individual tuition fees. Officers are considering options and will report back in due course.
ECS_E9B	Redesign of secondary school estate	Charlie Penman	Redesign of school estate to reflect current demographics and population centres.	Monitored	Green	0	0	0	0	2012 is the low point in pupil numbers aged 0-15. The profile of pupil numbers 2013 onwards is increasing and the locations of families is also changing. The current public consultation on nursery and primary schools will be required to take account of these changing factors. This review will contribute to the overall review of our schools estate. Delivery of this option is dependent on Council decisions.
ECS_C27	Library & Information Services:new ways of working	Patricia Cassidy	To undertake a detailed options appraisal on new ways of working for the provision of library and information services within the City in the context of delivering efficiencies and budget savings using technology and increasing 24/7 on-line services. There will be initial savings of £13k from the withdrawal of the mobile library and additional savings to be calculated through reconfigured opening hours, staff restructuring and review of the library estate.	Monitored	Green	0	(13)	(13)	(13)	Saving delivered. Officers are continuing to develop new ways of working proposals which will be taken to EC&S Committee.
ECS_E34	Stop curriculum for Excellence training in Modern Foreign Languages in Primary	David Leng	This was a former national initiative to train primary teachers for which funding ceased. Given the continuing emphasis on foreign languages in the curriculum, it was subsequently agreed to continue funding at a local level but on a reduced basis. The funding for this training would therefore cease.	Monitored	Green	0	(100)	(100)	(100)	There is some risk to this saving due to the ongoing requirement to train teachers delivering foreign languages.

Items Accepted At February 2012 Committee		YEAR 1 (2012/13)								
PBB Ref	Project Name	Responsible Officer	Outline of Original Proposal for Achieving Savings	Monitored/ Delivered	RAG Status	Cost £'000	Benefit £'000	Net Service Benefit £'000	Predicted Savings - Full Year £'000	Position Statement
			Total Agreed By Committee			570	(3,302)	(2,732)	(2,732)	Brief Description of Current Status

**ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL
REVENUE MONITORING 2013/2013**

DIRECTORATE : Education, Culture & Sport

As At 30 November 2012	Year to Date				Forecast to Year End		
ACCOUNTING PERIOD 8	Full Year Revised Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual Expenditure £'000	Variance Amount £'000	Forecast Actual £'000	Variance Amount £'000	Variance Percent %
Head of Service - Communities, Culture & Sport	32,954	18,335	17,108	(1,227)	32,900	(54)	-0.2%
Head of Service - Schools and Educational Services	135,194	87,928	84,768	(3,160)	134,372	(822)	-0.6%
Head of Service - Policy & Performance	5,190	2,638	2,009	(629)	4,774	(416)	-8.0%
TOTAL BUDGET	173,338	108,901	103,885	(5,016)	172,046	(1,292)	-0.7%

DIRECTORATE : Education Culture & Sport
HEAD OF SERVICE : P Cassidy

As At 30 November 2012	FULL YEAR REVISED BUDGET	BUDGET TO DATE			PROJECTION TO YEAR END			CHANGE FROM LAST REPORT
		REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	VARIANCE	FORECAST ACTUAL	VARIANCE		
ACCOUNTING PERIOD 8	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	£'000
STAFF COSTS	12,977	8,651	7,839	(812)	12,578	(399)	-3.1%	(14)
PROPERTY COSTS	2,111	1,573	1,512	(61)	2,247	136	6.4%	(19)
ADMINISTRATION COSTS	469	229	213	(16)	459	(10)	-2.1%	90
TRANSPORT COSTS	181	121	66	(55)	147	(34)	-18.8%	(25)
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	6,541	4,360	2,469	(1,891)	6,453	(88)	-1.3%	(53)
COMMISSIONING SERVICES	3,092	2,061	2,256	195	3,265	173	5.6%	(50)
TRANSFER PAYMENTS TOTAL	9,401	6,267	6,307	40	9,157	(244)	-2.6%	0
CAPITAL FINANCING COSTS	5,570	0	0	0	5,570	0	0.0%	0
GROSS EXPENDITURE	40,342	23,262	20,662	(2,600)	39,876	(466)	-1.2%	(71)
LESS: INCOME								
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	(776)	(517)	(644)	(127)	(719)	57	-7.3%	57
OTHER GRANTS	(774)	(520)	(511)	9	(737)	37	-4.8%	(103)
FEES & CHARGES	(2,238)	(1,490)	(1,229)	261	(1,959)	279	-12.5%	157
RECHARGES	(360)	(240)	(220)	20	(330)	30	-8.3%	0
OTHER INCOME	(3,240)	(2,160)	(950)	1,210	(3,231)	9	-0.3%	(36)
TOTAL INCOME	(7,388)	(4,927)	(3,554)	1,373	(6,976)	412	-5.6%	75
NET EXPENDITURE	32,954	18,335	17,108	(1,227)	32,900	(54)	-0.2%	4

YR TO DATE	PROJECTED	CHANGE
VARIANCE	VARIANCE	
£'000	£'000	£'000

BUDGET TO DATE MONITORING VARIANCE NOTES

Staff Costs The year to date and annual forecast take into account timing issues in relation to the operation of Creches. This is offset by reduced income in respect of fees and charges for these creches.	(708)	(385)	(14)
Property Costs The year to date underspend reflects property repairs which will not be charged until later in the year. Forecast expenditure includes £160K of property works at Rosemount and Loirston CLD as previously approved by committee.	(78)	155	(19)
Administration costs The year to date underspend reflects a range of savings following a review of this area of the budget.	(48)	(50)	50
Transport costs A small underspend is projected in relation to travel and subsistence budgets.	(39)	(9)	(25)
Supplies & Services The year to date underspend mainly represents Management Committee funds held by the authority on their	(1,624)	(35)	(33)
Commissioning Services Both the year to date spend and the annual forecast reflect the estimated final position in respect of Out Of Authority Placements at the end of November.	65	173	(30)
Transfer payments A review of commitments in respect of payments to external bodies has confirmed there will be an underspend of approximately £290K offset by additional expenditure in respect of the Bon Accord Bowling site.	(201)	(244)	0
Income - Government Grants The favourable year to date position reflects grants already received which will be utilised during the remainder of the financial year.	(57)	0	57
Income - Other Grants The estimated variance reflects a reduction in grants in relation to creches. This is offset by reduced staffing	(21)	140	(3)
Income - Fees & Charges The reduction in expected income relates to creches. This is offset by reduced staffing costs.	237	122	57
Income - Recharges The annual forecast includes a small under recovery of costs associated with the common good fund.	15	30	0
Income - Other Income The favourable year to date position reflects unbudgeted grants received which will be utilised during the remainder of the financial year.	(245)	45	(36)

(2,703)	(58)	4
---------	------	---

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL
REVENUE MONITORING 2012/2013

DIRECTORATE :Education Culture & Sport
HEAD OF SERVICE : D Leng

As At 30 November 2012	FULL YEAR REVISED BUDGET	BUDGET TO DATE			PROJECTION TO YEAR END			CHANGE FROM LAST REPORT
		REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	VARIANCE	FORECAST ACTUAL	VARIANCE		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	£'000
ACCOUNTING PERIOD 8								
STAFF COSTS	100,429	66,895	64,505	(2,390)	100,466	37	0.0%	155
PROPERTY COSTS	23,137	17,113	16,930	(183)	22,910	(227)	-1.0%	(327)
ADMINISTRATION COSTS	306	204	130	(74)	298	(8)	-2.6%	(3)
TRANSPORT COSTS	217	144	133	(11)	193	(24)	-11.1%	(19)
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	6,352	4,293	2,820	(1,473)	6,337	(15)	-0.2%	31
COMMISSIONING SERVICES	2,715	1,810	1,724	(86)	2,551	(164)	-6.0%	(47)
TRANSFER PAYMENTS TOTAL	1,249	833	613	(220)	1,176	(73)	-5.8%	0
CAPITAL FINANCING COSTS	6,099	0	0	0	6,099	0	0.0%	0
GROSS EXPENDITURE	140,504	91,292	86,855	(4,437)	140,030	(474)	-0.3%	(210)
LESS: INCOME								
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	(347)	(231)	(210)	21	(347)	0	0.0%	0
OTHER GRANTS	(130)	(87)	(100)	(13)	(160)	(30)	22.8%	0
FEES & CHARGES	(927)	(618)	(640)	(22)	(981)	(54)	5.8%	0
RECHARGES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0
OTHER INCOME	(3,906)	(2,428)	(1,137)	1,291	(4,170)	(264)	6.8%	(15)
TOTAL INCOME	(5,310)	(3,364)	(2,087)	1,277	(5,658)	(348)	6.5%	(15)
NET EXPENDITURE	135,194	87,928	84,768	(3,160)	134,372	(822)	-0.6%	(225)

YEAR TO DATE PROJECTED VARIANCE	VARIANCE	CHANGE

BUDGET TO DATE MONITORING VARIANCE NOTES

Staff Costs

The year to date underspend mainly represents establishments holding posts vacant in order to meet annual target savings. In addition the staff vacancy factor savings annual budget of £50K has already been surpassed. Backdated regrading costs in respect of Education Social Workers totalling £130K have been included in the forecast. Teachers Long Term absence costs are now expected to be approx £300K based upon period 8 payroll figures.

(2,390) 37 155

Property Costs

The forecast final position reflects expected savings in Vandalism costs at the 3Rs schools (£48k), plus expected rebates totalling £200K in respect of unused letting hours and lower than expected malicious damage costs at 3R's schools. Corporate adjustments in respect of rates charges have now been made and this has negated the £100K additional rates costs previously reported.

(183) (227) (327)

Administration costs

(74) (8) (3)

Transport costs

A small underspend is projected in relation to travel and subsistence budgets.

(11) (24) (19)

Supplies & Services

The year to date underspend is in relation to Schools devolved teaching materials budgets is £780K, this is expected to be fully utilised by year end. In addition, there are year to date underspends of £150K in relation to the City Campus monies and £120K in relation to equipment repairs & maintenance contracts.

(1,473) (15) 31

Commissioning Services

Both the year to date underspend and final outturn estimate relate to the closure of the Raeden Nursery which has released the property rental costs.

(86) (164) (47)

Transfer payments

An underspend is projected in Pupil Clothing budgets. This is in line with previous years expenditure figures.

(220) (73) 0

Income - Government Grants

21 0 0

Other Grants

(13) (30) 0

Income - Fees & Charges

The full year income forecast mainly represents greater than budgeted letting income offset by a small under recovery in respect of Music Fees.

(22) (54) 0

Income - Other Income

Forecast Income includes greater than budgeted parental contributions at the School Of Music, £40K, increased premises recoveries income in relation to Swimming Pools. £90K, plus unbudgeted recharges of £100K in respect of Police and NHS offices in 3 R's schools.

1,291 (264) (15)

(3,160)	(822)	(225)
---------	-------	-------

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL
REVENUE MONITORING 2012/ 2013

DIRECTORATE :Education Culture & Sport
HEAD OF SERVICE : C Penman

As At 30 November 2012	FULL YEAR REVISED BUDGET	BUDGET TO DATE			PROJECTION TO YEAR END			CHANGE FROM LAST REPORT
		REVISED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	VARIANCE	FORECAST ACTUAL	VARIANCE		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	£'000
ACCOUNTING PERIOD 8								
STAFF COSTS	2,723	1,807	1,479	(328)	2,346	(377)	-13.8%	(52)
PROPERTY COSTS	188	137	88	(49)	181	(7)	0.0%	1
ADMINISTRATION COSTS	445	297	210	(87)	433	(12)	-2.7%	9
TRANSPORT COSTS	49	33	28	(5)	52	3	6.1%	3
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	668	446	304	(142)	653	(15)	-2.2%	(4)
COMMISSIONING SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	(0)	0.0%	(0)
TRANSFER TREATMENTS TOTAL	325	217	194	(23)	325	0	0.0%	0
CAPITAL FINANCING COSTS	1,227	0	0	0	1,227	0	0.0%	0
GROSS EXPENDITURE	5,625	2,937	2,303	(634)	5,217	(408)	-7.3%	(43)
LESS: INCOME								
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	(366)	(244)	(176)	68	(366)	0	0.0%	0
OTHER GRANTS	0	0	(30)	(30)	0	0	0.0%	0
FEES & CHARGES	(56)	(38)	(16)	22	(12)	44	-78.6%	(1)
RECHARGES	0	0	(37)	(37)	(52)	(52)	0.0%	0
OTHER INCOME	(25)	(17)	(35)	(18)	(25)	0	0.0%	0
TOTAL INCOME	(447)	(299)	(294)	5	(455)	(8)	1.8%	(1)
NET EXPENDITURE	5,178	2,638	2,009	(629)	4,762	(416)	-8.0%	(44)

BUDGET TO DATE MONITORING VARIANCE NOTES	YEAR TO DATE VARIANCE	PROJECTED VARIANCE	CHANGE
	£'000	£'000	£'000

Staff Costs

The year to date underspend expenditure reflects the early achievement of the annual Vacancy target saving of £117K, plus a year to date saving of £90K in relation to Tullos Pool staff costs

(328) (377) (52)

The final projected variance reflects staff savings of £180K in relation to the Tullos Pool, plus expected staff vacancy savings from within this part of the service, including a share of the staffing savings arising as a result of the EC&S Directors post vacancy.

Property Costs

The main reason for the year to date underspend is in relation to School Security costs which is expected to be fully spent by year end.

(49) (7) 1

Administration costs

£76K of the year to date underspend relates to costs associated with Staff development and it is expected that this will be utilised later in the year. The remaining balance is mainly in relation to the budget for PVG checks; corporately, a programme of retrospective checking of employees commenced in November 2012 with related costs now likely to be received later in the year.

(87) (12) 9

Transport costs

(5) 3 3

Supplies & Services

The year to date position reflects underspends in the Staff Development Programme of £50K plus a year to date underspend of £100K in relation to the budget held for property related works.

(142) (15) (4)

Income - Fees & Charges

This reduced income is that associated with swimming pool charges for Tullos Pool.

24 45 (1)

Other Income - Recharges

The projected variance reflects expected income from the Non Housing Capital Plan in respect of staff time associated with the MIS Capital programme implementation.

(26) (52) 0

(613)	(415)	(44)
-------	-------	------

Glossary

The following glossary refers to terms used within the body of the report and its appendices

Staff Costs

This cost category includes all direct staff costs such as salaries and wages as well as indirect staff costs such as pension and lump sum payments.

Property Costs

This heading includes all costs associated with the upkeep of buildings and grounds. This includes such expenditure as rates, energy, property repairs, and the 3 R's unitary charge.

Administration Costs

This heading relates to the administrative functions associated with the service. This includes such expenditure as courses, printing & stationery, telephones, disclosure checks and advertising.

Transport Costs

This heading includes the costs of day to day travel for all staff, car parking passes, and any relocation travel expenses.

Supplies & Services Costs

This heading relates to a number of types of expenditure, and includes purchase, hire, repair and maintenance of equipment, exam fees, Community Centre management funds purchases, schools per capita budgets.

Commissioning Services

This heading includes payment for services carried out by external agencies. This includes payments in respect of External Placements, swimming pools, Grampian Health Board.

Transfer Payments

This mainly reflects payments to third parties such as clothing grants, free school meal costs and education maintenance allowance payments, grants and contributions to external bodies.

Capital Financing Costs

This is the repayment costs associated with projects previously approved within the Non Housing Capital Programme. The budget reflects the planned repayment of both capital and interest elements.

Income - Fees & Charges

This is income generated from the sale of services. This includes admission charges, premises hire, music and coaching fees catering sales and the sale of season tickets.

Income - Other Income

This tends to encompass expenditure recoveries and includes education maintenance allowance reclaims from the Scottish Government, DEM Target Savings, funding carried forward from previous years and miscellaneous income categories.

This page is intentionally left blank

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Education, Culture & Sport
DATE	31 January 2013
DIRECTOR	Gordon McIntosh
TITLE OF REPORT	Capital Monitoring – Education, Culture & Sport Projects
REPORT NUMBER:	EPI/12/293

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise the Committee of the capital spend to date for the Education, Culture & Sport projects included within the Non-Housing Capital Programme.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

The Committee note the current position.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The monies required to fund these projects are achieved through external borrowing, capital receipts and grant income. These projects are all accommodated within the Non-Housing Capital Programme. Any underspend, carry forward or overspend will have implications for the programme. At present, Tullos Pool refurbishment has authorisation to overspend by £77,832, provided by the Head of Asset Management & Operations delegated authority. Details of the overspend are provided in Appendix A of this report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other implications at this time but as projects progress or indeed fail to progress then other implications may arise and will be reported at an appropriate Committee.

5. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

As reported at the Finance & Resources Committee in December 2011 the overall responsibility for the monitoring / management of the Capital Programme lies with the Head of Asset Management & Operations. The Planning & Monitoring Officer within Asset Management & Operations is in regular contact with the Service Representative and

the Capital Accountant, reporting in the first instance to the Corporate Asset Group. This ensures that the spend figures are always up to date and accurate.

Education, Culture & Sport has a total of 6 projects, totaling £2.537 million allocated to it from the Non-Housing Capital Programme in 2012/13. The projects and total budget committed to each project included in the programme are:-

- 1) Information Communication Technology Connectivity
£34,000
- 2) Replacement of Education Management Information System
£167,000
- 3) School Estate Strategy - Bucksburn / Newhills
£522,000
- 4) School Estate Strategy – Riverbank
£172,000
- 5) Provision for Children with Complex Needs
£771,000
- 6) Tullos Pool Refurbishment
£871,000

Spend for all projects to end of December is £79,000. Variances in monthly spend compared to predicted spend have been identified in some cases, which has resulted in spend profiles being amended.

Appendix A provides a breakdown of this spend to date and relevant supporting information as necessary.

An update on the capital position will be reported to this Committee on 28 March 2013.

6. IMPACT



Corporate - The capital programme encompasses projects which link to the Community Plan, Single Outcome Agreement, Corporate and Individual Service Plans.

Public - This report will be of interest to the public as it outlines the Council's capital spending to date on Education, Culture & Sport projects.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Non-Housing Capital Programme 2012/13 – Capital Monitoring Report
approved at Finance & Resources Committee on 19 June 2012

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

David Marshall
Planning & Monitoring Officer
 damarshall@aberdeencity.gov.uk
 01224 523191

Appendix A: Spend to date

Project Description	Budget Holder	Total Budget 12/13	Budget 13/14	Budget 14/15	Spend to end Dec.
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Information Communication Technology Connectivity	Rosaleen Rentoul	34	0	0	34
Replacement Education Management Information System	David Wright	167	0	0	36
School Estate Strategy - Bucksburn / Newhills	Sharon McNut	522	1,215	7,638	0
School Estate Strategy - Riverbank	Sharon McNut	172	1,490	88	8
Provision for Children with Complex Needs	Sharon McNut	771	5,722	6,393	0
Tullos Pool Refurbishment	David Wright	871	100	0	0
Totals		2,537	8,527	14,119	79

- The budget holder for The Replacement Education Management Information System has advised Asset Management a number of orders will be raised in January. A range of mobile devices for use in schools will be ordered, costing approximately £100,000.
- School Estate Strategy – Bucksburn / Newhills project still does not have a detailed project plan. This will be made available when the budget holder has finalised this with HubCo North.
- A site is still to be selected for the Provision for Children with Complex Needs project.
- Tullos Pool Refurbishment has now had a contract accepted, totaling £1.049 million. The additional spend on this item is 7% over the approved capital budget. The overspend has been authorised by the Head of Asset Management & Operations under his delegated authority.
- It has been necessary to accept the contract over budget as the approved sum was based on a three year old probable cost with no opportunity to check the cost against the cost of living increases before committee approval. In addition, changes to the design requested by the future operator, Sport Aberdeen, have been adopted and approved by Education, Culture & Sport. Pool tank works have increased due to the length of time empty following discussions with pool specialists
- Mitigating measures to minimize the overspend have been employed: Provisional sums have been omitted or reduced; contingencies have been reduced and a Bill of Reduction has been agreed with Education, Culture & Sport and the Preferred Contractor.
- The budget holder has provided a reprofiled plan of works in line with the accepted contract sum. The project has now been profiled for slippage to 13/14 as part of the three year capital plan.

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Education, Culture and Sport
DATE	31 January 2013
DIRECTOR	Gayle Gorman
TITLE OF REPORT	City Campus – Travel Afternoons
REPORT NUMBER:	ECS/13/005

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an update, following the first full year of implementation, of the Travel Afternoon initiative. An interim report was taken to the ECS Committee on 23 February 2012.

The Travel Afternoon initiative is part of a wide range of approaches to enhancing learning opportunities for pupils, through the City Campus, initially in the upper stages of secondary school education.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Committee

- notes the content of this report;
- instructs officers to continue to develop the City Campus project which will open up learning opportunities for pupils, particularly in the upper stages of secondary schools;
- instructs officers to complete a further evaluation of travel afternoon provision following the completion of the courses in 2013.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are none at this stage, other than the costs of completing a further review which can be met from existing budgets.

4. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

In session 2011-12, fourteen Advanced Higher courses in addition to courses at Higher, Intermediate 1&2 and Access level in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) were offered to pupils attending all city secondary schools and delivered at Aberdeen Grammar School and Harlaw Academy.

This was intended to enhance curricular choice for pupils and these courses were provided in addition to those offered in each 'home' school.

In order to facilitate planning for courses in session 2012-13, an interim review of the provision of these centrally delivered courses was carried out in December 2011 and January 2012. As courses had been running for only half the school year, this review was limited in its scope although a range of positive and negative issues were raised.

As part of the delivery of the Senior Phase within *Curriculum for Excellence*, it is intended that pupils are provided with access to a far broader range of appropriate courses and options than a single school could provide.

These include working in partnership with

- immediate neighbouring schools in four local consortia;
- local providers from business and industry as well as the voluntary sector;
- schools across the city, such as in the travel afternoon initiative;
- other educational providers – Aberdeen College, Aberdeen University and Robert Gordon University;
- schools in other Local Authorities – e.g. a partnership with Shetland Islands Council has already been established.

It is intended to provide equity of access to these opportunities by ensuring that they will be open to all pupils, regardless of their 'home' school or where they live.

For session 2012-13, the same courses were on offer as in 2011-12 and a range of others were added, including Mandarin at Advanced Higher, Higher and Int 2 levels; Advanced Higher Accounting & Finance; Advanced Higher German; the Access to Creative Education in Scotland (ACES) Project delivered by RGU and an employability option delivered by Station House Media Unit (SHMU)

5. IMPACT

This report is likely to be of interest to the public. It will affect those with children and those working in schools. It will also be of interest to those involved in lifelong learning and to other public provider partners.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The Evaluation (Appendix 1) describes the views of participants from 2011-12 and progress made by the ECS service following recommendations made in the interim evaluation of January 2012.

In summary, the aim of ensuring equity of access to AH courses was supported and welcomed by staff and students across all schools and the introduction of the Travel Afternoon initiative did widen subject choice significantly for young people. Students attending courses were generally positive about the experience.

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Grahame Whyte
Acting Service Manager Schools (12-18) and Curriculum
01224 522707
gwhyte@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Aberdeen City Council
Education, Culture & Sport
Evaluation of Travel Afternoons

Section 1 - Evaluation of 2011-12 Provision – Full Year

Young people who had participated in the Travel Afternoon programme during session 2011-12 were invited to respond to the following six questions in September and October 2012. The following responses represent the range of comments which were made.

- 1. Having spent session 2011-2012 participating in an Advanced Higher course which was delivered in Aberdeen Grammar School or Harlaw Academy to students from across the city, what do you consider were the advantages in this approach?**

Responses

- Good to mix with students from other schools
- Increased range of subjects available
- Good to experience a different learning environment
- Keen to represent my 'home school' positively
- It was a breath of fresh air to be away from 'home' school
- Access to very helpful staff who gave good guidance
- I got to do the courses I wanted.

- 2. What do you consider were the disadvantages of this approach which need to be addressed by Aberdeen City Council?**

Responses

- Time and cost of travel were issues. (part of almost all responses)
- The Graphic Communication equipment in Harlaw was in a poorer condition than in our own school.
- It was difficult to send project work by e-mail.
- Difficult to receive help from the teacher outwith travel times.
- I attended a course at Harlaw which had more Cults pupils in it. Could make sense to run courses in the schools with the most participants.
- More communication between schools is needed
- Study leave between schools was difficult to manage as it took place at different times.

- 3. Did you achieve the grade you expected in your Advanced Higher Course(s)?**

Responses

- Most responses indicated that what was predicted was achieved
- Some respondents enjoyed just trying the courses.

- 4. Now that you have left school, what are your plans for session 2012-13?**

Responses

- Almost all respondents are following courses at university

- Taking a gap year then applying for Biomedical Sciences
- To work before I decide which university course to apply for

5. What impact did your Advanced Higher course(s) have on your intended destination beyond school?

Responses

- Had received unconditional offers from universities so Advanced Highers had no direct impact
- Had an unconditional offer but had I not received this they would have been vital.
- The Advanced Higher History course set me on a good path of study habits.

6. Are there any additional comments you would like to make?

Responses

- Better selling of the programme so that young people are not reluctant to go to other schools.
- I think the grades we achieved should be credited to the teacher who taught us rather than the school we come from
- My own teacher had taught the Advanced Higher for 10 years compared to the one year's experience of the teacher we got.
- I am pleased this is being audited so that improvements can be made
- This is a worthwhile project but all teachers must be prepared to put the effort in for all pupils
- This is a good way of keeping Advanced Higher course on offer within the city.

Section 2 – Progress by ACC since the Interim Evaluation (January 2012)

Following the interim evaluation of the Travel Afternoons undertaken in December 2011 and January 2012, various recommendations were made to the ECS service. These recommendations fell into four areas – communication, support, staffing and transport costs. The following statements describe progress which has been made

Communication

- The ECS Service has produced and distributed to all schools a clear overview of the Travel Afternoon programme so that there is consistency of information. This has helped to ensure that young people and their families understand what is involved before they make course choice decisions.
- A key contact for the Travel Afternoons has been identified in each school.
- Clear criteria for gaining a place in a Travel Afternoon class have been established in the event that it is over-subscribed.
- 'Home' schools have undertaken to share information regarding any additional support needs of young people attending Travel Afternoon classes.
- Clear procedures have been established to provide 'home' schools with prompt information on attendance, concerns, progress and predicted grades.

- Responsibilities have been agreed for writing pupil reports and contributing to UCAS applications.
- Expectations of support have been agreed for students with investigations and dissertations have been planned in both the 'home' and 'host' schools.
- Roles and responsibilities have been identified to manage and communicate any student disciplinary issues.
- Arrangements are in place to ensure that young people do not travel unnecessarily in the event of teacher absence.
- Inclement weather procedures have been introduced.
- The flow of information to parents has been improved, particularly in relation to parents' evenings.

Support

- Induction meetings took place in June 2012 in order that young people feel welcome in the 'host' schools.

Staffing

- The ECS Service has considered enhancing staff professional development by inviting expressions of interest from teachers who are keen to deliver AH courses as part of the Travel Afternoon programme. For the time being, these courses will continue to be delivered by a slightly enhanced staffing complement at Aberdeen Grammar School and Harlaw Academy.

Transport Costs

- The ECS service has organised travel cards in negotiation with First Aberdeen for all young people attending Travel Afternoon classes during 2012-13.

Section 3 – Next steps (Session 2013-2014)

Plans are in place for the City Campus Travel Afternoons to continue in session 2013-14 with continued provision and further learning opportunities for pupils, particularly in the upper stage of secondary schools.

Work would continue under the above broad headings of Communication, Support, Staffing and Transport Costs to ensure that the City Campus provision and success was enhanced. One significant development will be the proposed launch of an e Prospectus and booking system for staff and students which will enhance the operational effectiveness of the programme.

This page is intentionally left blank

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Education, Culture and Sport
DATE	31 January 2013
DIRECTOR	Gayle Gorman
TITLE OF REPORT	Nursery/Primary School Estate Review – Feedback from Engagement Exercise
REPORT NUMBER:	ECS/13/004

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report describes the extent and content of the feedback received during informal engagement on Nursery and Primary School Estate, carried out between 24 September and 7 December 2012.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Committee

- notes the content of the report and in particular that the summary of the points raised in the facilitated discussion groups at the engagement events is placed on the Council website and that copies of all submissions are placed in the Members' Library and
- instructs officers to consider the major issues raised when formulating proposals on the development of the school estate which will be included in the report to a special meeting of Education, Culture and Sport Committee in February, 2013.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific revenue or capital implications for current and future years, any financial risk directly arising from this report. There may be significant financial implications if any of the proposals are taken forward.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal, resource, personnel, property, equipment, sustainability and environmental, health and safety and/or policy implications or risks related to this report.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Background

Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 7/6/12 (item 8.1) instructed officers to bring a report to Committee that describes the feedback from the informal engagement on Review of the Nursery and Primary School Estate.

The format and extent of the engagement was planned with input from stakeholders, elected members and officers.

Headteachers were initially informed of the engagement in spring 2012 and again in August, 2012.

An information letter was provided for schools to circulate to parents and carers. A leaflet was circulated to schools, community centres and other public buildings to provide a synopsis of the engagement process.

Corporate communications were briefed on the process and a press release issued.

5.2 The Engagement Scope

The engagement consisted of two main strands: the provision of information to stakeholders and the opportunity for stakeholders to submit their views.

5.2.1 Provision of Information

A broad range of information was made available to stakeholders in the following ways:

- (i) a comprehensive section of the Aberdeen City Council website;
- (ii) the engagement document, available from the website or for consultation at school, community centres and other public buildings;
- (iii) displays at nineteen engagement events (Associated Schools Groups, denominational provision, Additional Support Needs, city-wide at Marischal College).

5.2.2 Submission of Views

Stakeholders were able to submit their views by a variety of means:

- (i) by completing the electronic survey accessible directly or via the Aberdeen City Council website;
- (ii) by submitting an email to a dedicated email address;
- (iii) by participating in the facilitated discussion groups at the engagement events;
- (iv) by completing a comment card at the engagement events or the city-wide, drop-in events;
- (v) by writing to the Council.

5.2.3 Summary of submissions

325 submissions via the electronic survey
298 emails were received
585 participants attended the engagement events*
17 comment cards
7 written letter submissions

Some submissions were made in more than one format.

*including parents/carers and staff (some of whom may also have been parents/carers). This figure does not include officers or Group Leaders attending the events.

5.2.4 General Points Raised

The majority of submissions concerned maintaining service delivery, unchanged, on a local basis. There was a significant number of suggestions which contributors felt would improve educational provision. These were often linked to continuing current provision, but suggesting changes to delivery where new housing developments were proposed or being delivered.

This was helpful and these will be considered when the report to Committee with proposals on named schools/ASGs is written.

There were few submissions on possible new approaches to delivery of education or on how to resolve issues on a city-wide basis.

5.2.5 Publicising the Feedback

A list of the recorded points raised by each of the facilitated discussion groups at all engagement events has been placed on the Council's website.

A folder containing a paper copy of all submissions received in any format has been placed in the Elected Members' Library.

6. IMPACT

Corporate - The first high-level priority within Smarter People (Social and Human Capital) of the administration's policy document '*Aberdeen – the Smarter City*' states,

'We will provide a high quality education service within our schools and communities which will improve attainment and life chances of our children and young people to achieve their full potential in education, employment or training'.

Members of the Committee will be interested in the submissions made by stakeholders and will use this information when considering the proposals in the Report on the Review of the Primary and Nursery Estate, which will be presented to Committee in February, 2013.

Public – There will be significant public interest in this report. Firstly, individuals will be keen to establish that their submissions are included. Secondly, there will be interest in the range of views submitted by other stakeholders.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1: Synopsis of Submissions

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Derek Samson
Service Manager, Schools (12-18) and Curriculum
dsamson@aberdeencity.gov.uk
(52)3817

APPENDIX 1 Synopsis of Submissions

Summary of Engagement Email Submissions 2012

School	Form of Communication	Concerns - Curriculum	Concerns - Pupils	Concerns - Regarding Proposal	Concerns - Regarding Infrastructure	Other Concerns	Views on Documentation/Venues	Other Comments
Aberdeen Grammar	Email			I do not want The Grammar zone catchment area change. There are so many out of zone children. If you keep to in zone there will be no problem with numbers. Do not want 6th Form College.			Requested copy of Engagement Document Requested copy of Engagement Document	
Aberdeen Grammar	Comment Card			There is no room to extend Mile End School to make room for over capacity. If you allowed St Joseph's to employ more teachers that would make room for over-capacity in other schools.				
Aberdeen Grammar	Comment Card			Re-zoning won't solve the problem of over-capacity as out of zones can take up additional places. The only effective solution is to improve the undesirable schools e.g. make schools like Northfield to be desired by improvements/rebuilding/statistics positive.				
Aberdeen Grammar	Letter	Out of zone pupils would increase class sizes.		I am happy with the zoning/catchments of Aberdeen Grammar School and its feeder schools and don't see any strong argument educationally, financially or otherwise for re-zoning. If pupils were encouraged to attend their local school then you could make decisions based on a more concrete footing.	The local effects of out of zone pupils include increased traffic and congestion across the city, dangerous parking issues around the schools.			
Aberdeen Grammar	Letter	Feeder schools ensure continuity for pupils. If a small minority have to attend another school, pupils will be disadvantaged as they will be isolated from their friends, have no links with the new school and local community.		A significant proportion of our local nursery is filled with out of zone pre school children resulting in many families with ante pre school children not receiving places.				
Aberdeen Grammar	Letter			A requirement that pupils live in zone for the whole of their academic career is a sensible way to control numbers and an embargo on out of catchment pupils unless school is under capacity. The Grammar could be opened city wide with entrance by ability. Advantages are this is based on pupils' ability not whether parents have enough money. A quick implementation will lead to those who can afford to move house.				

Care should be taken not to rezone ethnic minority groups e.g. Forsterhill Hospital staff residences. Rezoning ethnic minority families would be an example of such indirect discrimination.

Tinkering with zones and boundaries will fail to improve the quality of education, will favour those who are financially well off and will be costly for taxpayers.

It is a priority that pupils can walk to school for pupils' health, road safety independence and the environment. Pupils will be disadvantaged if rezoning is applied quickly e.g. those in final years of primary.

Aberdeen Grammar Email

i.e. The 'anomaly' of having two secondary schools near to each other. This should be put to rest. It is what it is, the two schools are close, I wouldn't base wide affecting decisions on this fact, the most viable

solution to the 'out of zoners issue' (putting cost aside) is to improve the 'under capacity' schools, thus making them desirable to new families.

Aberdeen Grammar Letter

Of the basis of the projected roll of the school, there seems little or no need to change this school. On the contrary most parents seem to be happy with the present circumstances and would be unhappy with and object to any changes. The 4 primary schools in the ASG are also all close to their maximum capacity). The simplest solution is to reduce the number of children taken in from out of zone. In the ASG only Skene Square goes significantly over capacity.

It is unclear whether this is simply because of expected developments the simplest solution for that school would seem to be, to move some of the former Causeway End catchment area to another primary school. The Northfield ASG perhaps demonstrates the biggest issue. The only real solution is to ensure that similar education standards are provided across the school estate. Obviously this should be aiming to reach the highest standard.

Until the council is able to achieve this objective under-utilisation will continue. As a concerned parent living in Macaulay Place I am shocked and dismayed that the children living in Macaulay housing edition directly opposite Airyhall School are not in zone to attend Airyhall School - some 100m from our house. This issue should be considered for re-zoning.

The friendship groups that my child has made with others in his neighbourhood of Countesswells and Airyhall at the local community Centre, playgroups and nursery will suffer if he does not attend the same school

as his peers living around him. The long journey on dark winter mornings and afternoons pose a health and safety risk that I would not be willing to let a Primary age child make. This is highlighted at this time of year,

when the long journey in such cold, dark conditions put the welfare of the child in danger.

If our children were not to get into the school then they would require to walk approx 20mins and cross several busy main roads on a daily basis which seems rather unpractical from a health and safety perspective.

Email

Airyhall

1) Macaulay Drive is a 'no through road'. To get to Hazlehead School (for which we are zoned) one has to come back out onto Countesswells road and walk past Airyhall School on route and walk a 2 mile journey. 2) There are many major roads to cross, including Craigiebuckler avenue, Hazledene Road, a busy junction at Kingsgate and Queens Road to name but a few to reach Hazlehead School. All without pedestrian crossings.

We are currently living in Macaulay Place and feel that the zone allocation for Airyhall Primary school should include our Macaulay housing estate. Our house is approximately 200m walking distance from the school and approx. 2mins walking pace to the gates of the school.

Airyhall

Ashley parents are passionate about retaining their links to Aberdeen Grammar School. There is a danger that a rezoning decision could be seen as a knee jerk reaction to figures currently available, including numbers for Skene Square School, in particular, that have taken into account a planning application that may not even come to fruition. As the figures show this to be the biggest reason for concern within the Aberdeen Grammar School ASG

in the next seven years we would be disappointed to see undue concern over the AGS having to operate over capacity when it is unlikely this will have an impact. Any rezoning would disturb a well established community.

Again for several years we have pointed out Aberdeen Grammar to the children as their future secondary school. Both our children from P1 have been attending Active Sports & Aberdeen Aquatics at Grammar -

not just for the enjoyment of sports but also with the longer term aim to make the transition to secondary school less daunting by already having some familiarity with the school and having made friends with other children from the

feeder schools. The effect which rezoning will have on the children affected by the changes must be considered.

Concerned that friends would be alternatively zoned.

Disappointed that the review does not seem to be focusing on the excellence of schools and school ethos only focusing on the building.

We note that whilst parents have the right to make a request for out of zone admission that the authority only has to agree to such requests whenever possible and there is already a list of priorities for granting places when the school's capacity is likely to be exceeded. The local authority already has the right to refuse placing requests on the grounds that accepting children from out of zone would result in the capacity of the school being

exceeded or if significant expenditure would be required to extend the school's accommodation and/or facilities (Education (Scotland) Act 1980 (amended)). The existing zone structure is well established. The relationship between Ashley Road School and Aberdeen Grammar School is long established and successful.

Dangerous precedent in looking at property matters alone and may lead to poor and sub-optimal decisions that do not meet the best educational needs of children.

Ashley Road

Email

Aberdeen Grammar features at no. 10 and Harlaw doesn't feature in the top 50.

Extend or reduce zones to address over/under capacity issues. Review primary school sites where additional accommodation can be built. Deal with dual zones to alleviate confusion. Ensure new housing developments are planned for. Disagree with rezoning of Ashley Road to Harlaw. Property prices could be adversely affected.

Ashley Road

Email

Aberdeen Grammar features at no. 11 in the Herid top 50 state schools and Harlaw doesn't feature. The Secondary School Inspection follow-through report of Aberdeen Grammar lists some of the strengths as the high levels of young people's attainment

Our daughters current concern is around attending the same secondary school as her friends but as parents we would like to give our children the best education available. Our children are attending

Rezoning would lead to a high level of out of zone requests for children to attend Aberdeen Grammar School. The current high level of in-zone attendance at Ashley Road and Aberdeen Grammar School is a reflection of the excellent reputation these schools have.

Ashley Road

Email

Active Schools and Aberdeen City Aquatics at AGS. Safe routes to school for pupils must be a major consideration.

Ashley Road

Email

There is no educational basis for moving Ashley Road to Harlaw. It would be educationally detrimental for children with broken relationships.

Ashley Road has a very strong relationship with Aberdeen Grammar and is reflected in the high percentage of children choosing to go to Aberdeen Grammar from Ashley. This ensures friendship groups are maintained.

Children have also formed relationships through Active Schools. One third of Ashley Road catchment area is situated North side of Queen's Road, therefore, closest and safest school for them.

Ashley Road

Email

I would disagree with any proposal to build a new school. Money would be better spent on teacher support. I do not support a re-zoning of Ashley Road to Harlaw.

Email

Ashley Road

I strongly wish that Ashley Road Primary School is NOT REZONED to be in the catchment zone for Harlaw Academy. One of the reasons we bought a house in the Ashley Road area was so my children could attend Aberdeen Grammar School, which has a very good reputation.

Email

Ashley Road

By viewing the Secondary schools Inspection Reports and Scotland Schools League Table I don't want the Ashley Road to be rezoned to Harlaw Academy from Aberdeen Grammar and would like my children continue their secondary school education in Aberdeen Grammar School.

Email

Ashley Road

The consultation exercise includes no proposals for parents to comment upon. Inappropriate to source ideas from a blank sheet. Parents have no real desire for change unless it can offer benefits to education. Rezoning should be kept to a minimum to avoid disruption to families. So called anomalies may exist but it hasn't been a problem in my lifetime. Most parents of pupils at Ashley Road would find it unacceptable to be rezoned at Harlaw

I do not believe any child should have to consider being driven bused to school. The city centre schools are located where they are for a reason ie adjacent to the population which needs them.

Email

Ashley Road

Grammar's attainment levels are significantly higher than Harlaw Academy's. The council may well end up losing academically able pupils to the private sector, reducing the attainment levels it so prides itself on, and hastening a further exodus.

If Ashley is rezoned for Grammar, my son may well end up in a private school (where we have been told he would excel). That would be regrettable because he would lose the friendships he has

The Grammar remains a jewel in the city's schools estate; I'm sure the council wants to keep it that way.

built up over the years.

Ashley Road

Email

To make an informed judgement on rezoning, the out of zone information may need more analysis with regard to trends in residential locations of out of zone pupils for the primary schools. I would be strongly against any move to rezone Ashley Road Primary school away from Aberdeen Grammar school as it has a high percentage of in-zone pupils and is geographically best suited to Grammar for most pupils residential location.

Ashley Road

Email

The transition from primary to secondary has been improved as children are being encouraged to participate in Active Schools activities. Children have made friends with similar interests before they start

The schools with major issues should be addressed directly rather than stirring up all the city areas. Where an existing zoning arrangement works we should not look to destroy this. Ashley Road is not an anomaly in the system, this is simply a geographical split that works. The relationship between AGS and Ashley is well established hence the level of attendance at the recent ASG parents meeting. There is a danger that rezoning could be seen as a knee jerk

secondary. Parents do not want one child attending Aberdeen Grammar and one attending Harlaw owing to rezoning.

reaction to figures currently available. Any changes to feeder schools will result in people applying to AGS from outwith the catchment area.

Ashley Road

Email

I strongly feel that it could be very detrimental to my younger child's education were she to be placed in a school separated from her sibling. She is not a child that copes particularly well with transition, and

having endured several years where she has found it very difficult to settle into new surroundings, we have always had the comfort of knowing that when the time came to move on to the "big school", she

would have her brother there to look out for her, to help and encourage her.

Email

A comparison of the schools results show better attainment at the Grammar school - I do not wish my children to attend a school that has poorer educational outcomes than the school they are currently zoned to.

Review the use of the French school at the Grammar school, move the Gaelic unit at Gilcomstoun School to provide increased capacity at that school, and consider the viability of St Josephs.

Ashley Road

Email 1

It would be useful to differentiate between the in-zone schools forecasts and the planned out of zone spare capacity for each of the schools instead of this single forecast number.

Ashley Road

Email 2

Can't help thinking that instead of more surveys being perform more effective action would have been to act upon the independent recommendations made 6 years ago in the first place.

Ashley Road

Email

To change the catchment zone would jeopardise Grammar's performance. The rezoning of Ashley Road to Harlaw (a shift from a high performing school to one which performs less well) would be of great concern to parents and could potentially jeopardise

A possible solution to this city wide problem would be the reduction in out of zone places offered. This all appears to be as a result of the parental right to choose a school and the allocation policy of Aberdeen City Council.

Ashley Road

Email

We wanted our son to attend Aberdeen Grammar due to the standard of the school and the level that it had achieved in the School Exam Performance Tables, whereas Harlaw does not have the same stature.

The detriment would be a reduced valuation to our home, the cost of selling and buying resulting in a much smaller home in an area such as Cults to ensure the same level of schooling.

Our son is a sensitive boy and he has built up a lot of friends at Ashley Road who also live in the close neighbourhood and intend to continue their education at Aberdeen Grammar.

To uproot him from his friends and home could be potentially damaging emotionally to his growing up life.

Ashley Road

Having our children educated there is in our case historic, but based on the school's performance and excellent results over the years

Email

There is little doubt there is a correlation between house prices and educational catchment areas. It is highly likely that rezoning would adversely affect house prices in the Ashley Road catchment area. In this economic period of financial anxieties, devaluation of everyone's main asset surely must be something to consider avoiding.

Ashley Road

Email

Rezoning Ashley Road to Hartlaw would serve no useful purpose in terms of solving capacity issues at either Hartlaw or Grammar, unless the Council is hoping to move to drive demand down at Ashley Road which would move a currently non-existent problem elsewhere.

Ashley Road

Email

See document- For reasons we have outlined, we can see no reason to change the long standing and successful relationship between Ashley Road and AGS. Neither school is forecast to exceed it's capacity and it is clear that any proposal to re-zone Ashley Road would be driven by other considerations rather than educational benefit.

Ashley Road

Email

Children with additional support needs would feel vulnerable with changing arrangements. In addition they may have older siblings at the Grammar and their stress would be increased being zoned to another

school or having to leave friends. Parents also will struggle to liaise and attend to 2 secondary schools if they have children already at the Grammar. The support for younger children within the secondary schools

Consequently the parents of Ashley Road School will vigorously oppose any change to their current zoning arrangements.

will be removed,
transport to 2
different schools will
be difficult and there
will be added
expense in terms of
2 different sets of
uniform etc in these
times of recession.
The children
themselves have

also long known they
will be attending the
Grammar and to
change will cause a
degree of stress.

Ashley Road

Email

It is noted that the new Mile End School has had a very significant investment into it and to suggest using Ashley Road as a feeder to Harlaw Academy appears to be unfair i.e. not only less invested in Ashley Road (and therefore to those pupils) than Mile End (Ashley Road scored poorly in relation to building suitability and condition in latest reports) those pupils attending Ashley Road appear then to be further penalised if only granted access to the less prestigious secondary school. Ashley Road has a long history of being a source school for the Grammar school no less than any other school and it appears

My wife and I actually only have knowledge of the proposal through a neighbour who happens to have a letter from the Ashley Road Parent council. I can find no clear

idea even on the ACC website of what is actually happening. Why has the council not gone out and provided residents with the information that they

need / deserve? I note on the letter it is stated that the consultation period is supposedly closed on 30th November but it seems like it has never been open.

Ashley Road

Email

Despite predictions of overcapacity amongst Grammar feeder schools the role of the Grammar is not expected to be exceeded, therefore there seems no valid reason to change the catchment zone.

Ashley Road

Email

Despite predictions of overcapacity amongst Grammar feeder schools the role of the Grammar is not expected to be exceeded, therefore there seems no valid reason to change the catchment zone.

Ashley Road

Email

The fact that Harlaw Academy is situated within the catchment area for Ashley Road is irrelevant to Ashley Road pupils as Grammar is situated within walking distance of all pupils living in the Ashley Road catchment area. The only "anomaly" I can see is that of the location of Harlaw in relation to its feeder schools and that has always been the case.

Ashley Road

Petition

Email of Support for not rezoning Ashley Road - 24 emails of support attached to the petition

Ashley Road

Email

Problems with the primary school estate will not be solved by rezoning, but by investing more into the buildings and resources of the existing schools. I feel that although this would cost more it would give our children a better school experience.

Ashley Road

Email

I have one child in the Grammar, and two in Ashley Road and I would like all of them to go to the same secondary school.
The Grammar has a better academic record and better facilities than Harlaw and naturally I would like my children to go where they have the best opportunities.
If Ashley Road was rezoned then over time it may become another "commuter" school rather than a community one. Harlaw is in a good West End location and selling it would probably generate enough money for the Council to build an extension to the Grammar to accommodate in-zone pupils from both schools. Re-zoning would just transfer any issues from Harlaw to the Grammar and result in two mediocre schools. Parents feel that the

discussion around rezoning to Harlaw is being driven by a vociferous campaign to keep Harlaw open.

Ashley Road	Letter	<p>Harlaw does not manage to get as many pupils to as high a level of attainment as AGS. Research shows to raise standards in schools concentrate on the management and teaching ability in that schools. Any rezone is likely to fail to meet the objective of education law.</p> <p>The current anxiety is causing some discomfort for pupils currently attending Ashley Road, many of whom have siblings at AGS.</p> <p>There is no problem concerning Ashley Road as Aberdeen Grammar can cater for the numbers in feeder schools. It is possible for ACC to refuse a replacement as outlined in ACC's own documents. It is Mile End that requires consideration - rezone some streets/locations to Skene Square. If links had to be formed/developed with Harlaw there would be significant cost and effort required. In the 21st Century School Provision Report 2010 it stated there</p>
Ashley Road	Email	<p>I have one child in the Grammar, and two in Ashley Road and I would like all of them to go to the same secondary school.</p> <p>The Grammar has a better academic record and better facilities than Harlaw and naturally I would like my children to go where they have the best opportunities. Children should live within</p> <p>would be sufficient spare capacity in other secondary schools to accommodate all Harlaw pupils so is there still a need for this secondary school?</p> <p>If Ashley Road was rezoned then over time it may become another "commuter" school rather than a community one. Harlaw is in a good West End location and selling it would probably generate enough money for the Council to build an extension to the Grammar to accommodate in-zone pupils from both schools. Re-zoning would just transfer any issues from Harlaw to the Grammar and result in two mediocre schools. Parents feel that the</p>
Ashley Road	Email	<p>walking distance of their school.</p> <p>I do not see any value in the re-zoning of Ashley Road Primary School, the future role of Aberdeen Grammar is set to be stable or decline therefore there is no need to allocated zoned pupils from Ashley Road to an</p> <p>discussion around rezoning to Harlaw is being driven by a vociferous campaign to keep Harlaw open. Rezone Kaimhill to Culls as it is closer for pupils. One bigger school (Grammar with an extension) with a higher percentage of in zone pupils would be the best solution.</p> <p>Ashley would benefit from investment for repairs to the building and improvements to the toilets and playground.</p>

alternative school.
The anomaly of Harlaw Academy is the issue; it is clear that this school is not located in the best place for the pupils attending. Given the location of the school it must be of significant commercial value.

I suggest that it is sold and an alternative built to serve the needs of the pupils and families within its catchment area.

Ashley Road

Email

Skene Sq and Gilcomstoun; also projected to go over capacity and yet when you look at the current percentage of in zone pupils (54% and 36% respectively) this is a non issue as the council is well within its rights to limit out of zone placements to these schools. Dual Zoning; There is only a small number of streets involved and I agree this causes confusion and difficulty in capacity planning so this should be stopped Anomaly of Harlaw; I find this a non issue as did parents at both.

The Aberdeen Grammar and Harlaw Academy engagement events. In a city centre you will always find schools close to each other and everyone is aware of this - catchments are on most housing particulars when you purchase and come as no surprise. In terms of more pupils coming from in zone, if you move Ashley Road to the Harlaw catchment you will simply reduce the in zone proportion at Grammar as there will be a large number of sibling requests.

I am in total disapproval of Ashley Road school with other primary schools so that students will attend Harlaw Academy. The current designation of the school zones for Ashley Road School should be kept the same.

Ashley Road

Email

I have two main issues with this exercise. Firstly it is very difficult to consult on a document which includes no proposals or suggestions from which to start from. We are in the majority parents and therefore do not have the expertise or background to comment on such a wide ranging document, all I know is my own children's experience. The document is over 100 pages long and as busy working parents this has been a time consuming exercise which will no doubt have put many people off getting involved.

The transition from primary to secondary has been improved as children are being encouraged to participate in Active Schools activities. This has allowed many children to make friends from out with their own primary catchment before they start secondary school. It was made clear to us at ASG meeting that the transition from primary to secondary is a key one for children and therefore anything that can be done to protect existing relations should be done. Why change something that works well and that could result in detrimental relationships and education for the children living within a chosen zone?

Grammar is not expected to be exceeded, therefore there seems no valid reason to change the catchment zone. I see that moving Ashley Road School to Harlaw would serve no purpose other than to push the out of zone issue from Harlaw to the Grammar. Although the school is old and would benefit from some improvements (in particular playground and toilet facilities), I think it is a wonderful environment for the children to learn. This is reflected in the good inspection reports it has received in recent years. We wondered what benefits having a higher in-zone percentage gives

The Grammar and Harlaw are both schools in the city centre and therefore have good and convenient public transport services to reach them compared to other schools. As a result they are always going to have a bigger issue with out of zone children wishing to attend.

We also noted from the Engagement Document that the Council predicts that 3 of the Grammar feeder primaries will be over capacity within the next 5 years. However on inspection of the out of zone numbers at each of the affected schools (Mile End, Gilcomston and Skene Square), it would appear that this problem could be resolved by restricting the number of out of zone placement requests which are accepted.

Parents need to be able to plan childcare arrangements for after school etc and this is made particularly difficult if we do not have a degree of certainty

It is important to recognise that due to the location and accessibility of both Grammar and Harlaw, there will always be requests for children from other catchments to attend these schools. We are not convinced that rezoning Ashley Road to Harlaw will do anything to alleviate the current problem of out of zone requests being made to attend the city centre schools. It is likely that the burden of out of zone

We cannot think of any educational benefits which could be achieved for Ashley Road children as a result of the implementation of such a proposal.

Grammar is not expected to be exceeded, therefore there seems no valid reason to change the catchment zone. Based on the out of zone data made available I see that moving Ashley Road School to Harlaw would serve no purpose other than to push the out of zone issue from Harlaw to the Grammar. The Grammar and Harlaw are both schools in the city centre and therefore have good and convenient public transport services to reach them compared to other

schools. As a result they are always going to have a bigger issue with out of zone children wishing to attend. As part of the review I noted that Ashley Road scored quite poorly in relation to building suitability and condition. Although the school is old and would benefit from some improvements (in particular playground and toilet facilities), I think it is a wonderful environment for the children to learn. This is reflected in the good inspection reports it has

received in recent years. We wondered what benefits having a higher in-zone percentage gives and if there is any evidence of an increase in attainment solely because of this rather than other factors.

The catchment zone.

Grammar and Harlaw are both schools in the city centre and therefore have good and convenient public transport services to reach them compared to other schools. As a result they are always going to have a bigger issue with out of zone children wishing to attend.

We have had to make some hard financial choices and sacrifices so that we could afford to live in this area where we see our children will receive the best education.

It is now very upsetting that they may now have opportunity taken.

Any re-zoning of Ashley Road to Harlaw would not have any clear education advantage to the pupils as the attainment levels at Grammar far exceed those of Harlaw, and any pupil moving from Ashley Road to Harlaw will have been failed by the council in not providing that child a

applications will simply shift from Harlaw to Grammar.

regarding whether our daughter is likely to get a P1 place at Ashley Road next year. In conclusion, we strongly oppose the potential re-zoning of Ashley Road

School from Grammar to Harlaw.

Email

Ashley Road

Email

Ashley Road

Ashley Road

Email

We were advised at the engagement event on 30 October that certain changes to the catchments could be implemented in time for the next academic year. As the parents of a child at Ashley Road nursery, we will be applying for a P1 place at school in January. It is therefore most unsettling to know that we will be making our application for a place at Ashley Road without any clarity around whether we will be "in zone" or "out of zone". Parents need to be able to plan childcare arrangements for after school etc and this is made particularly difficult if we do not have a degree of certainty

Grammar and Harlaw are both schools in the city centre and therefore have good and convenient public transport services to reach them compared to other schools. As a result they are always going to have a bigger issue with out of zone children wishing to attend.

Secondly I find it sad and a little unbelievable that no where in the document does it mention attainment or the standard of education being delivered in these buildings. yes you need to save money and reduce the school estate but surely the level of education needs to come into consideration not just size, age and capacity of the buildings.

Bridge of Don

Email

Cults

Email

Convenient public transport services to reach them compared to other schools.

Cults

Email

They are always going to have a bigger issue with out of zone children wishing to attend.

Cults

Email

Improvements (in particular playground and toilet facilities), I think it is a wonderful

Cults

Email

After a meeting with teachers at Cults Academy last week, it was confirmed to me that the class size is currently 30. This is already a high ratio – not beneficial to pupil performance or teacher conditions. Any consideration to increase this ratio would be unacceptable.

Good environment for the children to learn. This is reflected in the good inspection reports it has.

Cults

Email

We wondered what benefits having a higher in-zone percentage gives and if there is any .

Cults Primary

Email

The road around Cults primary school is in a terrible state (potholes) and the council has failed to do anything about it. I understand the school has already raised concerns here but apparently the road has not been adopted by the council. Quite why a road around a school, almost entirely for the use of the school patrons, has not been adopted by the council I do not know. However, there is a safety issue here for pupils, council employees and parents and the road should be repaired without delay.

Cults

Email

I'm extremely concerned to hear that one option under consideration is the re-zoning of housing within our village of Cults. It's totally abhorrent and unacceptable that this (the community) could potentially be threatened. Cults Academy (and possibly Cults Primary) won't have the capacity to absorb the residents of the new housing but I feel very strongly that any solution for education provision to satisfy the needs of this new housing and its residents should NOT include

Cults

Email

the break up of our community nor the re-zoning of those houses currently within Cults. I'd also strongly advocate that the new developments are NOT zoned for the Cults schools and should be made clear as such from the outset of the developments.

I would also like some reassurance that if rezoning does go ahead then existing pupils and their siblings who may not have started the school could continue in the school the family has started in.

Cults

Email

Just a brief comment after considering the complexities of zoning with

respect to new housing developments in and around Cults: I have three

children and our address is Cults.

It is my expectation that all three will go to Cults Primary (two already do) and then Cults Academy.

I would be more than disappointed if any rezoning took place which moved our street out of zone for Cults schools, because of housing developments in and around Cults and/or falling rolls elsewhere.

We have devoted a lot of time, effort and money to make our house a home for our three children, secure in the knowledge (or so I thought) that they would all automatically go to Cults Primary and Academy.

In fact my 5-year old calls it "his Academy" when we pass it on the way to the Primary School. It is very unsettling to hear that rezoning could be required.

Having seen projections for both the primary and the secondary reaching capacity owing to housing developments, I would find it hard to explain to my children if they were squeezed out owing to our house being nearer

Cults

Email

Specific capacity within schools (eg - science lab), I suggest that 5th and 6th year pupils are able to access these resources (say 3-4pm) when these resources are free. The 5th/6th years could recoup the later days as early Friday finishes or in some other way.

to Airyhall than some of the new houses are. Even if all my children are OK, I would not want new families in the street to be excluded from their local community schools, which are in walking distance of this street.

And as a homeowner I would not want my property to drop in value if it became out of zone for Cults schools.

Cults

Email

Extend the use of virtual campuses across the City High Schools/Academies for more senior subjects and qualifications.

Cults

Email

Not happy if the school was oversubscribed with students from 'new' areas and diluting the quality of education due large class numbers.

Cults

Email

Extend the use of virtual campuses across the City High Schools/Academies for more senior subjects and qualifications

Cults

Email

Extend the use of virtual campuses across the City High Schools/Academies for more senior subjects and qualifications.

We must ensure that communities use their local schools and that large developments include provision for appropriate infrastructure to support the proposed additional demand for services.

Cults	Email	I do not agree that the Council should extend the use of virtual campuses across the City High Schools/ Academies for more senior subjects and qualifications.	It would not be helpful to the community by re-zoning part of it east of Kirk Brae, indeed it could cause more problems by creating a rivalry between the two which currently does not exist. The Countesswells development will not be zoned to Cults Primary School and homebuyers will be made aware of this at time of purchase. Planners must ensure EARLY construction of new primary schools and other supportive infrastructure for the	The Council to make sure that it has proper plans to make sure that the new housing estates being built around the Friarsfield, Countesswells and Milltimber areas are catered for in terms of Schools and other forms of infrastructure required
Cults	Email	Extend the use of virtual campuses across the City High Schools/ Academies for more senior subjects and qualifications	residents of the new developments throughout the city. Temporary educational provision could be a provided at Hazlehead Primary. Create a campus housing Secondary and Primary provision in Culter or Milltimber. This would be zoned for the Culter and Milltimber communities and would not involve splitting an existing community. Stop children from Lairhillock Primary from attending Cults Academy.	The Council to make sure that it has proper plans to make sure that the new housing estates being built around the Friarsfield, Countesswells and Milltimber areas are catered for in terms of Schools and other forms of infrastructure required
Cults	Email	We have devoted a lot of time, effort and money to make our house a home	The Countesswells development will not be zoned to Cults Primary School and homebuyers will be made aware of this at time of purchase. Temporary educational provision could be a provided at Hazlehead Primary. All schools across the city should only accept children in zone and those children who move within the city, should move to the school within their new catchment area. Create a campus housing Secondary and Primary provision in	The Council to make sure that it has proper plans to make sure that the new housing estates being built around the Friarsfield, Countesswells and Milltimber areas are catered for in terms of Schools and other forms of infrastructure required
Cults	Email	for our three children, secure in the knowledge (or so I thought) that they	Culter or Milltimber. This would be zoned for the Culter and Milltimber communities. Stop children from Lairhillock Primary from attending Cults Academy. .	The Council to make sure that it has proper plans to make sure that the new housing estates being built around the Friarsfield, Countesswells and Milltimber areas are catered for in terms of Schools and other forms of infrastructure required
Cults	Email	Re-zoning within Cults village would effectively divide our community. One of the options is that the Cults Primary zone would end at Kirk Brae. These homes include some of the most well established parts of the village. The Countesswells development will not be zoned to Cults Primary School and homebuyers will be made aware of this at time of purchase. Temporary educational provision could be provided at Hazlehead Primary for	Important to have a good school close by that our kids could walk to, not to stay in one village which will be split down the middle and despite the school being approx 1 mile away being bussed to some other school.	The Council to make sure that it has proper plans to make sure that the new housing estates being built around the Friarsfield, Countesswells and Milltimber areas are catered for in terms of Schools and other forms of infrastructure required

the new Countesswells houses. Schools should only accept children in zone and those children who move within the city should move to the school within their new catchment area. Create a campus housing Secondary and Primary provision in Culter or Milltimber. Stop children from Lairhillock Primary from attending Cults. Portlethen Academy is closer. Planners must ensure EARLY construction of new primary schools and other supportive

infrastructure for the residents of the new developments throughout the city.

New home buyers in the Friarsfield and Countesswells developments should not have the expectation that their children will go to Cults Primary School or Academy.

No Aberdeenshire kids to go to Cults. If out of area kids want to come to Cults - their parents should buy a house in Cults.

Refurbish existing provision at Cults Primary or build new primary school to replace Cults primary.

If you have a Cults address and can walk to the Cults Schools (Academy and Primary) you should be zoned for that school (2 miles is walking).

Condition scoring: what is behind scores - specifically how is an A arrived at for sanitary services at Culter School.

Catchment areas: can it be clarified that current pupils at "X" primary school will go to the existing ASG. Therefore if there is a zone change it will only apply to the new primary school catchment intake - moving up through the system.

We regard this possible change of zoning/splitting the village as unacceptable. We don't want our community carved up! We have worked hard to link with other children and parents in the community and see the local school as a focal point and integral to the community spirit. The fairest solution seems to be to keep the existing Cults Primary catchment area as it is now. The Countesswells development not be zoned to Cults Primary School and

Comment Card

Comment Card

Comment Card

Comment Card

Comment Card

Comment Card

Comment Card

Comment Card

Email

Cults

Cults

Cults

Cults

Cults

Cults

Cults

Cults

Cults

homebuyers made aware of this at time of purchase. Children currently at Cults should remain at the school and have provision made for them to remain there until P7. They should also be included in future planning for Cults Academy.

Email

Cults

The council should require that schools are built and ready before people are able to move into the new housing developments. Do not grant completion certificates for houses until the infrastructure including schools is in place (relevant to Countesswells development). On the Friarsfield development, the planning permission should have taken this into account – if it turns out that this was not taken into account, then planning should be revoked, and the

builders should be required to build schools to support this housing stock. If this does not happen, then the builders will essentially make a lot of money by having the council solve their problems.

Cults

Email

Extend the use of virtual campuses across the City High Schools/ Academies for more senior subjects and qualifications

This will impact local social mobility and financially affect the families concerned. Affected families will be forced to move further away from Cults to be able to attend the Cults schools! The Countesswells development is not zoned to Cults Primary School and homebuyers will be made aware of this at time of purchase. Out of zone children, already attending the school, return to their in zone schools. We should also stop children from Lairhilllock

Primary from attending Cults Academy. In zone children already in the Cults system are guaranteed places in Cults primary and onto the secondary after the zone changes. Planners must ensure EARLY construction of new primary schools and other supportive infrastructure for the residents of the new developments throughout the city. Another idea would be to create a campus housing secondary and primary provision in Culter or

Milltimber. This would be zoned for the Culter and Milltimber communities.

Any new developments that can't utilise existing schooling require new schooling to be built, and utilise other schools with spare capacity. The new Countesswells development be looked at separately. The Building of a new 3R's Milltimber Primary, to accommodate existing roll and include for any additional planned developments, Oldford etc. New primary schooling to be provided to accommodate existing roll and include for any

additional planned developments, Friarsfield etc whether this is to build one large school on the existing cults primary site, on the new Friarsfield site or keep Cults primary as is and provide a smaller primary at Friarsfield. Provide a new academy at either Culter or Milltimber, this would free-up the congestion and projected over-capacity at Cults Academy. This could also take Lairhilllock pupils or build an extension of Cults Academy where

Cults Primary currently is. This could be used for older pupils or specialist subject including virtual campus where each academy specialises in certain subjects, allowing pupils to attend from any School.

Possibility that children living east of Kirk Bree could be re-zoned to a different school whilst children further away in Peterculter would still go to Cults Academy, the village should not be split in this way. The existing Cults Primary catchment area remains as it exists now. The Countesswells development will not be zoned to Cults Primary School and homebuyers will be made aware of this at time of purchase. Planners must ensure EARLY construction of

new primary schools and other supportive infrastructure. Temporary educational provision could be provided at Hazlehead Primary. All schools should only accept children in zone and children who move within the city, should move to the school within their new catchment area. Create a campus housing Secondary and Primary provision in Culter or Milltimber. This would be zoned for the Culter and Milltimber communities and would not involve

splitting an existing community. Stop children from Lairhillock Primary attending Cults Academy. Extend the use of virtual campuses across the City High Schools/ Academies for more senior subjects.

Email

Cults

We currently live in the Woodlands development. This area is within walking/cycling distance to the schools and re-zoning the area out of the Cults catchment could even be considered given that children from 4 or 5 miles away from school are bussed there currently. A plan must be put in place to deal with potential new children in addition to those currently in zone not instead of them. It would be morally wrong to remove

existing residents, who have made a home for themselves within a particular school catchment, in order to make room for new residents.

Email

Cults

The existing Cults Primary catchment area remains as it exists now. The Countesswells development will NOT be zoned to Cults Primary School and homebuyers will be made aware of this at time of purchase. Planners must ensure EARLY construction of new primary schools and other supportive infrastructure for the residents of the new developments throughout the city. Temporary educational provision could be provided at Hazlehead Primary,

currently accepting 171 out of zone children. All schools across the city should only accept children in zone and those children who move within the city, should move to the school within their new catchment area.

Email

Cults

Excluding areas from the existing zone will effectively put our children at an education disadvantage. The rezone will effectively go up Kirk Brae, i, and a lot of other parents, live East of that. The rezone will break up the community and impact house prices etc. These are real and serious concerns shared by a numbers of residents.

Cults

Email
As a resident of Abbotshall Gardens possibility of moving the 'boundary' for Cults Academy to Kirk Brae would have a profound effect on my children's education. The possibility of them

The existing Cults Primary catchment area remains as it exists now. The Countesswells development will not be zoned to Cults Primary School and homebuyers will be made aware of this at time of purchase. Planners must ensure EARLY construction of new primary schools and other supportive infrastructure for the residents of the new developments throughout the city. Create a campus housing Secondary and Primary provision in Culter or Milltimber. This would be zoned for the Culter and Milltimber communities. Not only nearer for them (hence greener) but would not

Cults

Email
not being able to continue their education with these friends simply because someone draws a new line on a map is at best unfair and at worst discriminatory. Our children are able to walk to school from our

The existing Cults Primary catchment area remains as it exists now. The Countesswells development will not be zoned to Cults Primary School and homebuyers will be made aware of this at time of purchase. Planners must ensure EARLY construction of new primary schools and other supportive infrastructure for the residents of the new developments throughout the city. Create a campus housing Secondary and Primary provision in Culter or Milltimber. This would be zoned for the Culter and Milltimber communities. Not only nearer for them (hence greener) but would not

Get the roads and schools sorted before approving any more housing developments in Cults and the surrounding area.

house. Builders should be obliged to provide education options for residents. Making it impossible for children to attend school with friends they have made during the primary education system and with

whom they can still cross the road to play with will be seriously detrimental to the education of many children, effectively dividing the community.

Cults

Email
In making forecasts for Cults Academy-were children from Countesswells and Oldfold development included? In consultation last year, representatives from Cala and other tenderers stated that they believed that local schools did have sufficient capacity to accommodate children from the Friarfield development. They stated that, if this turned out not to be the case then they would contribute to the extension of

schools? Is this not the case? Reports to Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee (31 Jan 12) re: proposed Primary in Oldfold makes no reference to the potential impact on secondary education in the area. Are developers obliged to contribute to this, and to what extent? The engagement document also refers to Cults Academy as the largest school that could be built on that site- as this site has so many playing fields and outside space can

you explain why this is misstated/mistaken?

Other communities outwith Cults itself currently are within the catchment area namely Milltimber, Peterculter and Lairhlock- it would make sense for those communities to have a school within their own area rather than exclude existing areas in Cults which is being considered. I find it difficult to comprehend that this option of excluding several well established housing developments in the village of Cults within the current catchment

area is being considered which would mean isolating the children concerned from their friends and the community as a whole while others from further afield would still be entitled to receive their education at Cults Academy, I'd also strongly advocate that the new developments are not zoned for the Cults schools and this should be made clear from the outset.

Is Cults Academy going to be full of Bleidside, Milltimber and Culter children, whilst due to a lack of local planning local Cults children will have to be transported elsewhere for their education? Apart from the carving up of a well-established community, it is wholly conceivable that families, particularly in the area to the east of Kirk Brae, may find themselves in a situation where siblings end up attending different schools.

Cults

Email

Cults

Email

Furthermore, it is clear that the Cults Primary School roll is expected to rise to 140% of capacity. So am I to presume that its pupils will be educated in substandard temporary accommodation? I find the situation whereby developers are given permission to build on green spaces, add to traffic congestion, whilst giving vague promises about creating school provision to be untenable- not good enough that numbers in current schools should be expected to fill

beyond bursting point before additional buildings are created.

With regard to the Countesswells development, the existing Cults Primary catchment area remains as it is currently. The Countesswells development will not be zoned to Cults Primary School and this will be actively pointed out to homebuyers from the outset. Any new primary schools and other infrastructure for the residents of new developments around the city should be built at the same time as/in advance of new houses, not left until

housing is complete. Obviously once a new development is populated there is a need for schools that are up and running, not in the middle of construction. Provide both a new Secondary and Primary school in the Culter/Milltimber area. This could be zoned for the Culter and Milltimber areas and areas reaching towards Bancroft. This would cater for the proposed housing development in the Milltimber area and should resolve the issues of exceeding

capacity at Cults Academy. This would also make sense from an environmental point of view as those from Culter and Milltimber would likely have to travel less. Perhaps it would be possible to use the old International School?

Lairhillock is evidence that City and Shire can collaborate. Is it possible to look at the problem/solution in Cults in a wider context? Cults and Culter primary schools are expensive to run suggest rebuild one or both with greater capacity. (a) During the rezoning, younger siblings in primary school must be offered a place at the academy their older sibling currently/previously attended. (b) Rezoning must place the school at the centre of the circle (i.e. children in

Cults

Email

Cults

Email

Cults must be eligible for enrolment at Cults Academy; (c) Lairhillock school is in Aberdeenshire (Stonehaven ASG) is not mentioned in the engagement document but according to the Cults Academy website is one of the feeder schools. Children at Lairhillock should be rezoned to Stonehaven. Aberdeen City council should have the confidence and vision to sell off properties to fund new builds across Aberdeen to cater for the future

education of children. Aberdeen City Council must oblige builders to construct schools as part of the agreement to build.

Email

Cults

To potentially re-zone part of Cults with regard to primary schools would split the village. Rezone pupils to one of the proposed new primary schools at Countesswells. We believe this would be a huge backward step and would affect the excellent community, the council should be looking at improving the existing primary school and ensuring it is available to local children by eliminating the high proportion of out of zone children. The council

also need to ensure that new primary school building is an early part of any development at Countesswells. Ensure the Countesswells Academy is built early in the development. We believe there is a high proportion of out of zone pupils at Cults Academy and that this situation should be stopped. We also think that a new secondary school for Milltimber/Culter should be considered.

Email

Cults

The Countesswells development should not be zoned to Cults schools. Homebuyers to be made aware of this at purchase. The developers should be required to build primary and secondary schools from inception. The developers to be challenged with the provision of funding to build a new Cults Nursery and Primary school which will support growth from their Friarfield development. The planners should not pass final consent without

The Countesswells residents are more likely to have their place of employment at Westhill or Kingswells and hence travelling to the north of the city to school provision. I would have thought addresses traffic issues that are already stretched within the North Deeside corridor.

Children from Lairhillock Primary should not be allowed to attend Cults Academy. They should attend a new "Milltimber/Peterculter" Secondary. The Developers hurdle for supporting the development of new school builds should not be solely based on number of houses built but also on the

provision of this funding. New schools could be built on existing primary playing fields with buildings close to the existing school with the old school being demolished and turned into playing fields for the use of Culls Academy and the Primary. Culls Academy should be extended on the existing site resulting in the loss of the playing fields. All schools across the city should only accept children in zone. Those children who move within the city, should move to

the school within their new catchment. There should be the creation of Secondary and Primary provision in Culter or Milltimber. This would be zoned for the Culter, Milltimber and Oldfold communities.

Culls

Email

It doesn't appear logical to run schools at or near capacity when it is known that future housing developments will put unnecessary pressure on school to exceed capacity. I suggest that no further developments are approved by Aberdeen City Council until an appropriate planning system that fully considers the impact on local schools is established, the failings of the current system appears obvious. When new housing becomes available new schools should be provided.

Regarding policy that housing estates being allocated to multiple school catchment areas. It appears that it is the

Modular Schools should be a new rule for schools in areas where there will be a demand for future housing developments. Allowing any children from the Countesswells development to attend any Culls schools would

developers who support this approach to maximise the value of the properties rather than a council policy that considers the needs of the general

appear to be impractical and would only suit the developers pockets rather than the community as a whole. Suggest that an independent feasibility study is conducted to consider if and how existing affected schools could be

Culls

Email

I understand the pressures on local facilities and the need for new housing but I do not believe an arbitrary re-zoning of the Culls schools catchment area directly splitting the village in which the schools reside is the right solution. As a family we moved to Culls to be part of the village community and to ensure our children attended what we believe to be excellent schools.

expanded to increase capacity.

Cults Academy

Email

If Cults Academy community has to be split, then split is geographically. Keeping villages together.
The new housing developments should be zoned for outwith Cults before the houses are sold. The house buyers would then know at the outset what schools their children would attend.

No existing Cults houses should be rezoned out of Cults primary or Cults Academy - it is the reason why people have moved to Cults and people have worked hard to build relationships within their village.
Cults Academy - Cults primary could become fieldside primary, new primary built at Friarsfield for cults primary, new primary/s at countesswells could feed into Cults academy.

Rezone lairhillock pupils in the future to keep them in aberdeenshire secondary schools rather than Cults academy. Out of Zone pupils - either stop out of zone pupils or look at the projected roll over all the years the child would be at a

specific school and only allow them in at the start if there is enough space over all the years. Culter Academy - New academy built at milltimber/culter (in the interim use existing unoccupied international school at Milltimber) to house pupils from

milltimber, culter and lairhillock.

Cults

Email

I think that the whole Village area needs to be zoned to one secondary school. As Cults will not have the capacity, it would need to be Hazlehead or Bucksburn. This needs to happen before any planning consent is granted so the developers and purchasers understand the situation.
I understand that the Friarsfield development in Cults is 280 houses, and Milltimber is 550. I believe that Cults Academy will not have the capacity to withstand the extra secondary pupils this will generate, let alone Countesswells

Village. This concern is magnified as I have learned that it is impossible to increase the capacity of the Cults Academy by extension or Portacabins for almost 30 years.

Cults

Email

Planners must ensure EARLY construction of new primary schools and other supportive infrastructure for the residents of the new developments throughout the city.
All schools across the city should only accept children in zone and those children who move within the city, should move to the school within their new catchment area.
When we had attended previous planning / information meetings about the Friarsfield development, the developers/planners seemed to be

The existing Cults Primary catchment area remains as it exists now. The Countesswells development will not be zoned to Cults Primary School and homebuyers will be made aware of this at time of purchase. (The planners alluded to this but it is important to confirm this point and so it is clear to all

Extend the use of virtual campuses across the City High Schools/ Academies for more senior subjects and qualifications (i.e. individual schools focus on specific subjects and children looking to specialise may need to travel to another school for an

afternoon or morning to receive their lessons).

suggesting that the numbers they anticipated would only amount to about 50 children, and suggested surely they could just build on an extra

classroom! (this was Cults primary school we discussed). This seems a very low projection for 280 houses with 4/5 bedrooms! The developers

must provide financial assistance to upgrade Cults Primary if its to accommodate the additional children from the development.

Email

Cults

It has been proven in numerous studies that the length of the school commute has an impact on performance - relocating Cults children to a school further away will increase their journey time and could

I am writing to you with my concerns relating to one of your proposals to reduce the number of pupils at Cults primary and Cults secondary schools: re-zoning of the Cults catchment area

This proposal give me grave concern, the main reason being that you would split and divide the Cults community, which over time will result in the degradation of a well established and thriving community. Kirk Brae and the surrounding areas lies at the heart of the Cults community and changing

In addition, many of the children located at the east of cults walk to and from school. This is good for a number of reasons: it provides the children with exercise, improves social networking between children but most importantly it reduces the number of cars picking up and dropping off and therefore eases congestion. Relocating Cults pupils to a school further way will have a double impact on congestion: more cars dropping children off at the Cults schools and more cars

potentially be a contributory factor in their performance.

dropping Cults children off at the other schools. One of the reasons that Cults residents have chosen Cults to live is the proximity of the schools. What would be a more sensible proposal would be to shrink the current catchment area and remove eligibility of children lying at the edge of the existing catchment area. Removing these pupils will have no impact on community life and will go a long way in easing congestion at the Cults schools.

Cults

Email

· No change to the existing Cults Primary catchment area. Countesswells development home buyers to be made aware of this at time of purchase. • Plan early construction of new primary schools and related infrastructure for above mentioned new development. In the meantime, Hazlehead/ Ayrhall Primaries could be used.
• Schools to decrease and limit numbers of out-of-zone intake (ie children to move to new school

automatically if parents move out of zone).

- New Secondary and Primary establishments covering the Culter or Millinber area (saving on bus transport to Cults Academy for all as well as decreasing pupils number).

Email

Cults

Email

Potential for re-zoning leading to pupils of existing primary schools within the Cults ASG being sent to an academy other than Cults Academy if this were precipitated by the new developments at Countesswells, Friarsfield and Oldfield Farm, disruption of existing communities and social relationships for the benefit of new, yet to be formed communities (disruption of existing communities and social relationships for the benefit of new, yet to be formed communities.) disadvantaging

current homeowners to hand windfall profits to developers - there is no doubt that homes zoned to Cults Academy attract a premium as they give access to this popular school with an established culture and record of achievement. Any move to re-zone Culter to a school other than Cults Academy (either an existing or new school) will be seen as social cleansing to make way for the occupants of new private housing developments. This is clearly unacceptable.

Cults

Email

I therefore, strongly oppose any proposal to divide the village for numerical reason. It is imperative that school catchment areas take account of community areas and avoids dividing communities thereby weakening the bonds described above. It is ridiculous that we could live in the heart of Cults and not go to Cults Academy while children are transported into Cults form Lairhillock, Milltimber and Peterculter. Children should not be transported to other villages when there is a school in their home village within walking distance. We are very keen that our children walk/cycle to school and our choice of home was based on the ability to walk to the Cults schools. It is worth noting that I would rather explore an extension to the virtual campus system than modify zone boundaries.

Cults

Email

I think it is important that new houses are zoned out of the existing Cults catchment, rather than zoning them in at the expense of houses already in the village area. I think that this should be done asap so that buyers in the new developments know - I am concerned that children from the new developments appear to be being offered places in Cults until there is critical mass in the new developments, but they won't be made to move. I think that if children attend the school to which they are zoned this would improve attainment. I understand that this would also free up considerable space at Hazelhead Primary. - I don't understand why Lairhillock is zoned to Cults Academy - surely it would make more sense for it to be zoned to Stonehaven.

Cults

Email

It has been proven in numerous studies that the length of the school commute has an impact on performance - re-locating Cults children to a school further away will increase their journey time and could

Re-locating Cults pupils to a school further way will have a double impact on congestion: more cars dropping children off at the Cults schools and more cars dropping Cults children off at the other schools.

potentially be a contributory factor in their performance. In addition, many of the children located at the east of cults walk to and from school. This is good for a number of reasons: it provides the

children with exercise, improves social networking between children but most importantly it reduces the number of cars picking up and dropping off and therefore eases congestion. One of the reasons that

Cults residents have chosen Cults to live is the proximity of the schools

Email

Cults

I do not believe it makes sense to zone Countesswells to Cults, as this results in significant over-capacity, and temporary classroom. I believe that the children from the Countesswells Dev should be zoned to Airyhall , which is projected to be under-capacity. Cults Primary should stop accepting out of zone children.Regarding Countesswells, the same arguments I have given above for primary education can be applied, but Hazlehead Academy is

the secondary school that it projected to be under-capacity. It could accommodate the children from Countesswells pending the completion of a new academy for that development I understand that Cults Academy is the largest that could be built on the site, owing to regulations governing minimum amount size of grounds and playing fields. However, the playing fields used by Cults Primary could provide the solution. An alternative solution to

over-capacity at Cults Academy would be to build an annexe on a different site to provide additional capacity. Another option would be to house a new academy within the Peterculter and Milltimber community. Cults Academy should stop accepting out of zone.

Email

The existing catchment zones should remain for the Cults/Bieldside areas, the schools are at the heart of these communities and fragmenting these areas would definitely have a negative impact on the community and childrens access

to locally provided education, seems ridiculous to see children living within walking distance to the primary could potentially be required to travel some distance to a primary in Countesswells- makes no sense and is not in keeping with promoting healthy living. We feel that new occupants moving into Friarsfield in Cults should be made aware that the zoned school is not Cults Primary or Academy, therefore expectations are clear from the outset. A proposal has been made for a The existing Cults Primary catchment area remains as it exists now. The Countesswells development will not be zoned to Cults and homebuyers will be made aware of this at time of purchase.

Cults

Email

Cults

Cults

Email

it was confirmed to me that the class size is currently 30. Increasing that number would not be suitable for teaching staff or pupils. Is there the limit of the maximum number of pupils in the class?

Would strongly object/ be very disappointed if he was prevented in attending the Academy due to an arbitrary division of the village of Cults – as suggested in the re-zoning mentioned below – ie properties East of Kirk Brae to be excluded. Firstly, the delineation of Cults should be clearly defined. My interpretation would be: Bairds Brae to the East, Craigton Road / Friarsfield Road to the North, Baillieswell Road to the West, and all properties below that

area to the river Dee. This would be the guaranteed catchment area for Cults Academy. If there has to be some limitation of intake of pupils, then priority should be given to families who live within the area as described above. A further criteria would be the number of years families have stayed in Cults – with long term residents taking priority.

Cults

Email

As residents of Abbotshall Drive, we are greatly concerned regarding the impact of such a change on the social wellbeing and educational opportunities of the children who live here. We purchased this properties two years ago and part of what attracted us to the area

The children in the Abbotshall area live and play in cults. Rezoning them to another catchment area means transport issues to a distant location when Cults Primary and Cults Academy are closer, the potential inability

were the excellent schooling prospects both at primary and secondary school level.

to fully utilise extracurricular activities within the proposed school as a result of this increased distance and disruption to social interaction with children of their own age in Cults.

Denominational

Email

(see letter saved as Holy Family- Parents Feedback in Denominational Folder)

We feel that it is completely illogical to expect people who are currently resident in the local area to face this disruption, while people who will not be living in Cults, or those who's houses are not

Denominational	Email	<p>It is widely felt that expansion of the building would be of benefit to teaching and learning at Holy Family Primary. At present, Holy Family School does not have its own nursery. The establishment of a nursery would help intake to the school and allow for smoother transition to the Primary. Such a seamless transition would also assist in the delivery of teaching and learning, in accord with the Curriculum for Excellence. Zoning is</p> <p>also an issue at Holy Family and at the other Catholic schools in the city. A number of Holy Family Church parishioners have children who would wish to attend Holy Family School, but are zoned for St Peter's. Would it be possible to review the zoning? Redefining the zones would help alleviate overcrowding at St Peter's and make better use of the facilities at Holy Family School.</p>	<p>Other families within the zone have transport difficulties, as they are not on a bus route that would take them to Holy Family Primary. These families therefore opt to enrol their children at Cornhill, Muirfield, Kingsford or other schools in the Northfield ASG. Greater transport assistance would help more families use Holy Family School.</p>
Denominational	Email	<p>Plan early construction of new primary schools and related infrastructure for above mentioned new development. In the meantime, Hazlehead/ Airyhall Primaries could be used.</p>	<p>Transporting children to and from school would be greatly exacerbated; the wide-spread emergence of 'bussing' would not enhance a modern and increasingly cosmopolitan city.</p>
Denominational	Email	<p>All these changes would affect the school performance of those children who would be exposed to so much more hassle</p>	<p>Amalgamating the Catholic schools would increase pressure on people ie peak time traffic. This can be regarded as an unintentional discrimination against those preferring Catholic schools. Longer journeys also increase frustration and the possibility of accidents. The proposed idea of amalgamation would also affect employment. If the council closes down schools working parents will find themselves in difficulty with regards to taking their children to school and back home. Many people are already</p>
Ferryhill	Email		<p>facing huge financial problems, why further increase pressure on them!</p>
Ferryhill	Comment Card		<p>New Secondary and Primary establishments covering the Culter or Milltimber area (saving on bus transport to Culls Academy for all as well as decreasing pupils number Please carefully consider "repair" cost figures/rating (we feel that this should be labelled refurbishment). Look at carefully for example have you included a one off cost e.g. moving an office (Broomhill), removing asbestos (Ferryhill) - not really a repair.</p>

Ferryhill

Comment Card

Consider our communities including Duthie Park, Church, Ferryhill School, Harlaw Academy visits, Local Hotel/business visits, Lunch Clubs, Ferryhill Community Centre, Albury Sports Centre (community run with Sport Aberdeen), Ferryhill Library, Nursery Visits, Books for class projects.

Ferryhill

Comment Card

Suitability, consider close sports facilities - Albury Sports, Community Centre, HMIE reports.

Ferryhill

Comment Card

Energy rating for Ferryhill based on 2009 reports ie pre double glazing, pre solar power.

Ferryhill

Comment Card

Invest in Ferryhill and Broomhill to provide wheelchair access - try for funds outwith EC&S monies.

Hanover Street

E-mail

Hanover is feeder for St Macharr - families want this revised as Harlaw and Gramar are closer

Parents prefer refurbishment of old granite buildings as opposed to new schools, as there is little space in the centre for development. Parents would not like to travel far with young children.

As it is the case for all schools, the value of Ferryhill Primary School as part of the estate can simply not be assessed by looking at material circumstances like suitability, condition, repair costs and energy rating alone.

The educational success in our children is much more dependent on teaching quality and general atmosphere of the school rather than optimal spacial layout, shiny new furniture, etc. And this is of course difficult to pin down in figures.

Schools like Danestone or Forehill seem to be substantially occupied under capacity without changes in the school roll in coming years. Unless intake area boundaries can be redrawn, would it be possible in some

cases to use part of the buildings for other, non-school purpose, such as city council use?

Email

Stop children from Lairhillock Primary from attending Cults Academy. They are closer to other secondary schools and it would ease the pressure on numbers here at Cults.

It would make sense to 'give' more Kairnhill pupils to Broomhill. Stop the dual zoning to Ayrhall and Broomhill. Send Kairnhill pupils up to Hazlehead Academy. Stop the Ashley Road pupils walking past Harlaw Academy and make them attend it instead.

Email

Invest in the maintenance of Broomhill and the energy rating would improve. An evaluation of a school should look at not just inputs but outputs. As parents we have been supportive of the School and in the last couple of years have sought grant monies and raised funds to improve the outdoor learning. Whilst acknowledging the close proximity of Harlaw and the Grammar, unless the Council seek to find a space and build a replacement for Harlaw within

the ASG location, the slight anomaly of Harlaw being the catchment for Ashley (and therefore Grammar) is not a real issue that requires action.

Email

Holy Family

Email of Support for Holy Family

Email

Holy Family

Email of Support for Holy Family

Email

Kingswells

Kingswells Primary school cannot be extended any further. Kingswells is already a very large primary school and our community would strongly oppose any action by ACC which will adversely compromise the quality of education at the school. KCC requests that house building at West Huxterstone commences in 2016 and is phased so Kingswells Primary school does not go over capacity. ACC Education Department must be made aware of the accurate numbers

of proposed housing before planning permission is granted. Kingswells Primary school rezoned to Countesswells Secondary School .

Letter

Kittybrewster

Middleton Park Email

The current environment at Middleton Park is friendly and high achieving. The possible changes discussed have the potential to be detrimental to this environment and to the education of my daughter.

The imminent development at Grandhome would push the capacity of the local schools in the near future and I would urge this development to be taken into consideration. I would therefore like to register my view that the possibility of rezoning the schools to fragment the existing schools would be significantly detrimental to the education of my child particularly if followed by a further change as part of the Grandhome development

Middleton Park Email

The current environment at Middleton Park is friendly and high achieving. The possible changes discussed have the potential to be detrimental to this environment and to the education of my child.

The imminent development at Grandhome would push the capacity of the local schools in the near future and I would urge this development to be taken into consideration. I would therefore like to register my view that the possibility of rezoning the schools to fragment the existing schools would be significantly detrimental to the education of my child particularly if followed by a further change as part of the Grandhome development

Middleton Park Letter from Middleton Park Parent Council

We strongly resist any attempt to rezone the school and fragment the children to the surrounding 3 schools (Danestone, Glashieburn and Forehill). We feel that to separate them from their friends and the

We would be amenable to 2 or all 3 of the Jesmond Drive schools amalgamating into a new build. We would also like to urge the decision makers to consider the 400 houses soon to be built as the first small phase of the Grandhome Project and the fact that these will probably be enough to have the existing schools beyond capacity

staff they are familiar with would be deeply unsettling during a key part of their educational journey.

Middleton Park Email

We would strongly resist any attempt to rezone the school and fragment the children to the surrounding 3 schools. We feel that to separate them from their friends and the staff they are familiar with would

We would be amenable to 2 or all 3 of the Jesmond Drive schools amalgamating into a new build. We would also like to urge the decision makers to consider the 400 houses soon to be built as the first small phase of the Grandhome Project and the fact that these will probably be enough to have the existing schools beyond capacity. Finally, we are deeply sceptical about the validity of the figures that were presented on the full capacity of the

be deeply unsettling during a key part of their educational journey. schools and how realistic these figures would be in practice.

Middleton Park Email

While I understand the need to consider change, the current environment at Middleton Park is friendly and high achieving. The possible changes discussed have the potential to be significantly detrimental to this

environment and to the education of my children. The imminent development at Grandhome would push the capacity of the local schools in the near future and I would urge this development to be taken into

consideration. I would therefore like to register my view that the possibility of rezoning the schools to fragment the existing schools would be significantly detrimental to the education of my

children particularly if followed by a further change as part of the Grandhome development.

Middleton Park Email

The imminent development at Grandhome would push the capacity of the local schools in the near future and I would urge this development to be taken into consideration. I would therefore like to register my view that the possibility of rezoning the schools to fragment the existing schools would be significantly detrimental to the education of my children particularly if followed by a further change as part of the Grandhome development.

Mile End

Email

Our children have lost the use of an important library facility to make room for another classroom which we are all very concerned about. Also we feel it is important that if catchment areas are changed that younger

We are aware that there are children attending this school from outwith the catchment area and also there are a surge of parents wishing to get their children into this school and applying for a nursery place to add weight to their case. A no cost solution to this problem would be to refuse entry to all children outside the catchment. Planning permission to new housing etc is given only after careful consideration to the facilities within the local area. Some parents

siblings of children already attending a school which was within their original catchment zone have the right to attend the same school as their older sister or brother. Sending siblings to different schools

go to the extreme of taking on an additional short term 1 x bedroom let within the area to guarantee their child's place. If they move away from the catchment area then their child / children should also have to be relocated. Cornhill School is operating at under capacity – changing the catchment area eg. the hospital side of Westburn Road to relocate to Cornhill School as part of their catchment zone would help alleviate the pressure at Mile End.

due to an imposed change of a catchment area would be unfair and totally unacceptable.

Mile End

Email

Priority must be given to children with siblings at a particular school if that address previously belonged within the original catchment zone. It would be unfair and unworkable if siblings were forced to attend

We are concerned at the ever increasing class intakes and number of children being enrolled. A library has been lost to make room for an additional class. Also the new development at Oakbank will also add pressure. We propose that the council look into the benefits of keeping all children within their catchment zone (as happens in the central belt) with regular annual checks of proof of full term permanent addresses which are only ever checked when trying to enrol a child into school. This will close these "loopholes" that parents manipulate to gain a place at their preferred school. The

different schools. Some parents try to manipulate the system by enrolling their children in the nursery, take on short term lets within the area. Parents have put down family or friends names as their child's main

carer whom have houses in the catchment again to try and guarantee a place. Some parents also move away from catchment but decide to keep their children's place at this school. These are examples

why the enrollment numbers remain very high and we now have the potential for this school to become overcrowded which will affect all of our children's education!

Email

Mile End

I strongly feel that children should attend the school that is geographically closest to them and that children going to a school outwith their zone should be an exception. I would suggest that it is best when moving

from primary to secondary school the child should go to their closest school even if this means splitting the primary school. Going to school is not just about formal education but about learning to be part of society.

Experiencing and Learning about community is a vital part of this. One that is enhanced by children attending their closest school, whichever that may be. I would be keen for dual zoning to finish as I cannot

see how an over-subscribed school can "select" one pupil from another.

Finally the facilities that are available at mile-end school are fantastic and I am sure really enhance the learning experience. Bringing all Aberdeen schools up to a similar standard would be ideal.

Email

Mile End

I am strongly against any changes to the Aberdeen Grammar School catchment area. The current system, in effect is working, however the school has so many out of zone children and requests which is putting the school at over capacity. Aberdeen Grammar School should also seriously consider use of the rented French/Totai school buildings if they need more capacity. With regard to Mile End primary, the fact that this NEW build school is at over capacity,

is a disgusting example of poor vision and lack of planning by Aberdeen city council. The new school was built for a smaller school roll than the previous Mile End primary. Parents were lobbed off with statistics showing falling school roles. I personally feel that the catchment area for Mile End should not encompass ARI Hospital, this is often a very mobile population, with staff and families initially staying in hospital accommodation / or cheap

rental flats - children being enrolled into Mile End and then after 6 months they move out of catchment area to cheaper accommodation but their children remain at Mile end. Often preventing children who do live in the catchment admission to Mile End.

Mile End

Email

I am very concerned about falling educational standards and the damage that changes to schools/catchment areas can make.Mile End children have had considerable disruption in recent years with the move to the new school.

The problem of over-capacity may be eased by the removal of the hospital site because of the difficulty in predicting numbers of short term children arriving with medical staff. The Council should look at the possibility of expanding the school to meet the demand such as using the Total French School premises where the lease is to expire in the near future. School Roll Forecasts need to be used with caution - they are an indication but should not be relied on

alone and need to be compared over a number of years before changes are implemented.

Mile End

Email

The over subscription for this area comes mainly from Skene Square school, but that incorporates provision for a housing development. We suggest the ASG area projections are revisited in this light, and that this development as residential should be contingent on school provision in the area. We suggest that priority for attendance be given to applicants who are actually living in zone. Our group discussed the development site

OP94 (previously a hospital). We suggest this site could be used for a new build school; to replace Skene Square; or new build nursery provision, which would take pressure off primary schools in the area; or new build sixth form provision. Our group also discussed the site of the French. We suggest consideration be given to incorporating this site into the Grammar, which would directly expand the school capacity. We suggest consideration be given

to sharing more capacity with private schools in the area, and/or with denominational schools. The latter have about 150 students under capacity. Denominational places might be offered on a volunteer basis including non-Catholic.

Covering letter received from CALA Homes and a report prepared for CALA on the Education Implications for Milltimber PS. Copy available for Elected Members.

400 homes represent 73% of the planned housing development and assuming the number of (Oldfold development) pupils is proportioned on a similar ratio, then the number of additional pupils would be 182. This cannot be accommodated within the existing school complex. As such I wish to raise objection to the proposed phasing and request Aberdeen City Council look at phasing the new school such that it is ready to accommodate new pupils

to match the start of the housing development not three quarters of the way through it. The proposed location for the new school makes this entirely feasible with safe access for pupils via Bingham Road.

Email of support for St Joseph's
Email of support for St Joseph's
Email of support for St Joseph's
Email of support for St Joseph's
Email of support for St Joseph's provision continuing
Email of support for St Joseph's provision continuing
Email of support for St Joseph's provision continuing
Email of support for St Joseph's provision continuing
Email of support for St Joseph's provision continuing
Email of support for St Joseph's provision continuing
Email of support for St Joseph's provision continuing

Email

Email

Email

Email

Email

Email

Email

Email

Email

Email

Email

Email

Email

St Joseph's

Email

The ten new 3R schools will have cost, at the end of 2039, 500 million pounds. That is 50 million pounds per school. I have been informed that this is considered a 30 year mortgage payment, and at the end of the 30 years, you expect to have the schools handed over to you in prime condition, so you have calculated that they will last 60 years. So, 50 million pounds for a school to last 60 years. If you valued St. Joseph's school as much as you value these others,

you would be paying, on average, £800 000 per year for 60 years before you got near to the cost of £50 million. Is there some reason you resent having to pay for the education of the pupils at St. Joseph's?

St Joseph's

Email

The issue of St. Joseph's being leased from the Sacred Heart society is mentioned as a significant cost. Many of Aberdeen's schools (3Rs project for example) and indeed ACC's headquarters are occupied on a leased basis. The leasing fees for other schools are significant and I suspect that on a like-for-like basis (accounting for financing costs of a replacement building) the overall cost of St. Joseph's would compare well. I am confident that ACC can continue

Average travelling distances for RC pupils and parents are increasing and are significantly higher I suggest than those who elect to attend their neighbourhood school. The difficulties in accessing RC schooling in terms of travel is significant and can affect families in different ways. Although transport is provided for pupils outside of the 2 mile radius, there remains a challenge for parents and pupils to attend non-core activities. Reducing the number of locations where RC education is offered in the city would

to lease St Joseph's at a level that represents good value.

in my view represent a significant impairment to access for many parents and pupils.

St Josephs

Email

The capacity of St. Joseph's we believe to be overstated and would encourage the council to review in consultation with the head teacher council's placing policy in respect of Catholic schools .

St Peters

Email

No action should be taken to reduce the rights of Catholic parents to send their children to the existing RC schools in Aberdeen. Nor should Catholic children be denied this right. This means that these schools must remain open and funded at the current level. Non-catholic parents also have their reasons for sending their children to these schools and notwithstanding the teaching curriculum at non-catholic schools, the moral teaching available in Catholic schools is clearly a major factor.

St Peters Letter attached to email The introduction of CIE means it is desirable for St Peters to have early year provision

1. School Roll Over capacity- It's a concern that ACC decided to permit the number of children entering P1 in 2012/13 to increase resulting in additional classes without adequate classroom space. Urgent need to re-allocate classroom space which is more pressing since the roles for neighbouring schools are over capacity. ACC projections show further increase due to extensive housing developments in Bridge of Don and Tillydrone. -

2. Lack of Nursery and Pre-School provision- St Peters is the only school without nursery provision- creation of a nursery would alleviate demand. 3. St Peters is overcrowded, outside space has fallen into come disrepair- would welcome development of facilities to aid delivery of CIE. Possible Solutions- (1) development of Old Aberdeen House- retaining it as a school (2) construction of new school possible grounds of former Dunbar Hall.

Concerns from Pupils regarding Heating and Space and their suggestions for improvement (see letter).

St Peters Letter from Pupils

Tillydrone Email

Provision of new school in Tillydrone

General Comments Comments Cards

Forecasting - beware. If new schools are already over capacity and suggestions being made to extend them - how are you making sure the forecasting is correct?

General Comments Comments Cards

Why are we discussing provision of education when the level of new housing has already been set? The housing plan is not viable and should not move ahead until the education and infrastructure plan is in place. When the detailed plan is in place, developers must not have leeway to cut their commitment to deliver what is required.

General Comments Comments Cards

Without financial commitment/assistance from developers. Council will not be able to build/extend schools.

General Comments Comments Cards

Council have heard many objections to these plans and "local plan", but we still have the same objections - no one seems to take notice.

General Comments Email

One significant factor in considered in assessing school catchment areas should be the council's policy of green transport- pupils within walking distance of a school should be prioritised.

General Comments Email (pdf)

Travel distances should ideally be kept to a minimum and the location of schools, particularly in relation to new housing, needs to be considered.

Any action, particularly housing development, which reduces under-occupancy should be welcomed and there should be flexibility in placements / temp rezoning to encourage the use of City educational assets. The housing developments across the City will mean some existing schools have an increased intake and this will reduce levels of inefficiency for the City. In reviewing existing provision the City will, no doubt, give full consideration

to the potential for new housing developments to make use of existing educational infrastructure and should consider the ways in which current school provision can support new development. We have no view on the threshold at which occupancy levels should trigger a review, but believe, in considering the viability of schools, that the broadest range of options should be considered, including the prospect of these schools playing a role in the

phasing-in of new schools in more appropriate locations. The City should consider the development of joint campuses, or the provision of 'allthrough' schools which, in addition to offering a better use of land, will also be large enough to accommodate opportunities.

General Comments Email

Middleton Park is a small but friendly and high achieving school, I would be concerned if I had to move my child to a school that does not perform better or as well as Middleton Park. This may have a detrimental effect on the pupils' education.

All of the feeder primary schools to Oldmachar Academy are of a similar age, therefore I would be concerned if schools were re-zoned and/or some of them closed only in a few years down the line for these schools to be closed due to being inadequate and not up to spec and the same consultation process to be undertaken again. As the population in Bridge of Don is increasing and with the proposed Grandholm Development which has plans for new

housing and schools (450 houses proposed for 2014), again this would be a concern that more changes would take place further down the line that may cause more disruption for our children and over-ride any changes and re-zoning that is proposed in this review.

1. Children should be zoned to the school nearest to their home (subject to 4 below).
2. Children should be encouraged to attend their zone school where at all possible.
3. If a school zone is to change such that the secondary school changes for an address and an older sibling is already in secondary school then priority should be given for that second (or third etc) child to attend the same school as the older sibling.

4. We all encourage our children to walk to school - they should be zoned to a school to which they can walk safely. They should not have to cross main routes to get to school - regardless of crossing provision.

Some of the above can be achieved by co location of different services within a so called 'community school', a concept particularly popular in the US and Canada, and an approach which I believe is being done in some of the new 3rs schools should also be considered in having co location of services in schools, they would not only take space (and thus reduce capacity) but could also potentially contribute revenue from other bodies using the school. In some cases, it may

not be the most crudely 'efficient' course to keep a below capacity school open, but if the school is popular and successful otherwise then should people not be given the choice of whether they would rather pay the extra through small increases in taxation.

School capacity , along with the possible problems cited in the report, it should also be borne in mind the aspiration of National and local

government to lower class sizes across the board for primary classes.

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Education, Culture and Sport
DATE	31st January 2013
DIRECTOR	Gayle Gorman
TITLE OF REPORT	EC&S Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Development Policy
REPORT NUMBER:	ECS/13/007

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek the approval of the Education, Culture & Sport Committee to implement the new Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Development Policy for all staff within the Education, Culture & Sport Service.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

Members of the Committee are requested to approve the new policy and instruct officers to carry out the necessary work to ensure its successful implementation.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any costs arising from the implementation of providing appropriate continuing professional development (CPD) opportunities for staff, will be met using existing funds within the directorate's CPD budgets. Costs for some of the specific projects identified will be met by funding from partner organisations, some of which have been agreed for the next three years.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

This policy cannot be sustainable without a Science Development Officer in place to co-ordinate and evaluate the initiatives.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

A need has been identified to increase the uptake of science in primary schools and to improve the confidence of teachers in delivery of STEM subjects.

There has been a downturn in numbers of pupils studying STEM subjects at secondary level which has resulted in a decline in post-school destinations within STEM subjects careers.

There is a projected need for 23,000 employees over the next five years, in the Scottish oil & gas industry. Aberdeen, as the oil capital of Europe, will be at the forefront of this need.

6. IMPACT

Increased, and improved, teaching and learning of science in all city schools so improving the achievement of pupils in the STEM subjects and increasing the movement into STEM careers, particularly the oil & gas industry.

7. MONITORING

The implementation of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Development Policy will be regularly monitored to ensure the desired outcomes for the policy are achieved.

Monitoring will be carried out using existing procedures, such as Covalent; educational attainment performance of pupils and other evaluative tools with all stakeholders.

All CPD events and activities will be evaluated, with a focus on the impact that these activities have on employees' professional practice.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

The draft Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Development Policy policy is attached to this report.

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Lynn Scanlon
QIO with strategic lead for science
lyscanlon@aberdeencity.gov.uk
522044



ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

**ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL
Education Culture and Sport**

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Development Policy

Version Number: 4
Date: Jan 2013

**Lead Officer: Lynn Scanlon
Head of Service: Charlie Penman**

Contents

Section 1 Introduction and Purpose of Policy (Rationale)

- 1.1 Background
- 1.2 Purpose of Policy
- 1.3 Scope of Policy

Section 2 Policy Principles

Section 3 Expected Outcomes

Section 4 Roles and Responsibilities

Section 5 Links

- 5.1 To Council Values and Priorities
- 5.2 To Other Policies

Section 6 Distribution and Publication

Section 7 Review

Section 8 Organisation and Responsibility

- 8.1 Director
- 8.2 Heads of Service/Service Managers/Head Teachers/Line Managers
- 8.3 All Employees

Section 9 Planning and Implementation

Section 10 Communication

Section 11 Strategic and Environmental Assessment

Section 12 Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment

Section 13 Approval

Section 14 Agreed Review Date

Appendices

1 INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF POLICY (Rationale)

Aberdeen City Council has high aspirations for the development of quality learning and teaching of science and technology in all of our schools. This is a key priority in the Scottish curriculum and our strategy will promote greater partnership working, build capacity and support development of our staff's skills

It is important that the modern school curriculum reflect the dynamics of global change in technology and science. Curriculum for Excellence will provide the platform for teachers to achieve this; however success in this area is unlikely to be achieved by schools alone. It is therefore essential that we work closely with a wide range of partners to keep abreast of the changes taking place in the world of work and to support teaching staff to build a greater understanding of the demands of a workforce of the future.

Our science and technology policy will support the implementation of the strategy.

Purpose of Policy

In taking this policy forward we will:

- Increase the profile of science and technology across Aberdeen City Schools
- Support the improvement of science learning and teaching, raise attainment and achievement and gain a clear understanding of standards and expectations across Aberdeen City schools.
- Put in place STEM curriculum and subject support networks for practitioners
- Build capacity and confidence of primary school staff in STEM curriculum areas
- Support the development of learning, teaching and assessment materials for National Qualifications
- Recognise, share and celebrate improvements and success in science and technology
- Ensure best practice in science and technology is shared across Aberdeen City schools and nationally
- Build effective partnerships and encourage a greater understanding of the applications of science and technologies in the world of work
- Encourage more young people to consider a career in science or technology related disciplines
- Encourage the development of positive attitudes towards science and technology
- Work more closely with parents to help them understand the relevance of science and technology
- Identify areas for further development in science and technology

We need teachers at all levels with the knowledge, skills, dispositions and readiness to be effective teachers of science and technology and who, by leading change and improvements, will increase the profile of science and technology and so improve the learning and teaching of these subjects across all city schools.

The aims and objectives of our STEM Action Plan (Appendix 1) will articulate with those in our School Improvement Plan. We want to equip more individuals at all levels to be confident, enthusiastic practitioners in science and technologies.

The key principles upon which this policy is based are:

Supporting effective learning and support effective teaching in science and technologies

High quality learning experiences are crucial in providing motivation to learn and achieve. We will support teachers to develop teaching approaches which will actively engage young people in the science and technologies curriculum areas.

We will do this through a range of approaches including:

- Establishing primary science co-ordinators meetings
- Providing specific and targeted support through provision of a dedicated Curriculum Development Officer
- Introducing and supporting subject network meetings
- Extending participation in Primary Science Quality Mark to all primary schools
- Offering additional opportunities for personal and professional development in science and technology by offering a wide range of high quality CPD opportunities to teaching and support staff.
- Developing high quality learning and assessment materials for science and technology courses and new qualifications
- Fostering effective partnerships with business, industry and other local and national education organisations

Raising standards and expectations

We have high expectations of all of our learners. We will work to support learners at all stages to develop and reach their full potential. We will support learning by developing high quality learning and assessment materials. We will use value added diagnostic assessments in primary and early secondary to assist with understanding the learner's journey and to evaluate progress. We will also continue to use analysis of performance in qualifications to target support and intervention.

We will do this through a range of approaches including:

- Use analysis of SQA performance to monitor progress, identify areas for development and identify areas which need specific support
- Encourage greater uptake of the Science Bacculaureate
- Trial in a number of schools the use of e1 in the assessment process for science and technology.
- Establish a working group to provide guidance to schools 3-14 in the assessment process
- Establish science and technology specific moderation groups across sectors to help to understand share and apply standards consistently across City schools.
- Establish discussion forums on National 4 and 5 courses.

Recognise, share and celebrate improvements and success in science and technology

It will be important to recognise achievements and success in science and technologies.

We will do this through:

- Organising science and technology awards ceremony which celebrates success and reflects business and other partner involvement
- Introducing science and technology promotions, events and competition opportunities
- Organise open door and professional exchange opportunities
- Establish the 6th year science ambassador programme in all Secondary establishments.
- Establish primary 6 and primary 7 science champions in schools.(specific to 2012/2013)
- Continuing to identify aspects of good practice across our City schools and share this with all establishments.

Develop partnership links which enhance the delivery of science education within schools

We will work with a wide range of partner organisations and agencies to offer better opportunities to support teachers and to fulfil the needs of learners. Effective partnership working will assist in offering contextualised learning opportunities and provide varied experiences for learners. It will also help to ensure that partnership working is recognised as a valued and essential element in securing success and improving achievement.

We will do this through a range of approaches including:

- Create termly newsletter for all schools

- Identify school initiatives linked to the British Science Festival (specific for 2012)
- Continue to develop relationships with external stakeholders and partners to develop exciting learning materials and quality CPD for teachers
- Create a calendar of events and resources for schools which is co-ordinated and in line with the Authority strategy.
- Promote & work with city owned resources such as the Duthie Park; Maritime Museum; city archaeologists etc.

3 EXPECTED OUTCOMES

In implementing the policy statement we expect the following outcomes to be achieved:

All staff accessing, using and benefiting from a meaningful programme of science CPD experiences, including: accredited training, open learning, learning on-the-job, coaching and mentoring. This is to be sourced by the authority and made available for all staff through promotion in the CPD calendar and regular communication with schools.

Expertise within our own staff is identified, shared and built upon to continue to develop and sustain excellent learning and teaching of science at all levels. Approaches for identifying expertise to be established by the Authority and shared with schools.

The production of highly motivated and confident science teachers, delivering higher quality and more effective science lessons. This is to be achieved by the authority continuing to source high quality experiences and training in STEM subjects.

The profile of science is raised across Aberdeen City Schools resulting in increased uptake in the STEM subjects. This will be achieved by the authority identifying schools where the uptake is low providing support and guidance as to how to raise the profile of STEM subjects to pupils.

Learners have access to high quality teaching and learning in STEM subjects, raising the motivation and attainment of pupils.

Parents and carers across the City view STEM subjects as valuable and leading to viable career opportunities. This will be achieved by schools and the authority informing parents of STEM opportunities and experiences across the City.

All Partnership working will be co-ordinated by the Authority and in line with the City STEM Development Policy. A calendar of events and opportunities will be produced by the authority and distributed to schools.

3b MEASUREABLE OUTCOMES

In implementing the policy statement we expect the following measureable outcomes to be achieved:

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Increase in staff numbers participating in CPD events

- Increased uptake of schools participating and gaining the PSQM
- Increased uptake of schools and pupils participating in the P6/7 Science Champion Award
- A named primary science co-ordinator in every school
- Increase in schools developing specific approaches and policies to science
- Increased motivation of pupils
- Increased uptake in participation in local and national science initiatives and events
- Increased attendance at Satrosphere by schools

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- Increase in staff numbers participating in CPD events
- A network co-ordinator for each subject network
- Increase in the number of pupils studying science subjects beyond the broad general education phase
- To have all schools involved in the S6 Science Ambassador scheme and so increase the number of pupils participating
- To see a 3% increase, across the city, of attainment at Higher and Advanced Higher. (As National 4 and 5 rolls out, attainment will be measured and compared).
- Increase in the quality of resources available to support courses
- Increased uptake in participation in local and national science initiatives and events
- Increased attendance at Satrosphere by schools

4 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

We all have a responsibility to develop science learning and teaching.

Specifically, **teachers** will:

- Be aware of and ensure any development priorities are in line with the STEM Development Policy
- Be aware of the science development opportunities available to them, make best use of them and actively contribute to the evaluation and on-going improvement of the development programme;
- Take ownership of their own science development and actively seek out opportunities to develop themselves and others;
- Be prepared to share information and expertise with others;
- Embrace a positive culture which celebrates achievement and success.

In addition, Faculty Heads and Primary Science Co-ordinators will:

- Promote the Science Development Programme and support participation in appropriate development opportunities by all involved staff members.
- Evaluate and feed back on the impact of science development activities on the work of their staff.

5 LINKS

5.1 To Council Values and Priorities

The aims and objectives of this policy articulate with those in the Strategy for Learning and Service Plan.

5.2 To Other Policies

- *Corporate Employee Development Policy*
The corporate Employee Development Policy is the overarching document for staff training across the Council. This Education, Culture & Sport policy articulates with and compliments the corporate policy and procedures. The corporate Employee Development Policy can be found on the Zone: <http://thezone/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=12872&SID=3241>

6 DISTRIBUTION AND PUBLICATION

This policy applies to all members of staff within the Education, Culture & Sport Service. It will be made available for colleagues to access electronically on the Zone and on Glow.

Copies will be sent to all managers and head teachers, who will be asked to ensure that members of their teams are aware of the policy. All staff are expected to adhere to the policy with immediate effect.

7 REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed on a three year cycle.

8 ORGANISATION AND RESPONSIBILITY

8.1 Director

The Director is responsible for:

- The implementation and monitoring of this policy within the Directorate, and ensuring good communication with employees at all levels;
- Motivating and empowering employees to actively seek out and take advantage of appropriate professional development opportunities.

8.2 Heads of Service/Service Managers/Head Teachers/Line Managers

Heads of Service are responsible for:

- Implementing and complying with this policy as it relates to their areas of operation and control;
- Ensuring that all of their staff are conversant with and accept their responsibilities under this policy, as outlined in Section 4 above, and are provided with adequate support and resources to undertake these responsibilities;
- Motivating and empowering employees to actively seek out and take advantage of appropriate professional development opportunities.

Service Managers/Head Teachers/Line Managers are responsible for:

- Implementing and complying with this policy in their area of responsibility;

- Ensuring that all staff under their direct management acknowledge and accept their responsibilities under this policy, as outlined in Section 4 above, and are provided with adequate support and resources to implement them;
- Motivating and empowering employees to actively seek out and take advantage of appropriate professional development opportunities.

8.3 All Employees

All employees have a responsibility for:

- Adhering to this policy at all times and ensuring they carry out their responsibilities listed in Section 4.

9.0 PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of this policy is managed and monitored by the Quality Improvement Officer with lead role for Science development

The overall progress of policy implementation is monitored by the Head of Educational Development, Policy and Performance.

10.0 COMMUNICATION

A briefing note will be sent to all staff to inform them of the publication of this policy. The approved policy will also be shared with senior managers at improvement conferences and head teacher meetings and managers are asked to ensure that staff for whom they are responsible are aware of its existence.

11.0 STRATEGIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

A strategic environmental assessment is not required for this policy, as its implementation will have no effect on the environment.

12.0 EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment has been carried out and no negative impacts has been identified.

13.0 APPROVAL

Approval for this policy will be requested from the Education, Culture & Sport Committee on 31 Jan 2013.

14.0 AGREED REVIEW DATE

This policy will be reviewed on or before December 2013.

Appendix 1

Science and Technology Action Plan 2012 - 14

Improve learning and teaching in science and technology in all schools.

- Establish primary science co-ordinators meetings
- CDO attends subject network meetings
- Increase the number and range of CPD courses on offer to both teaching and support staff.
- 15 schools to take part in the pilot PSQM supported by science CDO and QIO (2012).
- Extend participation of Primary Schools in PSQM – aspiration that all Primary Schools will become involved in Science curriculum development activity.
- Easter/ Summer school to run for 20 staff.
- Evaluation of impact of strategy

Raise standards and increase pupil uptake in SQA science and technology courses.

- From analysis of SQA results identify where raising the profile of science and technology is required.
- Create a structured approach to supporting the Science Baccalaureate

Develop systems for assessment in science and technology which are in line with the assessment strategy for the City.

- Trial in a number of schools the use of e1 in the assessment process for science and technology.
- Establish a working group to provide guidance to schools 3-14 in the assessment process. (sub group of assessment strategy group)
- Establish discussion forums on National 4 and 5 courses.

Develop partnership links which enhance the delivery of science education within schools and link to the City Strategy.

- Create termly newsletter for both primary and Secondary.
- Identify school initiatives linked to the British Science Festival (2012 only).
- Meet all external stakeholders and partners in the area of science /education and create an overview of current provision in Aberdeen City.
- Create a calendar of events and resources for schools which is co-ordinated and in line with the Authority strategy.

Create a culture of ambition and achievement for the areas of science and technology in Aberdeen City.

- Contribute to the Learning Festival in February providing a number of exhibits and presentations.
- Organise an end of year science and technology awards ceremony.
- Organise open door events and professional exchange opportunities in line with the Authority CPD strategy.
- Establish the 6th year science ambassador programme in all Secondary establishments.

This page is intentionally left blank

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Education Culture and Sport
DATE	31 January 2013
DIRECTOR	Gayle Gorman
TITLE OF REPORT	Accreditation Application – Revision of Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums Collections Development Policy
REPORT NUMBER:	ECS/13/001

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the Accreditation Scheme for Museums and Art Galleries in the United Kingdom 2011 Standard and to place before committee a Collections Development Policy. The Accreditation Standard, which sets national professional standards of care and management for Museums and Art Galleries, was revised in 2011 and now requires all governing bodies of museums and galleries to adopt a 'Collections Development Policy' in place of an 'Acquisitions and Disposals Policy' to achieve Accreditation status.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Committee adopts the Collections Development Policy

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Collections Development Policy acknowledges the current financial situation and available budget for acquisitions of works of art and artefacts. Where appropriate, the service will continue to seek matching grants from external organisations towards the cost of new acquisitions and delivering collections projects.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

If the Collections Development Policy is not adopted the Museums and Galleries service risks losing its Full Accreditation status. This would preclude the service from applying for external grants for revenue and capital projects, including applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund and Museums Galleries Scotland.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

In November 2004 the Museums Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) launched a new standard for museums, the Accreditation Scheme, which set nationally agreed minimum standards for all UK museum services. Accreditation benefits users of museum services and acts as a benchmark for grant-making organisations, sponsors and donors.

The scheme is now administered by Arts Council England (ACE) following its merger with MLA in 2011. ACE administers the scheme for the entire United Kingdom, in partnership with Museums Galleries Scotland, Northern Ireland Museums Council and CyMAL.

Accreditation is a set of national standards for UK museums. To achieve these standards museums must meet published requirements in how they care for and document their collections, how they are governed and managed, and on the information and services they offer to their users. The standards are reviewed regularly to ensure that they continue to set appropriate benchmarks for the museums sector. The most recent review took place in 2011 and the Accreditation Scheme for Museums and Art Galleries in the United Kingdom 2011 Standard requires all new and returning applicants to provide increased evidence of professional standards and engagement with visitors.

Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museums has held full Accreditation status since 2006, which was renewed in 2010. Holders of Accreditation are required to submit a biennial return to retain this status. The service has been invited (as a returning applicant) to submit an application for Accreditation under the 2011 Standard in January 2013.

Included in this application is the new requirement to submit a Collections Development Policy. This document describes how the collections cared for by Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museums are managed, conserved and developed and the processes in place to deal with exhibitions and loans. The Collections Development Policy encompasses the 'Acquisitions and Disposal Policy 2010-2015' approved by the Education Culture and Sport Committee on 16 September 2010.

Although the format of the policy has changed to comply with the new template required for Accreditation, the substance of the policy has not been altered.

6. IMPACT

This report relates to "Aberdeen – the Smarter City" particularly:

- We will improve access to and increase participation in arts and culture by providing opportunities for citizens and visitors to experience a broad range of high quality arts and cultural activities.
- We aspire to be recognised as a City of Culture, a place of excellence for culture and arts by promoting Aberdeen as a cultural centre hosting

high quality and diverse cultural events for the whole community and beyond.

- We will embrace the distinctive pride the people of Aberdeen take in their city and work with them to enhance the sense of well-being here, building strong communities which look out for, and look after one another.
- We aim to leave a legacy which will make compelling reading in a new chapter in the history of Aberdeen and we aim to do this with one voice.
- Working with our third, public and private sector partners, we will provide opportunities for lifelong learning which will develop knowledge, skills and attributes of our citizens to enable them to meet the changing demands of the 21st century.

There are also links with the delivery of the city's Cultural Strategy, "Vibrant Aberdeen" and the bid development to become UK City of Culture. It also has direct links to the city's Learning Strategy and in supporting the experiences and outcomes of the Curriculum for Excellence.

In terms of the Single Outcome Agreement, the development and interpretation of the Collections contribute to Outcome 3, "We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation" and Outcome 13, 'We will take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity'.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

A copy of the Collections Development Policy has been placed in the Members Lounge.

Report to Education Culture and Sport Committee 16 September 2010 item 21 Acquisitions and Disposals Policy 2010-2015 ECS/10/067
(<http://councilcommittees/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=9145>)

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Christine Rew
Art Gallery & Museums Manager
chrisr@aberdeencity.gov.uk → 523672

This page is intentionally left blank

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: **Education, Culture & Sport**
DATE: **31 January 2013**
DIRECTOR: **Gayle Gorman**
TITLE OF REPORT: **Sports Grants**
REPORT NUMBER: **ECS/13/002**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report brings before the Committee an application for financial assistance from Aberdeen School Rowing Association and makes recommendations accordingly.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the committee:

- (a) Considers the following application from the Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association and approves the following recommendation:

Organisation	Amount Granted
Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association	£12,000

- (b) Notes the recent successes of Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association being named Local Club of the Year in the Sunday Mail Scottish Sports Awards which took place on 6th December 2012 in Glasgow.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Sports Grants budget for the 2012/13 financial year is £98,181. If the recommendation is approved, there will be £41,413.50 remaining in this budget. Appendix 1 outlines the previous Sport Grant awards in the current financial year.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Local sports groups and organisations adopt a variety of methods to attract funding, however some groups would be unable to host an event or develop further without the financial assistance available from the City Council. Groups

who do not meet the criteria will be assisted by officers to source alternative solutions.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

Aberdeen City Council's Sports Grants is a funding programme which is open to any voluntary or not-for-profit organisation or club who deliver sport or physical activity within the city. Grants of up to £10,000 are available and applications can be submitted throughout the year. In exceptional circumstances, we may consider applications above this level. The Sports Grants budget for 2012/13 has been set by the Council at £98,181.

The grant criteria is aligned to the key objectives of "Fit for the Future" the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for Aberdeen (2009-2015). Each application is assessed against the criteria, with recommendations developed and put forward to the relevant Committee for a decision.

All applicants are provided with support from officers before and after applications have been considered. This includes the offer of individual support sessions, resulting in detailed feedback on how to improve the quality of their application. For more information about common reasons for resubmission, deferral or rejection please see Appendix 2.

5.1 Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association

Formed in 1973, Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association (ASRA) provides a wide range of rowing activities to school aged children and young people throughout the City. ASRA is set-up as a charitable trust and has a two tier governance and management structure. The Board of Trustees leads on long-term planning while the ASRA Committee deals with the day to day running of the Association.

The Associations objective is to create opportunities to become involved in rowing. This is achieved by providing a pathway which allows beginners to undertake taster sessions, before progressing to indoor clubs and eventually outdoor club rowing on the River Dee. The club was recognised for its outstanding contribution that it makes to everyday life in the community by being named the Local Club of the year in Sunday Mail Scottish Sports Awards Ceremony in December 2012. This is a remarkable achievement which demonstrates the impact this programme is having whilst assisting the City in raising the profile of sport on a national level.

Since 2007, ASRA have been running two main programmes with secondary schools in the City. The indoor (Dry Start) programme provides a minimum six week extra curricular training block within participating schools and ASRA have provided four rowing machines to participating schools that do not have their own. The outdoor (Wet Start) programme follows this up with the opportunity to participate in an eight to ten week training block on the River Dee. ASRA currently have one paid development officer who is supported by a team of volunteer coaches all of whom contribute between five and twelve hours coaching per week.

The overall cost of running the schools rowing projects is approximately £35,200 per annum. The recommendation is to provide £12,000 of funding towards this project which will be matched by £22,200 from the Association. This covers a range of incurred costs including equipment, staff salaries, travel, insurance and administration. In order to meet this cost, ASRA have successfully received funding from external bodies. Furthermore, the Association also receives support through their own fund raising initiatives and corporate sponsorship.

This application requests support to extend and improve the ongoing indoor and outdoor programmes. ASRA aim to use this funding to introduce the programmes into the majority of the city’s secondary schools. As part of this over 1,000 primary seven and senior one pupils would receive taster sessions which are followed up by the opportunity to participate in lunch time indoor clubs. Furthermore, over 200 senior one – senior three pupils will enter the indoor programme and receive a 6 to 10 week block of specialised indoor rowing training. The funding will also be used to provide over 100 pupils with the opportunity to enter the outdoor programme and receive a 10 week training block on the River Dee.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£12,000	£12,000

6. IMPACT

This report relates to ‘Aberdeen – the Smarter City’:

- We will promote and improve opportunities for physical activity and sport to enable Aberdeen’s citizens to lead more active, healthier lives.

The report relates to the Arts, Heritage and Sport strand of the Community Plan, specifically in relation to the Sports, Leisure and Recreation vision of developing Aberdeen as an “Active City”.

The report relates closely to the objectives of “Fit for the Future, the sport and physical activity strategy for Aberdeen City (2009-2015)”. These objectives are:

- Promote and increase opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity for everyone in Aberdeen.
- Provide a comprehensive and high quality range of sports facilities in Aberdeen.
- Maximise social, educational, health and economic benefits of sport and physical activity in Aberdeen.
- Develop and sustain pathways which nurture local, regional and national sporting people to reach their potential.
- Raise the profile of sport in Aberdeen.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Aberdeen School Rowing Association Grant Application – available in the Members Lounge

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Jo Conlon
Sports Policy and Partnership Officer
jconlon@aberdeencity.gov.uk
(01224) 523798

Appendix 1

Summary Table of Financial Assistance Sports Awards 2012/13

Sports Organisation	Funding Awarded	Committee Approval
Aberdeen Rugby League Club	£640	Education, Culture & Sport 07/06/12

Aberdeen Youth Rugby Association	£13,000	Education, Culture & Sport 07/06/12
Active Aberdeen – Festival of Sport, Physical Activity and Dance	£5,000	Education, Culture & Sport 20/09/12
City of Aberdeen Gymnastics	£2,260	Education, Culture & Sport 20/09/12
Aberdeen Secondary Schools Football Association	£1,000	Culture & Sport Sub Committee 07/11/12
Hazlehead Netball Club	£317.50	Culture & Sport Sub Committee 07/11/12
Silver City Blues Swimming Club	£1,700	Culture & Sport Sub Committee 07/11/12
Special Olympics Grampian Area – Ski Group	£4,900	Culture & Sport Sub Committee 07/11/12
Coach and Volunteer Workforce Development Grants	£4,500	Education, Culture & Sport 22/11/12
Aberdeen Amateur Athletics Club	£4,950	Culture & Sport Sub Committee 10/01/13
Aberdeen Dolphins Swimming Club	£2,500	Culture & Sport Sub Committee 10/01/13
Adventure Aberdeen	£4,000	Culture & Sport Sub Committee 10/01/13
<i>Aberdeen Schools Rowing</i>	<i>Pending</i>	<i>Education, Culture &</i>

<i>Association</i>	<i>Committee Approval</i>	<i>Sport 31/01/13</i>
Total Grant Funding Awarded to date	£44,767.50	
Grant Funding Remaining	£53,413.50	

Appendix 2

Sports Grants – Please find below frequent reasons for resubmission, deferral or rejection of funding applications

- Application forms not fully completed or illegible
- The benefits of the initiative do not clearly show the primary benefit is to residents of the City, but to a wider demographic
- Projects do not have clear outputs or outcomes
- Match funding is either not confirmed (in which case an application is deferred) or indicated.

- There is no evidence of need ascertained, of wider benefit, and/or there is evidence of duplication of services already supported by Aberdeen City Council
- The organisation or Club has outstanding debt with Aberdeen City Council
- The club cannot meet FPHP (Following the Public Pound) guidance and/or has not submitted reports against previous grant allocations
- The group or club is not constituted as required by the grants criteria
- The group or club does not have a bank account with two authorised signatories
- Applications for transport represent a significant proportion of the grant with no evidence of participants subsidising travel
- Requests to visit or train at facilities out with the City may be rejected if similar facilities are available locally
- Projects or requests for staffing do not evidence any forward planning recognising future stability
- Standards of coaching or volunteering do not meet acceptable standards
- There are inadequate or no monitoring and evaluation plans

Feedback and additional support

Council Officers from a variety of backgrounds and knowledge work together to assess the wider value to the sports sector of each application.

Where time permits, Aberdeen City Council staff will contact organisations on receipt of their applications to seek clarification or further information. This is not always possible when applications are received very close to the deadline for Committee reports. Organisations are offered a telephone call or a face to face meeting to help improve their applications.

Where applications are recommended for deferral or rejection, organisations are contacted and offered verbal or written feedback to support a resubmission.

In addition, Officers provide advice and support to sports organisations with application to Awards for All, and other small sports grants funding streams.

This page is intentionally left blank

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE:	Education, Culture and Sport
DATE:	31st January 2013
DIRECTOR:	Gayle Gorman
TITLE OF REPORT:	Rubislaw Field Agreement
REPORT NUMBER:	ECS/13/010

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report provides the Committee with information on ongoing discussions between the parties to the Rubislaw Field Agreement and efforts to ensure that the agreement in place is fit for its purpose, reflecting the changes and patterns of use since 1923. The Council's assets, service delivery and responsibilities are potentially directly affected by the decisions taken.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee –

- (i) note the current position, that the Rubislaw Field Committee has been unable to reach agreement on replacing the existing 1923 Agreement for the reasons outlined in the report and the appended minute;
- (ii) instruct officers to make a final effort to obtain the agreement of the Rubislaw Field Committee to implement a revised Agreement in the terms set out in the report at paragraph 5.8 and that, if this is successful, to receive a recommendation from the Field Committee that these terms be implemented; and
- (iii) agree that, if such agreement cannot be reached, officers be instructed to issue Conditions of Let restricted to the terms of the existing 1923 Agreement with effect from 31st March, thereby preventing any additional, unauthorised usage from that date.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

At present there are budget implications to meet the terms of the current Field Agreement, mainly relating to staff costs, to make the grounds and pavilion available to Aberdeen Grammar School Former Pupils' Club's sporting sections, as well as additional costs to maintain the grounds for this use, which is in addition to the needs of Aberdeen Grammar School and the wider provision of sports pitches. At present, the power supply

for floodlighting, which was paid for and installed by the Grammar FP Rugby Club, is paid by the Council.

The replacement Field Agreement will reflect a balance between recognising the historical relationship, while offsetting appropriate costs, including cleaning the pavilion and offering the potential for investment by the Council from income received. In particular, the Agreement has provisions for the Council to seek payments from the FP Club's Sporting Sections for any advertising the Field Committee agrees to allow at Rubislaw. It also enables the Council to re-invest the income it receives in youth coaching, training or other related assistance provided by the Sports Sections for the benefit of the Grammar School or wider community.

Revenue raised and paid by the Sport Sections to the Council under the provisions of this clause, not used to support youth sport as above, shall be used for current or future improvements to the facilities at Rubislaw, including debt repayment, as approved by the Education Authority managing Rubislaw Field.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are legal implications in that the Field Agreement is a formal agreement, reached in 1923, and which has operated till the present day. The agreement of all constituent parties to amend the Agreement is required, and is important to sustain the relationships and facilities. Its updating will also demonstrate good stewardship by the City Council.

There is potential that sports development may be detrimentally affected by the process of change; the FP Club sporting sections do contribute to the participation, progression and performance in their respective sports. However, the intended result is intended to achieve a better overall situation, with proper recognition of the real costs to the Council, as well as identifying the costs and benefits of the sports development being provided at Rubislaw.

As the Council wishes to review and replace the Field Agreement agreed by a predecessor authority, there may be a risk to its reputation, dependent on the extent of the process to resolve the issues currently outstanding. Should agreement not be reached and the proposed course of action is restricted to the terms of the 1923 Agreement, there may be implications for the FP Club's sports sections. This in turn may result in the final results of the Leisure Asset Review and Pitch Strategy, currently under way, having to be amended to consider any resulting requirements they may have in order that they can continue to play in local and national leagues, on other pitches.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 The background to this report is that in 1914, the Grammar School's Former Pupils Club made a financial contribution to Aberdeen School Board, to enable the latter to purchase the original Rubislaw Field. In return, an agreement was made that the Field would be used as a play field by both the pupils and former pupils of Aberdeen Grammar School. A Minute of Waiver was recorded in 1974, which enabled use of the Field by other persons. As successors to the School Board, the City Council, as Education Authority, own the Field.

5.2 In 1923, following the erection of the Pavilion, funded by the FP Club and which included a War Memorial to former pupils who had given their lives during the First World War, a new agreement for the operation and management of the Field was agreed, with a Field Committee, which consists of the Education Authority (currently represented by Cllrs Laing, as Convener, Cllrs Greig and Thomson), three members of the FP Club and the Rector and one other member of staff from Aberdeen Grammar School. That pavilion, following the opening of the new pavilion, is no longer used for changing facilities.

5.3 In consideration of the contributions made by the FP Club towards the purchase price of the play field, it has the exclusive use without charge of one grass (rugby) football pitch and one grass hockey pitch on Saturdays during the season and facilities for cricket and tennis during the summer if it chooses to use them. Additional facilities can and have been made available by the agreement of the Field Committee, and some are being used without agreement. In consideration of the FP Club's contribution to the new Pavilion, the Field Committee can also determine its use of its facilities, but this is not so far the subject of any formal agreement.

5.4 In March 2009, following discussions with the parties who are represented at the meetings of the Field Committee, it was intended to take a report to the City Council's then Policy and Resources Committee. At the request of the then Head of Legal Services, it was withdrawn so that the Council could obtain further legal advice. This was done; proposals to replace the current Agreement were scoped and then discussed between representatives of the FP Club, the Grammar School and officers. Subsequently, three meetings of the Field Committee have taken place this and last year.

5.5 The main issues are a proposal to revoke the existing Rubislaw Field Agreement, which allows exclusive use without charge by the Grammar FP Club of certain parts of the Rubislaw Field and to conclude a fresh Agreement with the Grammar FP Club, regulating their current usage of Rubislaw Field, including compliance with the general Booking System, and a mechanism for calculation of payment to the Council of a share of advertising revenues and cleaning costs.

5.6 While the existing Users Agreement with the Grammar FP Club dates from 1923, over the intervening years, there have been a number of changes to the usage made of the Field and its environs, not least the introduction of the all-weather pitch surface, which was part **sportscotland** Lottery funded and which allows play over an extended period of the year. Although this pitch is not within the scope of the Field Agreement, the Committee has been involved from its inception and has been keen to ensure that as appropriate, access could be enabled for the school and FP Club. The Council's normal bookings and lettings procedures have always applied to this pitch for all users.

5.7 There are also instances of "custom and practice" over the period of the current Agreement, some which have been accepted by the Field Committee when explicitly requested, others which have been assumed through informal use. The proposed Field Agreement reflects current use, where there are cost implications for the Council and retains the overall relationship between itself, including the Grammar School, and the FP Club. The all-weather pitch, being on ground not covered by the Field Agreement is included in order to reflect that relationship, however it should be re-emphasised that it was funded by the Council, with **sportscotland** support. Any other historical use of the upper level in the past is not included within the Agreement.

5.8 Following initial negotiations with the Grammar FP Club, the terms set out below are designed to protect the interests of school users and regulate fairly other uses of the Field in terms of current usage and entitlement. The new Agreement would also regulate payment for cleaning of the new pavilion, reflecting the usage made of it by the Grammar FP Club, and application of any income from Advertisements agreed by the Committee.

The main terms would be as follows:

1. Management of the Field and pavilion and facilities will be carried out by the Rubislaw Field Committee, comprising 3 Elected Members of the Council, 3 Members of the FP Club and 2 Members of the Grammar School staff.
2. The Convener will be appointed by the Council Committee whose remit deals with Secondary Education in the City of Aberdeen.
3. The Grammar FP Club shall have exclusive use without payment of two (grass) rugby pitches on Saturday afternoons.
4. The Grammar FP Club shall have exclusive use without payment of cricket training nets for cricket training, and of that area also for rugby training.

5. The Grammar FP Club shall have exclusive use without payment of the cricket square on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and on Saturday afternoons from April to August.
6. The Grammar FP Club shall have exclusive use without payment of a football pitch for football matches on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and on Saturday afternoons, and shall advise the Central Booking Office, as directed by the Rubislaw Field Committee, of their intended use.
7. The Grammar FP Club shall have a priority use, subject to normal charges, of the all-weather pitch for hockey training on Tuesday evenings and on Saturday afternoons and Sundays for hockey league games. (The exclusive use of one hockey pitch from the original Agreement has been removed in recognition of the changes to the needs of competitive hockey games)
8. The Grammar FP Club shall have priority use, subject to normal letting charges, of the south western corner for training for mini and midi rugby.
9. All bookings of the Field or facilities, whether paid or without payment, will be made through the general Booking Office and payments and timescales for booking made as per the arrangements in place at that time. Bookings will be only be accepted and access given if the lettings procedures are followed.
10. If the Grammar FP Club do not require any pitches or facilities to which they are entitled to exclusive use and had booked, they shall if possible, advise the general Booking System so that if appropriate, the pitches can be re-let to other users.
11. The ground indicated for the Grammar FP Club priority use shall only be offered to another user once the deadline for the subsequent letting period has passed.
12. Payments for cleaning of the new Pavilion to enable Grammar FP Club use will be agreed within six months of this Agreement being put in place and payments will be due from the date of the Agreement. Payments will be revised annually and will include consideration of the then prevailing staff costs being paid by the Council.
13. In the event of any section of the Grammar FP Club erecting advertising boards or hoardings on the Rubislaw Field, boundary fencing or gates, they shall only be erected with prior approval of the Rubislaw Field Committee and subject to the necessary planning permissions and consents being in place. The Rubislaw Field Committee shall consider the revenue generated by such advertising, and also the value of coaching and other services provided by Grammar FP members to children and young adults, and shall set a fee to be due to the Council, which money shall be used wholly in connection with current or future improvements to the facilities at Rubislaw, including debt repayment

arising out of any works carried out to the facilities, as approved by the Committee.

14. It is emphasised that payments to the City Council for any advertisement on site, all which will only be permitted by prior agreement, will be agreed within six months of this Agreement being put in place and will be effective from the date of the Agreement. This will include consideration of any advertising currently on site and the FP Club will also confirm for those that all necessary planning permissions are in place.
15. The Council will endeavour to maintain at all times the facilities of Rubislaw Field and the pitches, facilities including the all-weather pitch to normal playing standards, with associating lighting, line painting and security of the pitch. Use of the all-weather pitch will be at the discretion of the Council and will include whatever sports are deemed to be appropriate.
16. The Council will consider any proposals from the FP Club to improve use of the Field, however will not be bound by these. The Field Committee will consider any proposals to locate temporary or other accommodation at the Field, or equipment, however unless previously agreed, no such item should be put in place. The Council will contract any works to improve the Field and manage the contracts to undertake these.
17. If the Grammar FP Club makes payment for facilities which are then deemed unplayable for any reason, a refund shall be made in accordance with the booking policy then prevailing. The Groundsman's decision on playability is final.

5.9 The proposed replacement Agreement is designed to be reviewed after ten years.

5.10 The current situation is that the Grammar School has indicated a readiness to agree to the Agreement as currently scoped. The Headteacher has indicated that he is in agreement with the terms of this report. Following a period where they had indicated that the issues to be resolved were more procedural than principle, the Grammar FP Club has now indicated its wish that the existing Agreement not be superseded, but modified. Their representatives have indicated their wish to retain reference to the grounds being in use for all time by Aberdeen Grammar School pupils and the Former Pupils' Club. The FP Club representatives indicated they saw this as a point of principle for their members.

5.11 Officers have advised the Council's representatives that the need to overhaul the Agreement is as a result of it not being flexible to respond to changing circumstances and in consequence it no longer meets the needs of the users. As the position of the Former Pupils' Club is now that it could not accede to an Agreement which did not refer to rights in perpetuity, then no form of words could be found to resolve the issue, as the Council could not, in terms of Best Value, agree to these rights being

retained in perpetuity, as well as the additional rights being proposed under the draft revised Agreement.

5.12 Officers advice is that if the proposed new Agreement can not be agreed by the FP Club, then there are two possible approaches which can be taken; the first is that the Field Committee could decide to continue the existing Agreement and the informal uses that have developed, without any recompense to the Council for the additional costs incurred (eg cleaning of the new pavilion) and without any share of revenue raised from use of the field (eg advertising) . In doing so, however, it should be recognised that this will represent an inconsistent approach, as compared to other sports users, or other sports development clubs, and may be criticised as not being Best Value in the use of Council assets.

5.13 The second approach is that the Field Committee agrees to revert to the original terms of the 1923 Field Agreement; that all uses and arrangements since that date, specifically including those not previously formally agreed by the Field Committee, are cancelled from a date to be agreed, and such uses are stopped. Thereafter, the Field Committee would consider on a case by case basis if it is prepared to agree to other uses, including the terms of those uses currently made by Grammar FP Club and if appropriate, any other regular uses of the Field. The practical implications of this proposal will have a potentially detrimental effect on Grammar FP Rugby, as decisions about the current stand and defined rugby pitch, advertising and related matters will require a series of decisions about future terms of use. This may include a detrimental effect on the standing of Grammar FP Rugby nationally, as a league club. Similarly, this may also affect the Cricket and Hockey sections. This may also put at risk the long-standing relationship enjoyed by the Grammar School and its FP Club. Similarly, the ongoing development of sport will potentially have a period of disruption.

5.14 The Deed of Trust setting up the Committee did not envisage a situation such as this where agreement could not be reached between the parties, therefore does not provide for the current impasse, and the resulting direct impact on the Council's assets and service delivery, which fall within the ECS account.

6. IMPACT

The report contributes to the Administration's programme, *Aberdeen the Smarter City*, which includes, "We will promote and improve opportunities for physical activity and sport to enable Aberdeen's citizens to lead more active, healthier lives" and, "We will provide a high quality education service within our schools and communities which will improve attainment and life chances of our children and young people to achieve their full potential in education, employment or training."

Public – there is likely to public interest in this report, including from those associated with Aberdeen Grammar School, both historically and present, and those interested in the sports played at Rubislaw.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Reports to Rubislaw Field Committee, 11th October 2012 and 10th June 2011 on the Rubislaw Field Agreement.

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Neil M Bruce, Service Manager, Culture and Sport,
neilbr@aberdeencity.gov.uk
→ 523144

RUBISLAW FIELD COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 4 DECEMBER 2012 – Minute of Meeting of the RUBISLAW FIELD COMMITTEE. Present: - Councillor Laing, Chairperson; and Councillors Greig and Thomson; Mr A Hamilton, Mr J Hendry and Mr D McAllister (Aberdeen Grammar School Former Pupils' Club); Mr G Legge and Mr I Stanger (Aberdeen Grammar School); and Ms V Mackie, Sport Aberdeen. In Attendance: Neil Bruce, Service Manager, Culture and Sport, Education, Culture and Sport; Simon Williams, Facilities Manager, Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure; Fiona Selbie, Senior Solicitor, Legal and Democratic Services; and Vikki Cuthbert and Stephanie Dunsmuir, Legal and Democratic Services.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The Committee had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 11 October 2012.

The Committee resolved:-

to approve the minute as a correct record.

RUBISLAW FIELD AGREEMENT

2. With reference to Article 3 of the minute of its previous meeting, the Chairperson stated that it had been decided that all members would consult with their organisations on the new Agreement. She asked if Aberdeen Grammar School could confirm their position in relation to the new Agreement, and Mr Legge advised that following a couple of minor adjustments which they had conveyed to the Council, the School was content with the new document.

The Chairperson then sought feedback from the Former Pupils' Club. Mr McAllister advised that the majority of changes they had suggested had been accepted, but that the Club representatives had proposed that the new Agreement build on the 1923 document, rather than supersede it. The 1923 Agreement stated that the ground would be in use for all time for Aberdeen Grammar School pupils and the Former Pupils' Club, but this wording did not appear in the new version of the Agreement.

The Chairperson explained that the Council was trying to prepare a new agreement which would reflect the current usage, and would be a moving document which therefore was not intended to convey rights in perpetuity. She sought advice from Mrs Selbie on the implications of including this terminology in a new Agreement.

Mrs Selbie explained that the new Agreement was not intended to be in perpetuity, but was designed to be flexible to set out what usage of the Field was at present, while allowing members to discuss and amend the document in future as usage changed. The 1923 Agreement had not allowed for any such amendments.

Councillor Greig stated that he could understand the concerns of the Former Pupils' Club, as at present, their rights were protected, however they felt there was a loss of this protection in the new Agreement if the rights in perpetuity were removed. The Chairperson pointed out that the current usage went well beyond what was covered in

the 1923 Agreement, and therefore any rights the Former Pupils' Club felt they had at present were not in fact covered by the existing Agreement.

Mr Hendry stated that the Former Pupils' Club felt that they had inherited what they had at present and did not want to see it lost for future generations, as they felt they had a duty to protect the arrangements. The Chairperson reiterated that the current usage arrangements were not reflected in the 1923 document, and therefore if it was agreed to revert to the existing Agreement, the Council would have to look at the current arrangements in more detail.

Councillor Greig asked if it was considered that the new Agreement would cancel out the 1923 version, and Mrs Selbie advised that this would be the case, in the same way that the 1914 Agreement had been revoked and cancelled by the 1923 version. Councillor Greig then enquired if it would be possible to write something in to the new Agreement to reflect the Former Pupils' wish that the rights in perpetuity be retained. Mrs Selbie advised that it would not be in the best interests of the Council to include this in a new Agreement.

The Chairperson explained that a lack of agreement would result in the Council having to revert to the 1923 Agreement, and asked if the Former Pupils' Club could therefore consider going back to renegotiate the matter with their members. Mr McAllister asked if reverting to the 1923 version would mean that only football would be affected, but Mrs Selbie advised that several elements were not included in the 1923 Agreement, such as the new pavilion, the advertising hoardings and the use of the hockey pitches. Mr Bruce advised that it was proposed that the new Agreement would be reviewed in ten years, at which point any changes in circumstances and usage could be considered.

The Chairperson explained that she understood that the Former Pupils' Club was keen to have the current safeguards in place, but stated that the Council had to look at the change in circumstances which now existed, particularly in relation to the change in usage, as well as the current financial situation. She explained that the Council could therefore not agree to an organisation having rights in perpetuity. The Chairperson asked again if it would be possible for the Former Pupils' representatives to go back to their members to discuss the matter further, or if they were content to state that their position was that they could not agree to the terms of the new Agreement. She advised that if no agreement could be reached at the meeting, then officers would prepare a report for the January meeting of the Education, Culture and Sport Committee to enable the Council to take a decision on how to move forward with the situation.

Mr Bruce referred to the wording used in the 1923 Agreement which stated that "the field shall be employed for use as a play field for the pupils and former pupils of Aberdeen Grammar School in all time coming", and asked if this was something which could be incorporated into the new Agreement. Councillor Greig stated that this wording recognised the goodwill and investment by the Former Pupils' Club in the field. The Chairperson asked if the essence of this wording could perhaps be accommodated in the new document to give the Former Pupils' Club some comfort. Mrs Selbie again stated that the wording in the 1923 Agreement would be difficult for the Council in terms of Best Value and any future auditing of the disposal of assets which had been undertaken in perpetuity. Mr Hendry advised that he did not consider that the Former Pupils' Club had ever conceded that they were willing to give up the right to use the field in perpetuity. Mrs Selbie noted that this had not been her understanding from the various meetings which had previously been held. Mr McAllister advised that the new

Agreement would not have the sanction of the Former Pupils' Club members if the rights in perpetuity were not included. Councillor Greig asked if it would be possible to have some consideration of what the term 'in perpetuity' could mean, as perhaps a form of words could be found in relation to the term which would suit both sides. Mrs Selbie advised that if the position of the Former Pupils' Club was that they could not accede to an Agreement which did not refer to rights in perpetuity, then no form of words could be found to resolve the issue, as the Council could not, in terms of Best Value, agree to these rights being retained in perpetuity, as well as the additional rights being proposed under the draft revised Agreement.

The Chairperson concluded the meeting by noting that the discussions appeared to have reached an impasse, and therefore the process outlined earlier whereby officers would prepare a report to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee stating the current position would apply. She thanked all those present for their attendance at the meeting.

The Committee resolved:-

to note that as it had not been possible to reach agreement, that officers would prepare a report for the Education, Culture and Sport Committee in January 2013 to allow the Council to take a decision on how to proceed.

- **JENNIFER LAING, Chairperson**

This page is intentionally left blank

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Education, Culture and Sport
DATE	31st January 2013
DIRECTOR	Gayle Gorman
TITLE OF REPORT	Education, Culture and Sport Performance Report
REPORT NUMBER	ECS/13/003

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to:

- provide Elected Members with a summary of performance data for the period from July 2012 and up to and inclusive of December 2012 from the Education, Culture and Sport Directorate (ECS)

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Committee are asked to:

- Approve the ECS Service Performance report for the period from July 2012 and up to and inclusive of December 2012

3. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising directly from the report.

4. **OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct implications arising from this report however, the purpose of performance measurement and reporting is to manage improvement to services to the community. The measures ensure linkage to the Single Outcome Agreement and the themes contained in "Improving Scottish Education." Together with the Administration's Policy Statement 'Smarter Aberdeen'. Improvements in the services provided by Education, Culture and Sport impact positively on communities across the City.

5. **BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES**

- 5.1** Members will recall that the Education, Culture and Sport Service Plan 2011-16, approved at Committee on 15 September 2011, contained a number of performance indicators classified by the ten Service Plan priorities.

The report attached at **Appendix A** outlines indicators as follows:

- Monthly performance indicators for the period from July 2012 and up to and inclusive of December 2012

5.2 Key Analysis

Members should note the following performance this period:

5.2.1 Communities, Culture and Sport

Communities

- Our Healthy Minds Team, in partnership with NHS has been delivering learning to vulnerable learners in recovery of mental health. To date, 25 first step classes have been delivered by December 2012 against our target of 30 for 2012/13 with 6 further classes started in January 2013
- Out of the City's 12 Learning Partnerships, 11 Partnerships have held a total of 50 meetings and sub-meetings in the period April to September 2012 which is a significant increase in partnership activity from 2011-2012
- In our Childcare Team, Roots of Empathy programmes have started within the Northfield area with 11 programmes running altogether against our target to June 2013 to deliver Roots of Empathy initiative in 7 primary schools across Northfield. The programme has been extremely well received and is already showing positive impact
- Our Lifelong Learning Team are working with our Arts Development Team to provide Accredited opportunities for volunteers via the new SQA Volunteer Awards. This is a significant achievement and Aberdeen City council are the first Local Authority to be approved to offer these Awards
- Our Youth Work in Schools team have been busy delivering six award bearing classes, for 36 young people with behavioural, social and confidence/esteem development needs between the ages of 14 to 16, in the following City schools:
 - Bucksburn Academy (two Bronze Youth Achievement Award classes), a new course in the 2012/13 that has been developed and delivered by Aberdeen City Council staff
 - Northfield Academy (one Prince's Trust xL class and one Bronze Youth Achievement Award class for Looked After Children)
 - Oldmachar Academy (one Prince's Trust xL class and one Bronze Youth Achievement Award class with an Eco Development focus), where courses in both Northfield and Oldmachar are a successful continuation or development of our existing partnerships using bought or licensed courses.
- Our Peer Support Training Programmes are being delivered to Senior Phase pupils. These short courses have been delivered by our teams to 193 pupils at Bucksburn, Northfield, Oldmachar and Torry Academies and have been successful in developing employability and citizenship skills through peer support in three phases: supporting transition to secondary schools (Buddies), impacting on bullying (Bully Busters) and becoming Prefects.

Libraries

Visits In Person

- With the exception of the Media Centre, Kingswells and Woodside branches and the Overdrive service, the Library Service experienced a reduction in visits in comparison with December 2011 with a fall in recorded figures of 12.4%, although this is partly a reflection of the positioning of public holiday dates which reduced the overall monthly operating period by 37 hours
- Visits to community based facilities, showed a slightly lower level of decrease, recording 33,310 attendances which equates to a reduction of 5.0 % with this loss being reflected across almost all premises.
- 52 events were delivered by the Service across the range of departments and branches, including adult and child programmes, with the Central Library hosting it's first ever Human Library event on the theme of Faiths run in partnership with Aberdeen Interfaith Group attended by 35 participants. Focusing on events for younger readers, 115 children attended Bookbug sessions and 140 nursery children and 536 children visited libraries during December, attended a variety of events and exhibitions throughout the month

Book/Materials Issues

- Although adult book issues increased at Woodside community library by 14% despite showing a proportional decrease in visitors and there was a rise in children's books issued at Airyhall, Cornhill, Ferryhill and Woodside community libraries, the overall figure for issues is marginally below that anticipated with a 13.5% fall in visitors, partly influenced by comparatively operating hours than in 2011. As in November, the impact of the introduction of revised audio-visual charges for residents can be evidenced, with a 5% increase in issues recorded at the Media Centre in particular, alongside a rise in issues at four other community libraries.
- Some 37.3% of issues at the 7 sites where self-service capacity has been implemented are now being processed through this system which is a small reduction on the previous month but likely reflects the relatively high initial usage levels linked to roll-out of the system at Mastrick in November. Roll out of the remaining schedule of self service provision will finish with installation of a machine in Bridge of Don library and the Service has purchased an additional unit to ease the pressure at Airyhall Community Library which has seen a large demand for this service.

Use of PC terminals in Library Learning Centres and Learning Access Points

- Computer usage in December gained some comparative ground against November with a lower decrease of just over 9% (-1375) against 2011 figures and the proportionate reduction in monthly operating hours (-37

hours) due to the timing of public holiday closures contributing, in part, to this loss.

- However, as a direct contrast and counter-balance to this trend, the level of Wi-fi connections within establishments rose by a marked 64% (+ 1415) reflecting the trend towards people using their own laptops and smart devices to access on-line information and enquiry services within Library premises.

Virtual Visits

- With resolution of the technical accessibility issues around the Council's introduction of a revised website cookie policy having been achieved in mid October, virtual visits during November, which are the most recently available are returning to levels approximating, but below that of 2011, having recorded some 34,573 visits (-14.3%)
- It is anticipated that the impact of the loss of 'connectivity' over the extended period from June to September may continue to be reflected in a comparative reduction in visit figures in the short term

Museums and Galleries

Visits In Person

Monthly Comparison

- 18,135 visits to Museums and Galleries facilities were recorded in December, representing a decrease of 24.7% on 2011. Of this reduction, the loss of admissions to the Maritime Museum and Provost Skene's House form the greatest percentage although both the Art Gallery and Cowdray Hall experienced reduced admissions, influenced to an extent by the pattern of public holidays which led to the equivalent loss of two additional 'trading' days.

Cumulative Comparison

- However, the Q1-3 position is only just behind on the comparable period in 2011 and both the Cowdray Hall (+13.9%) and Art Gallery (+1.6%) being ahead of previous year's figures.. Whilst visit figures for the Maritime Museum, and the Tolbooth are around 8% down on Q3 in 2011 which might reflect both national trends and a relatively successful 2011/12, the position for Provost Skene's House covering the comparative period, being some 20.6% down on the previous year suggests that surrounding demolition works are continuing to negatively affect attendances.

Number of Outreach Attendances/Participations

- A total of five outreach events were delivered during the course of December, generating 32 attendances/participations

Virtual Visits

Monthly Comparison

- The decrease of 13,629 9 (-28.2%) in total visits across the Service's various web presences, compared with December 2011 is due mainly to reductions in use of Aberdeen Quest site which is predominantly utilised in the context of the school environment and may require a dialogue to be entered into with schools to assess usage patterns/ adjustments necessary to upgrading of the website for this service to remain current and retain viewing capacities.

Cumulative Comparison

- Whilst cumulatively, the separate Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museums (AAGM) website has steadily grown its visitor numbers against the previous years position, the overall pattern of visits is some 25% below that of 2011/12.
- However, it should be borne in mind that overall web visits in 2011/12 achieved record levels against which the above reduction should be viewed as, proportionately, visits at the Quarter 3 period are still significantly in advance of those recorded for the comparative period in 2010/11

5.2.2 Sports

Pools

- Collation of Pools admissions data for November and December has been delayed as a result of technical issues around the phased introduction of the XN Leisure Management system across the range of Sport Aberdeen facilities the outcome of which requires that additional validation of information is completed to ensure the robustness of reporting. On this basis, Sport Aberdeen data is presently unavailable for the November and December Performance Indicators and Quarter 3 totals but will be reported at a later date as this information is provided by Sport Aberdeen. However, the most recent unreported data, relating to the period up to 31st October 2012 is reflected below:

Monthly Comparison – October 2012

- Sport Aberdeen Swimming Pool Facility attendances in October 2012 fell below that of 2011 with 16,906 fewer admissions (-32.9%) As with September 2012, a significant proportion of this reduction relates to the partial month closure of the Beach Leisure Centre wet-side facility to accommodate essential ventilation maintenance works resulting in a loss of approximately 10,000 admissions.

- Alongside this, and with particular impact on figures for Bucksburn Pool, there has been an element of 'data loss' arising from a technical issue involved in the roll-out of Sport Aberdeen's new Leisure Management Information System. (c.5,000 admissions)
- When the impact of these issues are removed from the calculations, attendances for October 2012 show a material reduction of around 1,900 admissions (-3.7%) against 2011. Bridge Of Don, Cults, Northfield and Kincorth Pools, by contrast, recorded monthly increases of 40%, 5%, 25.3% and 51% respectively

Cumulative Comparison – October 2012

- Cumulatively, Bridge of Don, Cults Campus and Kincorth Pools demonstrated positive movement against 2011 and Northfield is now only marginally below last year's figures although the Beach Leisure Centre and Bucksburn, in part, due to the circumstances noted above are below that of 2011.
- Hazlehead Pool continues to perform relatively poorly on paper in comparison with last year but there is some belief that this reflects a change in the data recording framework which is presently being examined by Sport Aberdeen.
- Overall attendances for the seven month period from April to October, (300,325 admissions) represents a 14.6% decrease on the same point last year.
- With the full reinstatement of the Beach Leisure Centre pool operations in mid October 2012 and reincorporation of figures linked to the LMIS data loss at a future date, the current levels of cumulative reduction in admissions should be mitigated to an extent by year's end

Dry Facilities

Attendances at our indoor sports and leisure facilities up to December 2012 were as follows:

Sport Aberdeen

- As with Pools information, collation of Sport Aberdeen admissions data for December has been delayed as a result of technical issues around the phased introduction of the XN Leisure Management system across the range of Sport Aberdeen facilities the outcome of which requires that additional validation of information is completed to ensure the robustness of reporting.
- On this basis, Sport Aberdeen data is presently excluded from the December Performance Indicator and Quarter 3 totals but will be reported at a later date as this information is provided by Sport

Aberdeen and the admissions total for Dry Facilities should be viewed as a partial representation of attendances.

- The most recent data, relating to the period up to 30th November 2012 is reflected below:

Monthly Comparison – November 2012

- Sport Aberdeen admissions for November 2012 recorded an overall marginal decrease of 0.9% in admissions against 2011 with 621 fewer admissions and a total of 64,961 attendances for the month. Individually, six of the ten premises recorded monthly attendance growth (Jesmond Centre +6.8%, Westburn +17.2%, Torry +2.1%, Kincorth +2.9%, Peterculter +8.2%% and Linx Ice Arena +9.4%)
- Of the remaining facilities, Sheddocksley and the Beacon experienced nominal reductions of 0.3% and 0.9% respectively with Alex Collie and the Beach Leisure Centre recording falls of -13.7% and -15.9%.

Cumulative Comparison – November 2012

- The cumulative position,(April-November) remains substantially positive with 429181 admissions to date (+2.7%) and only the Beach Leisure Complex attendances being behind the figures for 2011/12, a situation which has arisen largely as a result of a maintenance related facility closure earlier in the year.
- Of the remaining nine premises recording cumulative growth, Westburn Tennis Centre and Torry are furthest ahead of 2011/12 performance with percentage increases of +17.2% and +22.9% and the seven others all maintaining growth levels in single figures

Aberdeen Sports Village – December 2012

Monthly Comparison

- Aberdeen Sports Village recorded 42,888 attendances in December 2012, a 6.0% (+ 2590 admissions) increase in the year-on-year monthly figure.
- Across the five admissions frameworks, whilst a fall in admission levels was recorded against Management Bookings (-7.2%), attendances across the four 'pay-to-play' groupings, Booked Activities, Courses Classes and Ticketed Activities rose by 9.4%, 37.1%, 38.2% and 8.4% respectively, indicating a continued growth in community based usage.

Cumulative Comparison

- Financial year to date admissions are recorded at 489,802 attendances which is 10.5% ahead of the 2011 position with 51,463 additional attendances.
- Cumulative figures for the five months of the Village's operating year (August-December) are showing a slightly lower percentage increase of just under 10.0% with 280,829 (+ 27,668) admissions to date.

5.2.3 Service Wide

Absence Management

- There was a decrease of 0.8 in the average number of days lost per employee for December 2012 across the ECS service
- Education, Culture and Sport absence levels have increased by 0.2 for the last 12 months to the end of December 2012, 7.6 days lost per employee over the 12 month period to date. There was an increase in long term and short term absence across all ECS service areas for this period which is not entirely unexpected given the prevalence of viruses, colds and influenza across Scotland. This level of absence continues to compare well against other Council services and continues to show the ongoing commitment from our managers in the ECS Service to implement the Maximising Attendance policy and to support our employees.

Enquiries

- There were 69 Enquiries received by the Education, Culture and Sport Service between 1st July and 30th September 2012. 88% of these were answered within the required timescale of 20 working days. There was an increase in the number of enquiries reported to the communication team based at Marischal College in August 2012, these were received from our library service comment cards. In order to report on these more effectively and categorise the comments new guidance will be sent out across the service once development work, relating to the recording and reporting of enquiries and complaints, has been completed.

Health and Safety

- For the period of July 2012 to date 72% of the required inspections have been completed, with 17 inspections due to be completed by the end of the year. There are currently 28 inspections overdue, these are initially followed up and then escalated to the relevant Head of Service for action, where appropriate.
- There were 6 Health and Safety reportable incidents for the month of December 2012 across the Education, Culture and Sport service, with 5 incidents within a school setting and the remaining 1 incident in a library setting
- There were 5 Health and Safety reportable accidents for the month of December 2012 across the Education, Culture and Sport service. These were all within a school setting.

6. IMPACT

Legal

The Council is required to act as set out in the Statutory Performance Indicator Direction.

Resources

No additional resources are required to undertake performance management which is a core responsibility of managers.

Other


There may be property, equipment or Health and Safety implications arising from the Service-wide Health and Safety update included in this report. Actions arising from this update are being taken forward by the ECS Service.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- **Appendix A:** Monthly performance indicators from July 2012 up to 31st December 2012

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Co-ordinated by Sarah Gear, Service Manager (Policy and Performance)
Education, Culture & Sport

 01224 522865

 sagear@aberdeencity.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

ECS Performance Scorecard

Summary scorecard of service plan indicators against service plan themes

Report Author: Alex Paterson

Generated on: 16 January 2013



Performance Data		Traffic Light
Red		2
Amber		1
Green		3
Data Only		9

Priority 04 - Technology

Performance Measure	November 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Q3 2012/13	Q4 2012/13	H1 2012/13	H2 2012/13	Target	Status	Long Trend
	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value			
Number of times that PC terminals in Library Learning Centres and Learning Access Points are used	16,065	12,519		45,672		100,350				
Number of visits to libraries - virtual	34,573					82,775				
Number of visits to/ usages of council funded or part funded museums - virtual	41,788	34,724		116,925		247,241				

Priority 05 - Health and Wellbeing

Performance Measure	November 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Q3 2012/13	Q4 2012/13	H1 2012/13	H2 2012/13	Target	Status	Long Trend
	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value			
Number of attendances at other indoor sports and leisure facilities excluding pools in a combined complex	134,975	42,888		309,364		609,441				

Performance Measure	November 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Q3 2012/13	Q4 2012/13	H1 2012/13	H2 2012/13	Target	Status	Long Trend
	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value			
Number of attendances at pools (excluding community pools)	0	0		34,550		265,775				

Priority 06 - Engagement in Arts, Heritage, Culture and Sport

Performance Measure	November 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Q3 2012/13	Q4 2012/13	H1 2012/13	H2 2012/13	Target	Status	Long Trend
	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value			
Total number of issues from libraries	68,796	52,268		195,608		428,085				
Number of visits to libraries - person	89,479	63,810		243,133		521,495				
Number of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums - person	23,180	18,135		65,066		185,312				
Number of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums - outreach	110	32		535		507				

Priority 08 - Better Performing/Value for Money

Performance Measure	November 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Q3 2012/13	Q4 2012/13	H1 2012/13	H2 2012/13	Target	Status	Long Trend
	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value			
Education, Culture and Sport - Current Available Monthly Absence Data	1.6	0.8						0.8		
ECS and Corporate Absence showing the Average Number of Days Lost Per Employee Per Service	7.4	7.6						10.0		
% of complaints and enquiries responded to within current corporate timescale of 20 working days								95%		
Number of ECS Workplace Inspections Completed to Date						83%	72%	100%		

Performance Measure	November 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Q3 2012/13	Q4 2012/13	H1 2012/13	H2 2012/13	Target	Status	Long Trend
	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value			
Health and Safety Reportable Accidents	4	5						3		
Health and Safety Reportable Incidents	30	6						20		

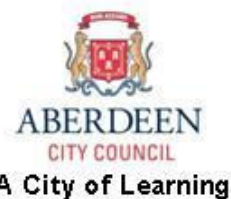
PI Status	Long Term Trends		Short Term Trends	
	Alert	Improving	Improving	Improving
Warning	No Change	No Change	No Change	
OK	Getting Worse	Getting Worse	Getting Worse	
Unknown				
Data Only				

ECS Performance Trend Charts

Trend Charts demonstrating performance of monthly reportable indicators against service plan themes

Report Author: Alex Paterson

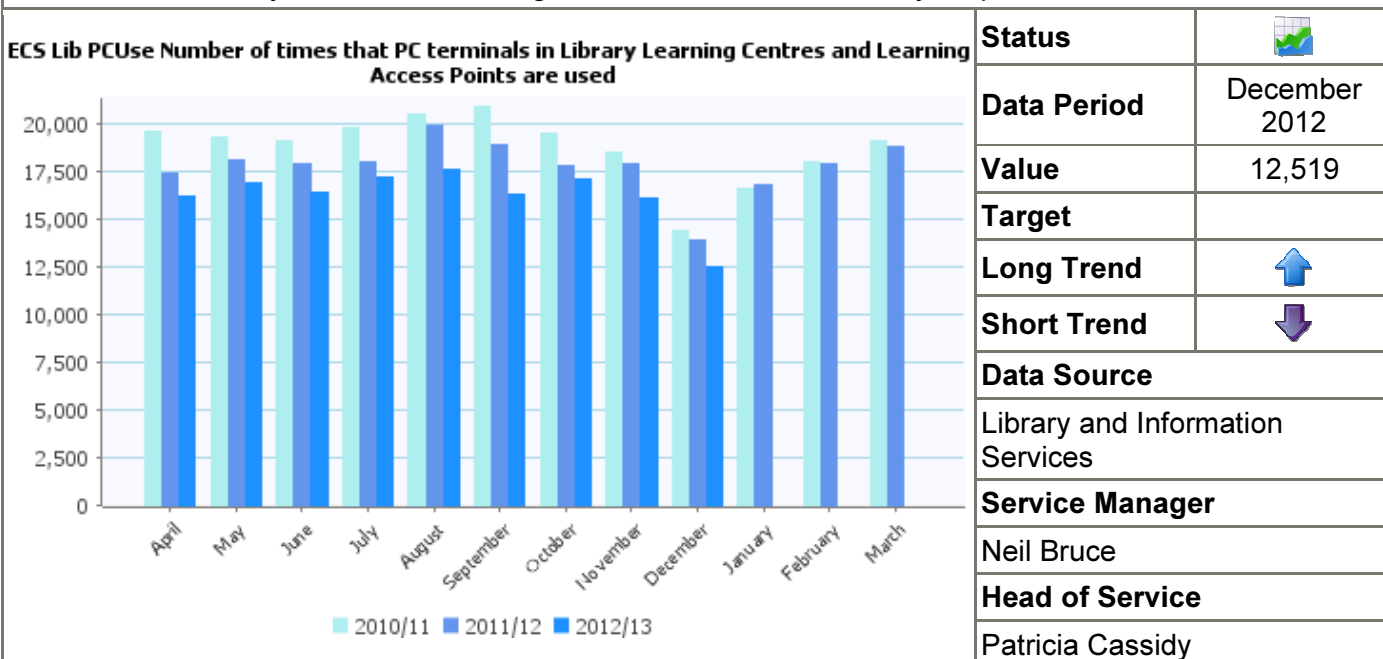
Generated on: 16 January 2013



Priority 04 - Technology

Number of times that PC terminals in Library Learning Centres and Learning Access Points are used

This indicator monitors the number of times that PC terminals within Learning Centres and Learning Access Points of libraries are used. Trend calculation method is year on year - Short trend calculates current period v previous year period; Long trend calculates average over 12 month period. Annual value = cumulative monthly values. Annual long trend is calculated over a 3 year period.



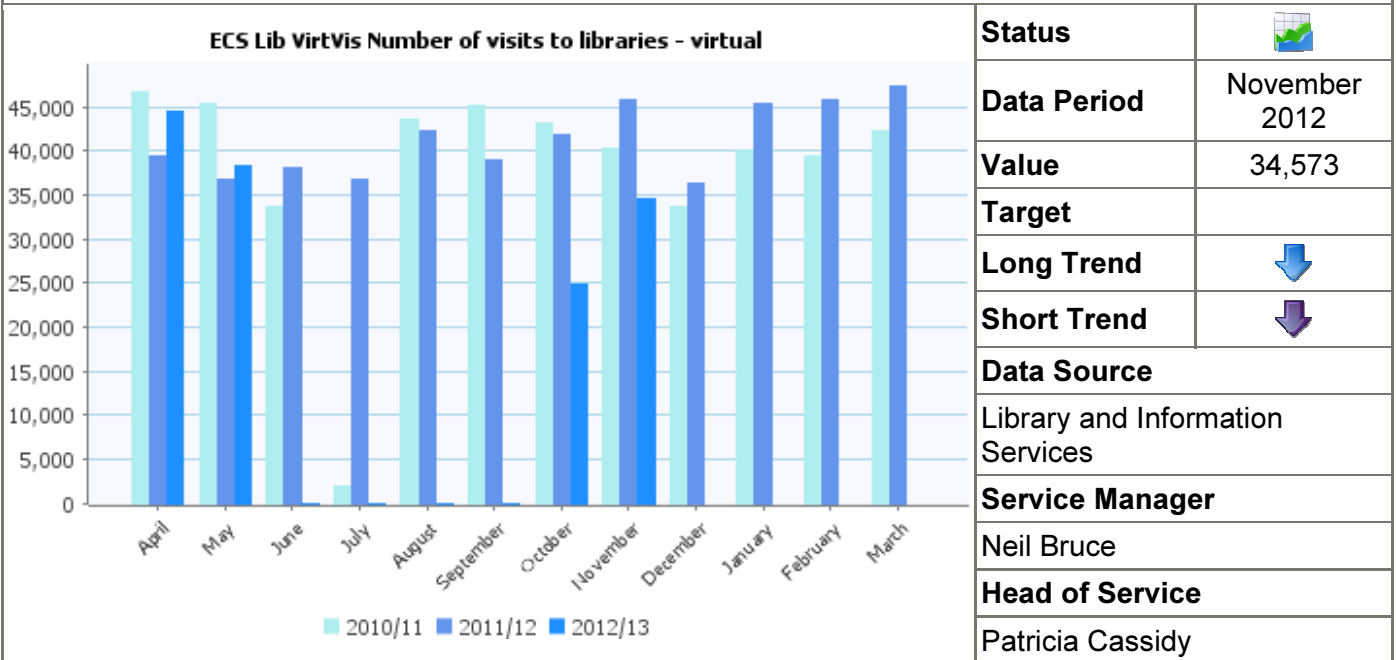
Narrative and Analysis

Computer usage in December gained some comparative ground against November with a lower decrease of just over 9% (-1375) against 2011 figures and the proportionate reduction in monthly operating hours (-37 hours) due to the timing of public holiday closures contributing, in part, to this loss.

However, as a direct contrast to this trend, the level of Wi-fi connections rose by a marked 64% (+ 1415) reflecting the trend towards people using their own laptops and smart devices to access on-line information and enquiry services within Library premises.

Number of visits to libraries - virtual

This indicator monitors the number of virtual visits to libraries. Trend calculation method is year on year- Short trend calculates current period v previous year period; Long trend calculates average over 12 month period. Annual value = cumulative monthly values. Annual long trend is calculated over a 3 year period.




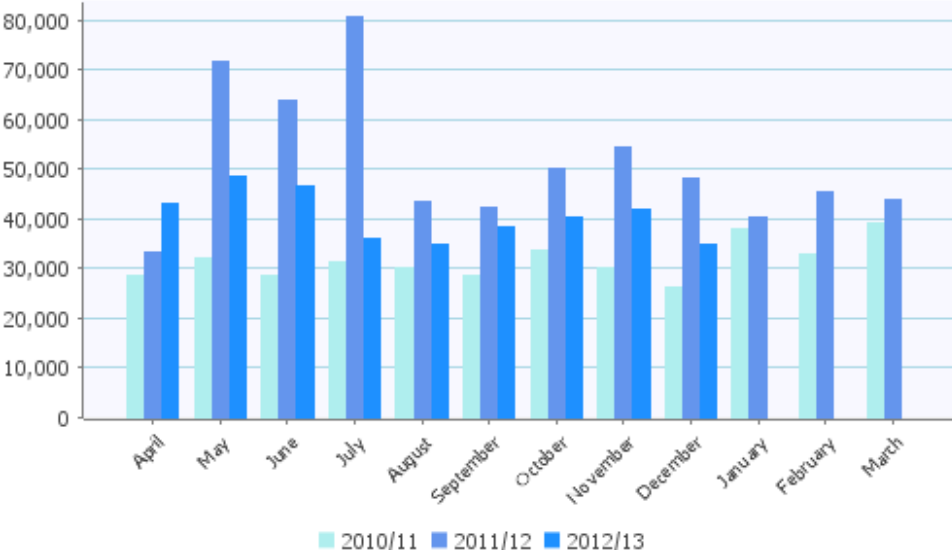


Narrative and Analysis

With resolution of the technical accessibility issues around the Council's introduction of a revised website cookie policy having been achieved in mid October, virtual visits during November are returning to levels approximating, but below that of 2011, having recorded some 34,573 visits (-14.3%)

It is anticipated that the impact of the loss of 'connectivity' over the extended period from June to September may continue to be reflected in a comparative reduction in visit figures in the short term

Number of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums - virtual

This indicator monitors the number of virtual visits to council funded or part funded museums. Trend calculation method is year on year - Short trend calculates current period v previous year period; Long trend calculates average over 12 month period. Annual value = cumulative monthly values. Annual long trend is calculated over a 3 year period.

ECS M&G Virt Number of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums - virtual		Status																																																					
 <table border="1"> <caption>Estimated Monthly Virtual Visits</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>2010/11</th> <th>2011/12</th> <th>2012/13</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>April</td><td>28,000</td><td>33,000</td><td>43,000</td></tr> <tr><td>May</td><td>32,000</td><td>72,000</td><td>48,000</td></tr> <tr><td>June</td><td>28,000</td><td>64,000</td><td>46,000</td></tr> <tr><td>July</td><td>32,000</td><td>81,000</td><td>36,000</td></tr> <tr><td>August</td><td>30,000</td><td>43,000</td><td>35,000</td></tr> <tr><td>September</td><td>28,000</td><td>42,000</td><td>38,000</td></tr> <tr><td>October</td><td>34,000</td><td>50,000</td><td>40,000</td></tr> <tr><td>November</td><td>30,000</td><td>54,000</td><td>42,000</td></tr> <tr><td>December</td><td>26,000</td><td>48,000</td><td>35,000</td></tr> <tr><td>January</td><td>38,000</td><td>40,000</td><td>40,000</td></tr> <tr><td>February</td><td>33,000</td><td>45,000</td><td>45,000</td></tr> <tr><td>March</td><td>39,000</td><td>44,000</td><td>44,000</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Month	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	April	28,000	33,000	43,000	May	32,000	72,000	48,000	June	28,000	64,000	46,000	July	32,000	81,000	36,000	August	30,000	43,000	35,000	September	28,000	42,000	38,000	October	34,000	50,000	40,000	November	30,000	54,000	42,000	December	26,000	48,000	35,000	January	38,000	40,000	40,000	February	33,000	45,000	45,000	March	39,000	44,000	44,000	Data Period	December 2012
		Month	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13																																																		
		April	28,000	33,000	43,000																																																		
		May	32,000	72,000	48,000																																																		
		June	28,000	64,000	46,000																																																		
		July	32,000	81,000	36,000																																																		
		August	30,000	43,000	35,000																																																		
		September	28,000	42,000	38,000																																																		
		October	34,000	50,000	40,000																																																		
		November	30,000	54,000	42,000																																																		
		December	26,000	48,000	35,000																																																		
		January	38,000	40,000	40,000																																																		
		February	33,000	45,000	45,000																																																		
March	39,000	44,000	44,000																																																				
Value	34,724																																																						
Target																																																							
Long Trend																																																							
Short Trend																																																							
Data Source	Museums & Galleries																																																						
Service Manager	Neil Bruce																																																						
Head of Service	Patricia Cassidy																																																						

Narrative and Analysis

Monthly Comparison

The decrease of 13,629.9 (-28.2%) in total visits across the Service's various web presences, compared with December 2011 is due mainly to reductions in use of Aberdeen Quest site which is predominantly utilised in the context of the school environment and may require a dialogue to be entered into with schools to assess usage patterns/ adjustments necessary to upgrading of the website for this service to remain current and retain viewing capacities.

Cumulative Comparison

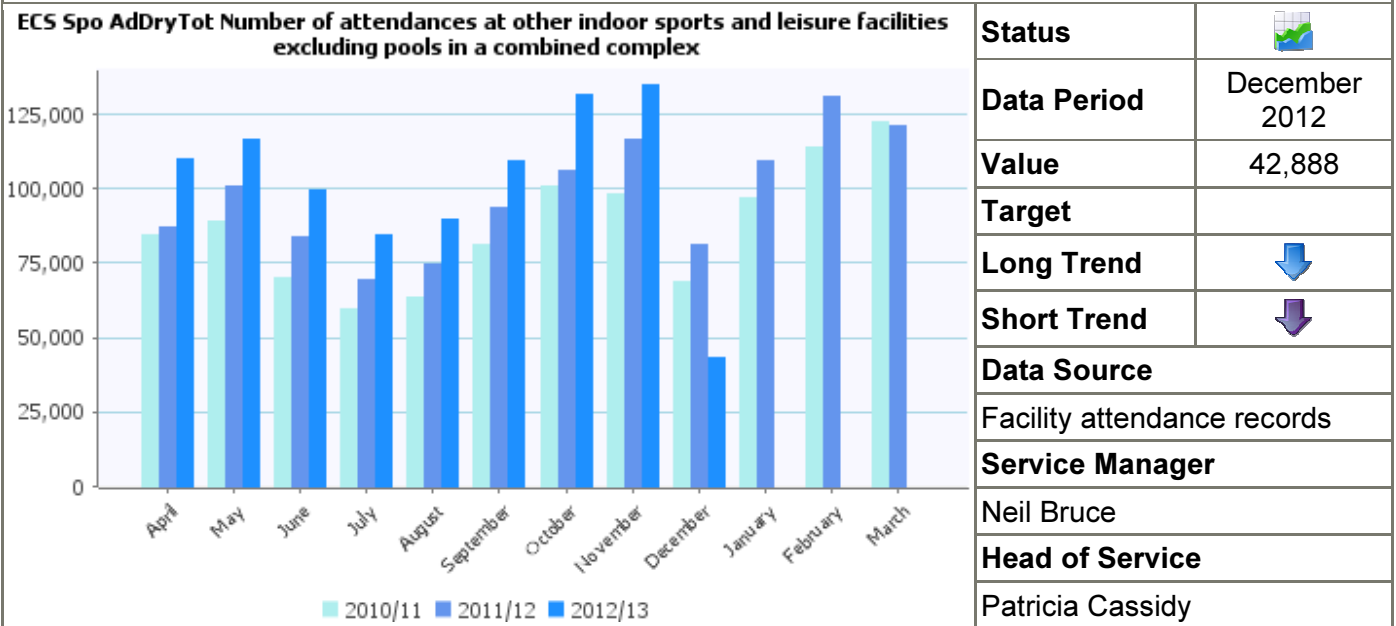
Whilst cumulatively, the separate Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museums (AAGM) website has steadily grown its visitor numbers against the previous years position, the overall pattern of visits is some 25% below that of 2011/12.

However, it should be borne in mind that overall web visits in 2011/12 achieved record levels against which the above reduction should be viewed as, proportionately, visits at the Quarter 3 period are still significantly in advance of those recorded for the comparative period in 2010/11

Priority 05 - Health and Wellbeing

Number of attendances at other indoor sports and leisure facilities excluding pools in a combined complex

This indicator monitors the collective monthly attendance at indoor sports and leisure facilities excluding those with pools in a combined complex and including Aberdeen Sports Village. Trend calculation method is year on year - Short trend calculates current period v previous year period; Long trend calculates average over 12 month period. Annual value = cumulative monthly values. Annual long trend is calculated over a 3 year period.



Narrative and Analysis

Dry Facilities Analysis: Sport Aberdeen

Collation of Sport Aberdeen admissions data for December has been delayed as a result of technical issues around the phased introduction of the XN Leisure Management system across the range of Sport Aberdeen facilities the outcome of which requires that additional validation of information is completed to ensure the robustness of reporting.

On this basis, Sport Aberdeen data is presently excluded from the Performance Indicator total but will be reported at a later date as this information is provided by Sport Aberdeen and the admissions total for Dry Facilities should be viewed as a partial representation of attendances.

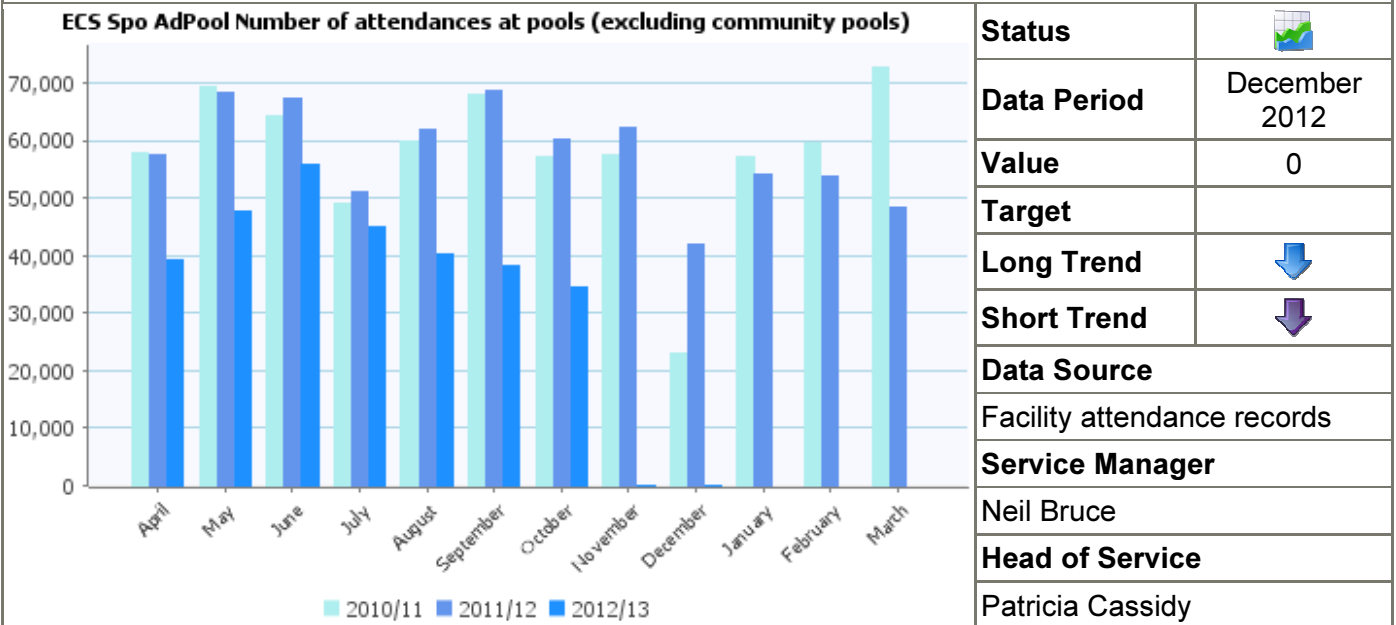
Dry Facilities Analysis: Aberdeen Sports Village

Aberdeen Sports Village recorded 42,888 attendances in December 2012, a 6.0% (+ 2590 admissions) increase in the year-on-year monthly figure. Across the five admissions frameworks, whilst a fall in admission levels was recorded against Management Bookings (-7.2%), attendances across the four 'pay-to-play' groupings, Booked Activities, Courses Classes and Ticketed Activities rose by 9.4%, 37.1%, 38.2% and 8.4% respectively, indicating a continued growth in community based usage.

Financial year to date admissions are recorded at 489,802 which is 10.5% ahead of the 2011 position with 51,463 additional attendances. Cumulative figures for the five months of the Village's operating year (August-December) are showing a slightly lower percentage increase of just under 10.0% with 280,829 (+ 27,668) admissions to date.

Number of attendances at pools (excluding community pools)

This indicator monitors the number of pool attendances excluding community pools. Trend calculation method is year on year - Short trend calculates current period v previous year period; Long trend calculates average over 12 month period. Annual value = cumulative monthly values. Annual long trend is calculated over a 3 year period.



Narrative and Analysis

Pool Facilities Analysis

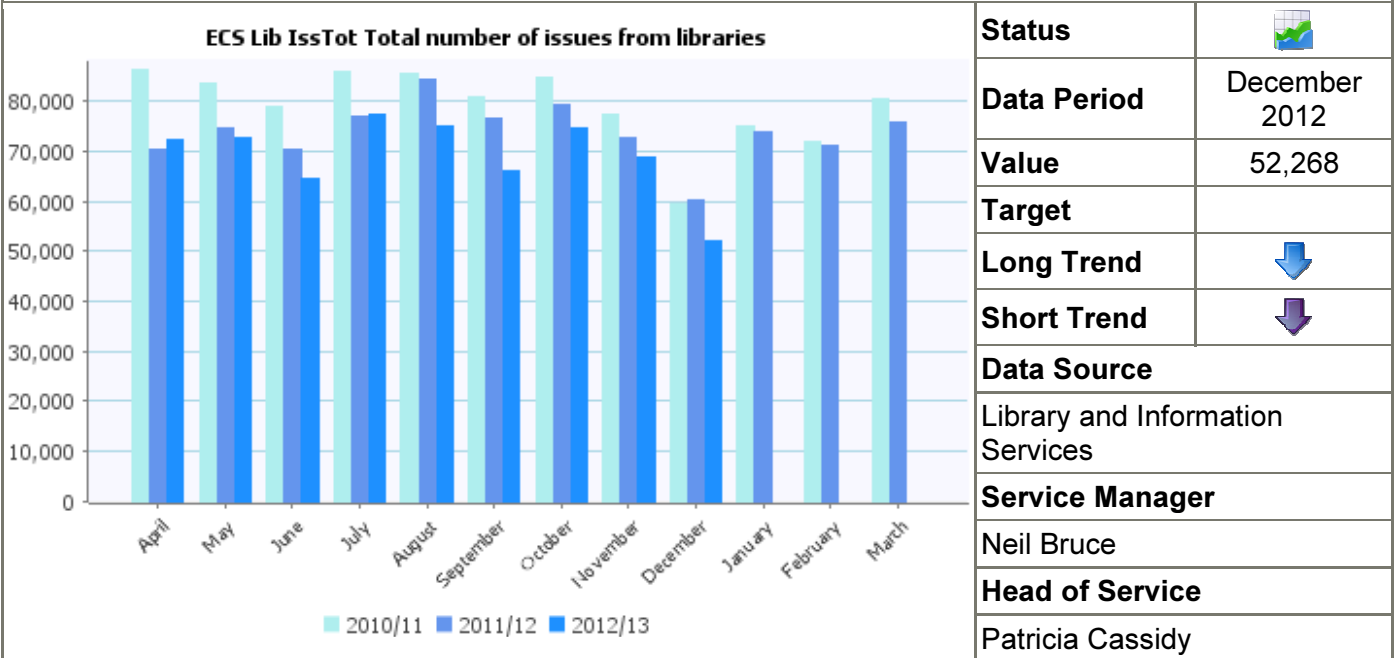
Collation of Sport Aberdeen Pool admissions data for November and December has been delayed as a result of technical issues around the phased introduction of the XN Leisure Management system across the range of Sport Aberdeen facilities the outcome of which requires that additional validation of information is completed to ensure the robustness of reported data

On this basis, Sport Aberdeen data for these periods is presently excluded from the Performance Indicator total but will be reported at a later date as this information is provided by Sport Aberdeen

Priority 06 - Engagement in Arts, Heritage, Culture and Sport

Total number of issues from libraries

This indicator reflects the total number of issues from libraries. Trend calculation method is year on year- Short trend calculates current period v previous year period; Long trend calculates current period v average of previous 3 year periods. Annual value = cumulative monthly values



Status	
Data Period	December 2012
Value	52,268
Target	
Long Trend	
Short Trend	
Data Source	Library and Information Services
Service Manager	Neil Bruce
Head of Service	Patricia Cassidy

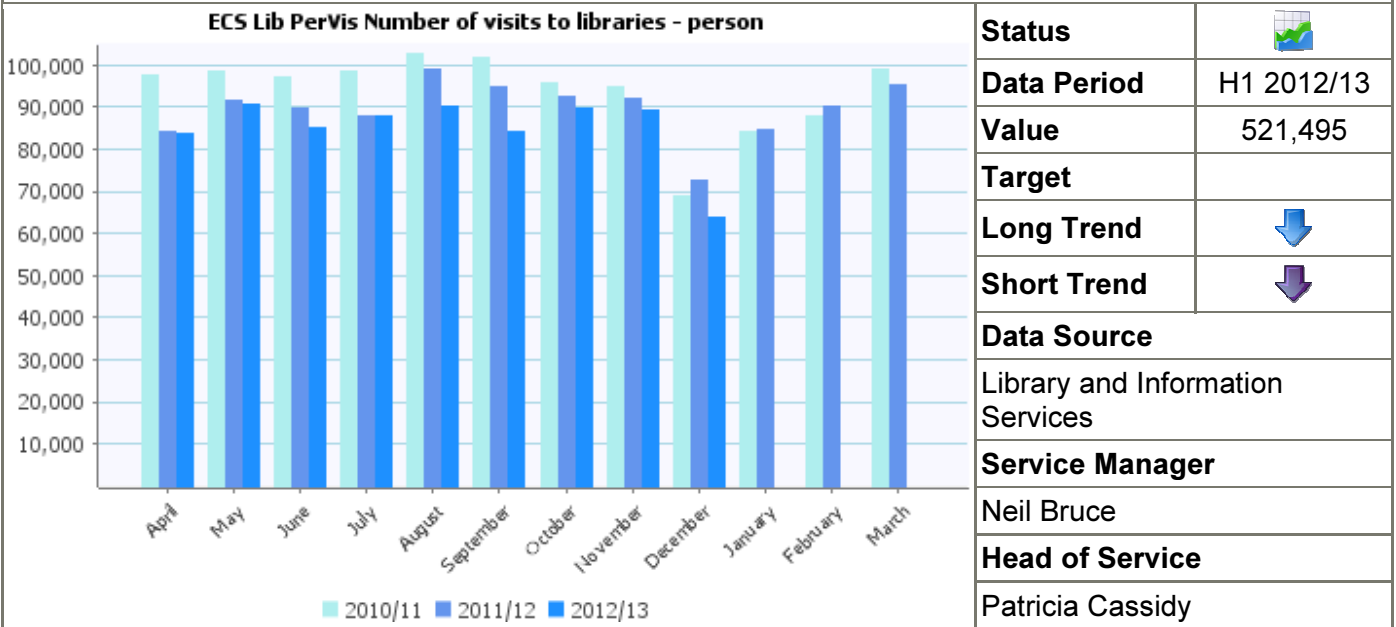
Narrative and Analysis

Although adult book issues increased at Woodside community library by 14% despite showing a proportional decrease in visitors and there was a rise in children’s books issued at Airyhall, Cornhill, Ferryhill and Woodside community libraries, the overall figure for issues is marginally below that anticipated with a 13.5% fall in visitors, partly influenced by comparatively operating hours than in 2011. As in November, the impact of the introduction of revised audio-visual charges for residents can be evidenced, with a 5% increase in issues recorded at the Media Centre in particular, alongside a rise in issues at four other community libraries.

Some 37.3% of issues at the 7 sites where self-service capacity has been implemented are now being processed through this system which is a small reduction on the previous month but likely reflects the relatively high initial usage levels linked to roll-out of the system at Mastrick in November. Roll out of the remaining schedule of self service provision will finish with installation of a machine in Bridge of Don library and the Service has purchased an additional unit to ease the pressure at Airyhall Community Library which has seen a large demand for this service.

Number of visits to libraries - person

This indicator monitors the number of visits to libraries in person. Trend calculation method is year on year- Short trend calculates current period v previous year period; Long trend calculates average over 12 month period. Annual value = cumulative monthly values. Annual long trend is calculated over a 3 year period.


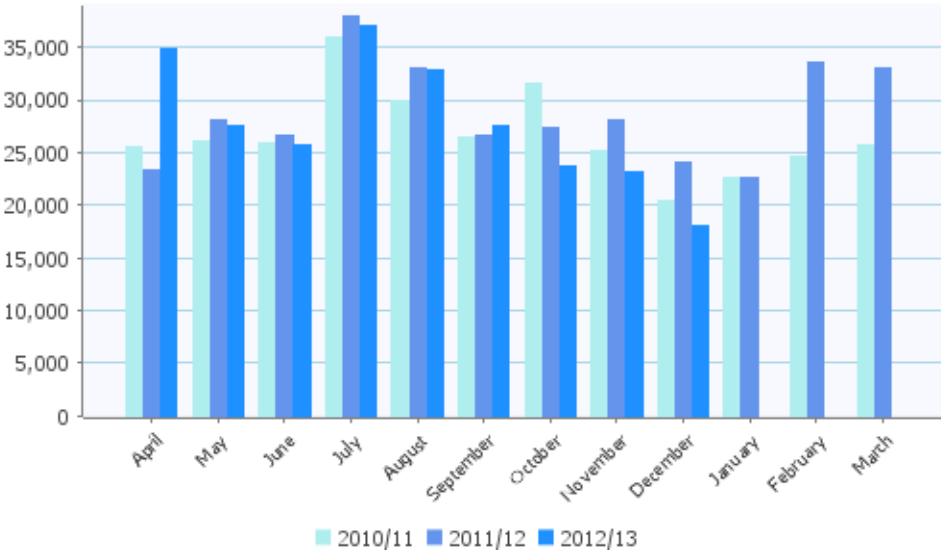




Status	
Data Period	H1 2012/13
Value	521,495
Target	
Long Trend	
Short Trend	
Data Source	Library and Information Services
Service Manager	Neil Bruce
Head of Service	Patricia Cassidy

Narrative and Analysis

Number of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums - person

This indicator monitors the number of admissions to council funded or part funded museums. Trend calculation method is year on year - Short trend calculates current period v previous year period; Long trend calculates average over 12 month period. Annual value = cumulative monthly values. Annual long trend is calculated over a 3 year period.

ECS M&G AdmTot Number of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums - person		Status	
		Data Period	December 2012
		Value	18,135
		Target	
		Long Trend	
		Short Trend	
		Data Source	Museums & Galleries
		Service Manager	Neil Bruce
		Head of Service	Patricia Cassidy

Narrative and Analysis

Monthly Comparison

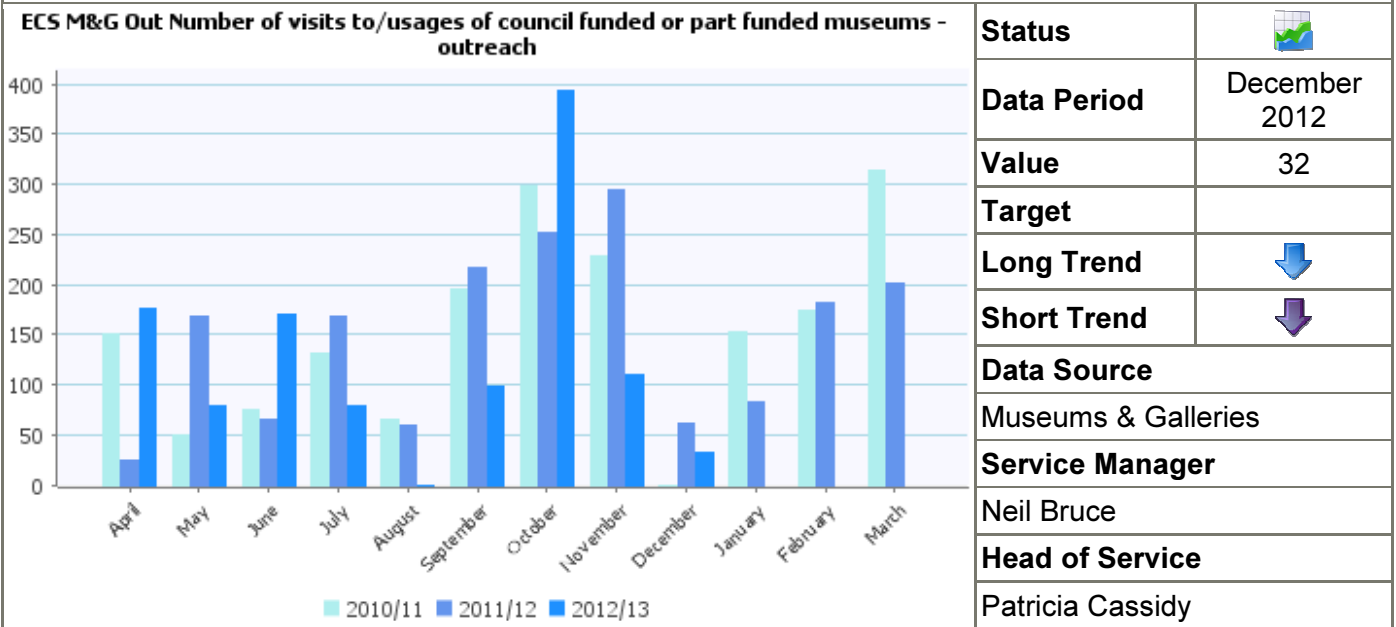
18,135 visits to Museums and Galleries facilities were recorded in December, representing a decrease of 24.7% on 2011. Of this reduction, the loss of admissions to the Maritime Museum and Provost Skene's House form the greatest percentage although both the Art Gallery and Cowdray Hall experienced reduced admissions, influenced to an extent by the pattern of public holidays which led to the equivalent loss of two additional 'trading' days.

Cumulative Comparison

However, the Q1-3 position is only just behind on the comparable period in 2011 and both the Cowdray Hall (+13.9%) and Art Gallery (+1.6%) being ahead of previous year's figures.. Whilst visit figures for the Maritime Museum, and the Tolbooth are around 8% down on Q3 in 2011 which might reflect both national trends and a relatively successful 2011/12, the position for Provost Skene's House covering the comparative period, being some 20.6% down on the previous year suggests that surrounding demolition works are continuing to negatively affect attendances.

Number of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums - outreach

This indicator monitors the number of outreach visits to council funded or part funded museums - outreach visits are talks and events held outwith museum venues. Trend calculation method is year on year - Short trend calculates current period v previous year period; Long trend calculates average over 12 month period. Annual value = cumulative monthly values. Annual long trend is calculated over a 3 year period.



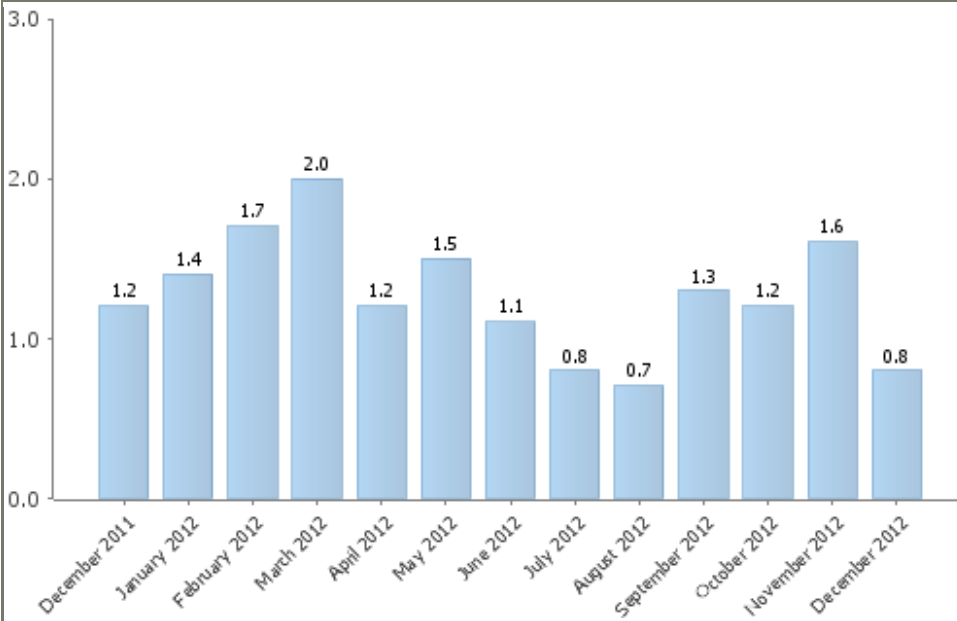
Narrative and Analysis

A total of five outreach events were delivered during the course of December, generating 32 attendances/participations

Priority 08 - Better Performing/Value for Money

Education, Culture and Sport - Current Available Monthly Absence Data

This indicator shows absence data for the latest monthly figure in relation to the average number of days lost per employee per month across the Education, Culture and Sport service. The chart also reflects the annual average number of days lost per employee per month. There has been an increase of 0.7 average days lost per employee in absence across the service comparing 2010/11 and 2011/12 to date.



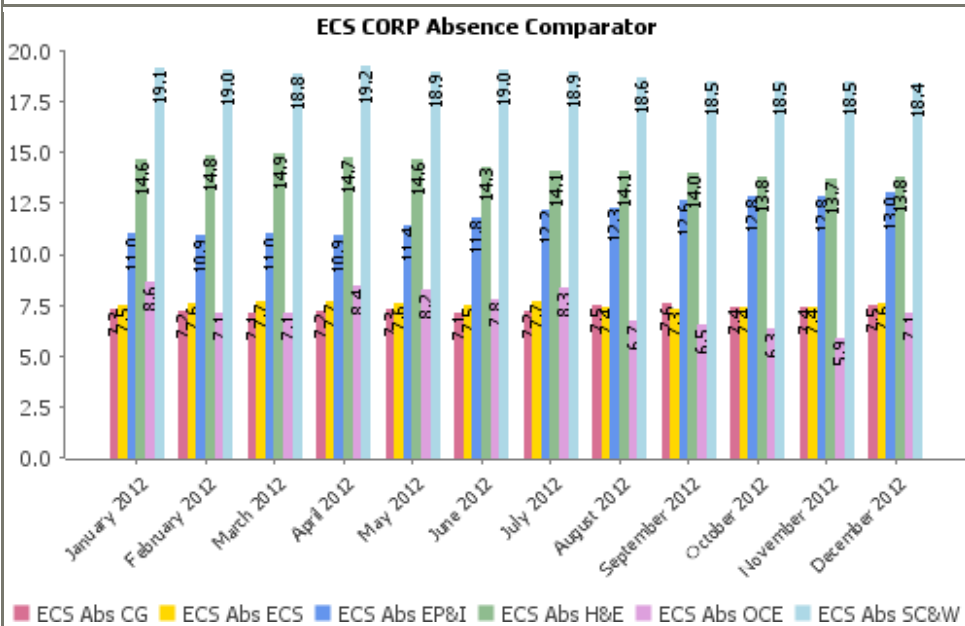
Status	
Data Period	December 2012
Value	0.8
Target	0.8
Long Trend	
Short Trend	
Data Source	PSe (HR/Payroll System)
Service Manager	Sarah Gear
Head of Service	Charlie Penman

Narrative and Analysis

There was a decrease of 0.8 in the average number of days lost per employee for December across the ECS service

ECS and Corporate Absence showing the Average Number of Days Lost Per Employee Per Service

ECS and Corporate Absence showing the Average Number of Days Lost Per Employee Per Service for a 12 Month Rolling Period



Status	
Data Period	December 2012
Value	7.6
Target	10.0
Long Trend	
Short Trend	
Data Source	PSe (HR/Payroll System)
Service Manager	Sarah Gear
Head of Service	Charlie Penman

Narrative and Analysis

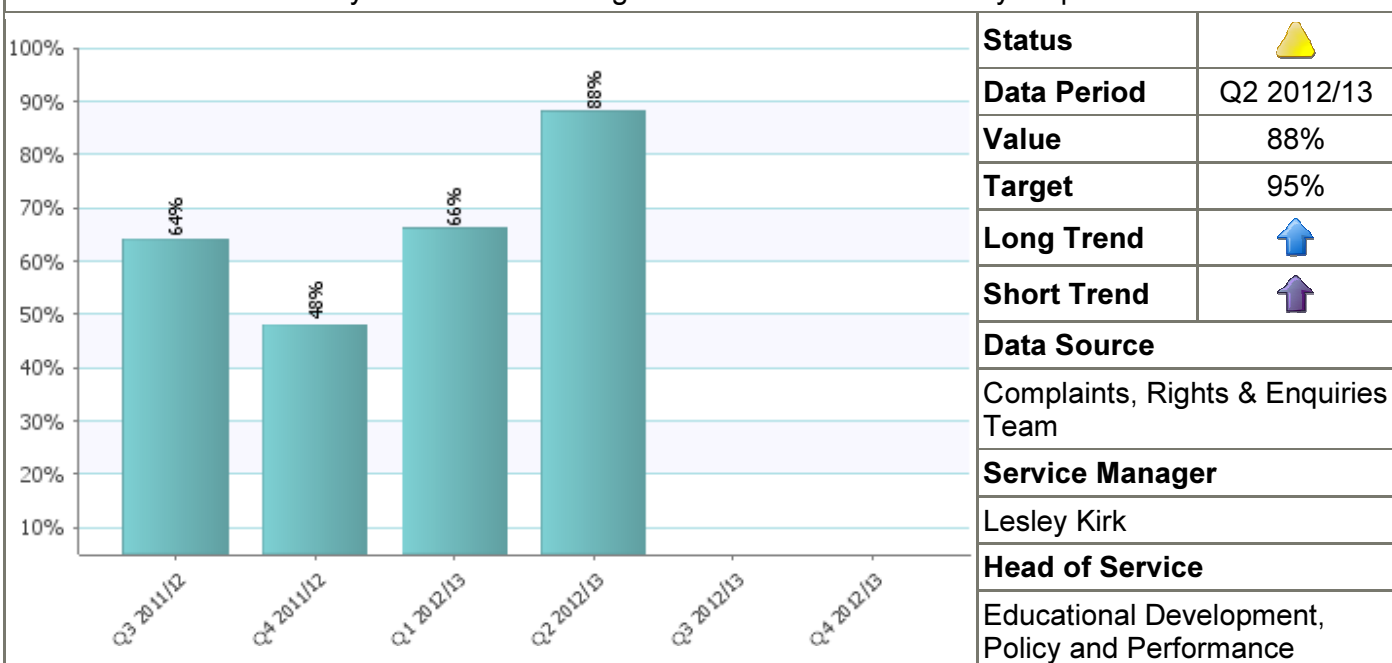
Education, Culture and Sport absence levels have increased by 0.2 for the last 12 months to the end of December, 7.6 days lost per employee over the 12 month period to date. There was an increase in long term and short term absence across all ECS service areas for this period.

% of complaints and enquiries responded to within current corporate timescale of 20 working days

This Education, Culture and Sport performance indicator monitors the percentage of formal enquiries and complaints received from the MP's, MSP's, government agencies, members of the public, elected members and the press which previously required a response within the corporate standard of 15 working days. This was revised in April 2012 and the corporate standard for a response is now 20 working days. Work is ongoing to ensure complaints and enquiries are correctly categorised, managed and reported to reflect the changes.

On a day a to day basis the service also responds to a significant number of informal enquiries from these agencies.

The chart shows quarterly data from April 2011 to date. Trend calculation method is ongoing - Short trend calculates current period v previous period; Long trend calculates average over 12 month period. Annual value = cumulative monthly values. Annual long trend is calculated over a 3 year period.

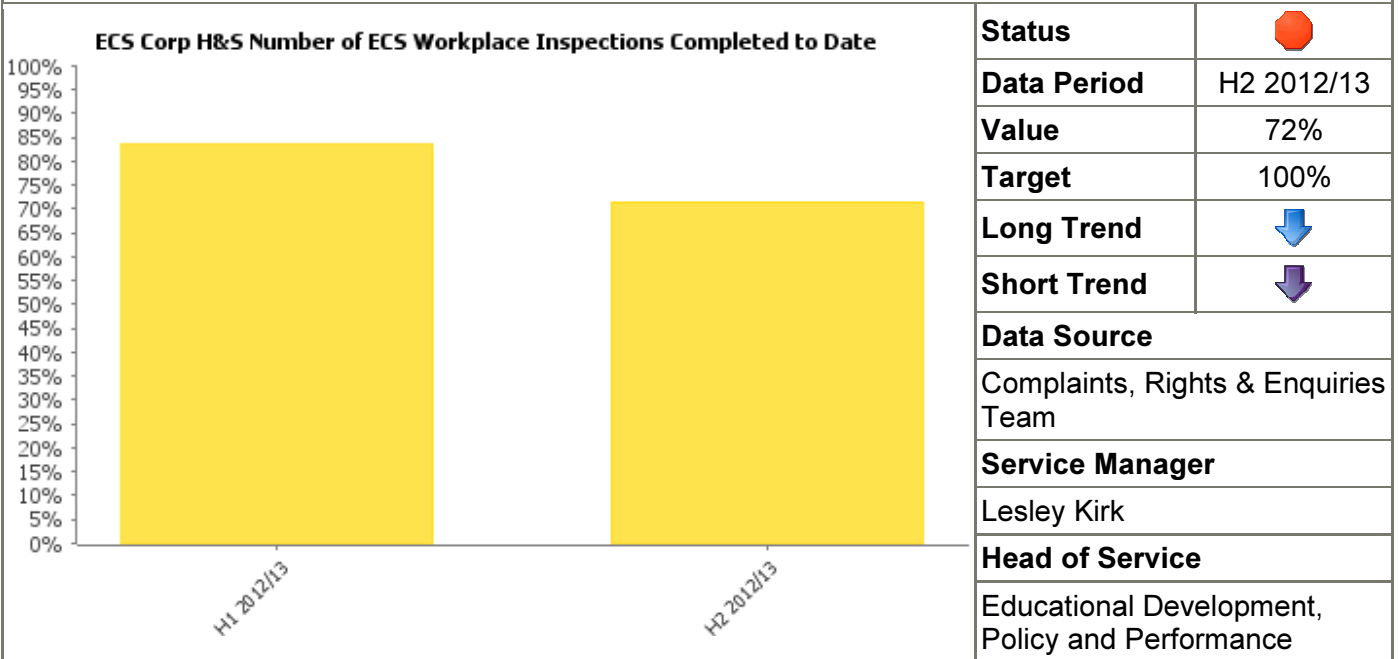


Narrative and Analysis

There were 69 Enquiries received by the Education, Culture and Sport Service between 1st July and 30th September 2012. 88% of these were answered within the required timescale of 20 working days. There was an increase in the number of enquiries reported to the communication team based at Marischal College in August, these were received from the libraries and were from comment cards. In order to report on these more effectively and categorise the comments new guidance will be sent out across the service once development work, relating to the recording and reporting of enquiries and complaints, has been completed.

Number of ECS Workplace Inspections Completed to Date

Number of Workplace Inspections Completed to Date. Each ECS establishment is required to complete 2 workplace inspections in each calendar year. They are requested and recorded in Jan to Jun and Jul to Dec. If an establishment does not comply with at least one inspection each year the relevant Head of Service is advised.

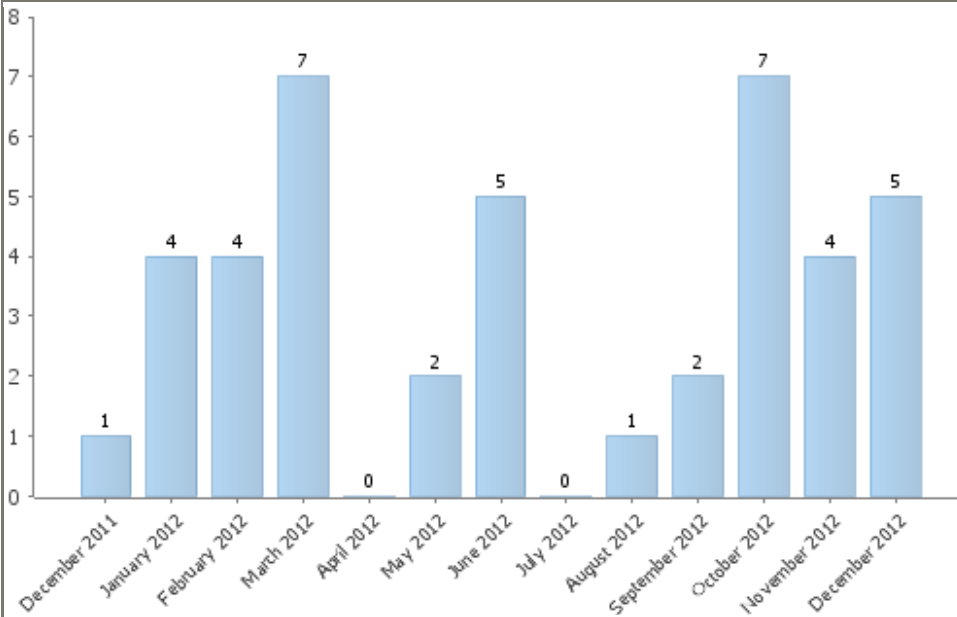


Narrative and Analysis

For the period of July to date 72% of the required inspections have been completed. There are 17 inspections due to be completed by the end of the year. There are currently 28 inspections overdue, these are initially followed up the the health and safety administrator for ECS. Then escalated to the relevant Head of Service for action.

Health and Safety Reportable Accidents

Health and Safety Reportable Accidents



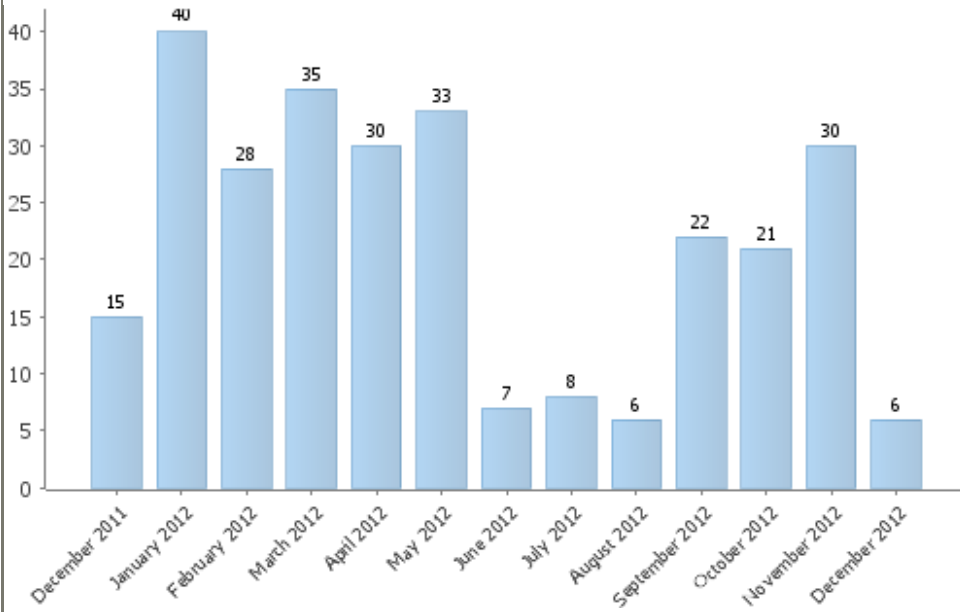
Status	
Data Period	December 2012
Value	5
Target	3
Long Trend	
Short Trend	
Data Source	
Service Manager	Lesley Kirk
Head of Service	Charlie Penman

Narrative and Analysis

There were 5 reportable accidents for the month of December across the Education, Culture and Sport service. These were all within a school setting.

Health and Safety Reportable Incidents












Health and Safety Reportable Incidents



Status	
Data Period	December 2012
Value	6
Target	20
Long Trend	
Short Trend	
Data Source	
Service Manager	Lesley Kirk
Head of Service	Charlie Penman

Narrative and Analysis

Of the 6 incidents recorded for December 5 of them were in schools, the remaining 1 was in a library.

PI Status		Long Term Trends		Short Term Trends	
	Alert		Improving		Improving
	Warning		No Change		No Change
	OK		Getting Worse		Getting Worse
	Unknown				
	Data Only				

This page is intentionally left blank