



West Lothian
Council

Education Executive

West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
LIVINGSTON
EH54 6FF

24 April 2014

A meeting of the **Education Executive** of West Lothian Council will be held within **Council Chambers, West Lothian Civic Centre** on **Tuesday 29 April 2014** at **10:00 a.m.**

For Chief Executive

BUSINESS

Public Session

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Order of Business, including notice of urgent business
3. Declarations of Interest - Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration at the meeting, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.
4. Confirm Draft Minute of Meeting of the Education Executive held on Tuesday 18 March 2014 (herewith).
5. Request for Deputation in Relation to Agenda Item 6 - Armadale Primary School Accommodation - Lodged by Armadale Community Council.

Public Items for Decision

6. Primary School Accommodation - Armadale - Report by Head of Schools with Education Support (herewith).

Public Items for Information

7. Pit Stop Café
 - (a) Presentation by Whitburn Academy Pupils

(b) Report by Head of Education (Quality Assurance) (herewith)

8. Timetable of Meetings 2014/2015 (herewith)

NOTE **For further information please contact Elaine Dow on 01506 281594
or email elaine.dow@westlothian.gov.uk**

MINUTE of MEETING of the EDUCATION EXECUTIVE of WEST LoTHIAN COUNCIL held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LoTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, on 18 MARCH 2014.

Present – Councillors Lawrence Fitzpatrick (Chair), David Dodds, Frank Anderson (substitute for Peter Johnston), Stuart Borrowman, Tony Boyle, Harry Cartmill, Tom Conn, Alexander Davidson, Carl John, Dave King, Danny Logue, John McGinty, Anne McMillan, Angela Moohan, George Paul, Frank Toner and Jim Walker; Appointed Members Myra MacPherson, Lynne McEwen and Eric Lumsden.

Apologies – Councillors Peter Johnston and Andrew Miller; Appointed Members Elsie Aitken and Graham Stormont.

1. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Agenda Item 6: 2012 Base School Forecasts

The Chair ruled under Standing Order 11 that updated versions of appendices 1(a) and 2(a) be tabled.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

3. MINUTES

- a) The Education Executive confirmed the minute of its meeting held on 4 February 2014 as being a correct record. The Chair thereafter signed the minute.
- b) The Education Executive confirmed the minute of its special meeting held on 25 February 2014 as being a correct record, subject to noting that Myra MacPherson was in attendance at the meeting. The Chair thereafter signed the minute.

4. YOUTH MUSIC INITIATIVE YEAR 12

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated by the Head of Area Services providing details of the Youth Music Initiative (YMI) Year 12 application to Creative Scotland.

The Community Arts Co-ordinator explained that the Youth Music Initiative funding enabled schools to meet the Scottish Government target that *“all school children in Scotland should have access to 12 hours free music tuition by the time they reached Primary 6”*. This target was met by commissioning specialist individuals and organisations to deliver a range of music education projects to pupils in West Lothian.

The report advised that Community Arts successfully applied to Creative

Scotland for Year 11 funding for the YMI programme for 2013-14 and received the maximum award available of £246,228. The 2014-15 programme would run from August 2014 to June 2015 and included thirteen individual projects, details of which were summarised in the report, which also included investment in management, promotion and travel subsidy. West Lothian's allocation for the year 2014-15 was once again £246,228.

All contracts were advertised through Quick Quote. Contracts for the delivery of the projects outlined in the application would be awarded following confirmation of funding. The Year 12 application would be submitted to Creative Scotland by the deadline date of 20 March 2014. It was noted that the projects outlined in the YMI application were extremely beneficial to the young people who participated, providing opportunities for them to work closely with professional musicians, creating performance opportunities and developing their listening, creative and critical thinking skills. They would also develop increased self-confidence and self-esteem as well as having an enjoyable experience.

In conclusion, Community Arts would deliver and manage the 2014-15 YMI programme which would make a significant contribution to enabling the participants to embrace the principles and capacities of Curriculum for Excellence through a high quality programme of music-making activities.

It was recommended that the Education Executive approve the proposal for submission to Creative Scotland.

Decision

1. The Education Executive approved the terms of the report; and
2. Congratulated the service for the excellent results achieved through a high quality programme of music-making activities.

5. 2012 BASE SCHOOL FORECASTS

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning and Economic Development advising of the 2012 base school forecasts which would be used for future revenue and capital plans, pupil placement decisions, education planning and consultation and development plan consultations. The report also included an updated methodology summary. The Education Executive then considered the amended contents of appendices 1(a) and 2(a) (tabled at the meeting) which were updated to reflect current capacity figures for Armadale, Boghall, Simpson, St Paul's and Whitdale Primary Schools. The Planning and Information Manager also advised that the acronym AULP in the heading on appendix 2(a) was short for Base Audit and Local Plan Summary.

The report explained that medium term primary and secondary school forecasts were critical elements in the forward planning of revenue and capital investment in West Lothian. The current base forecast covered a

time range from school session 2012-2013 with forecast school rolls from 2014-2015 through to 2023-2024. The housing component of the forecast was based on Audit 13. The updated forecasts and methodology would be used in association with the SPG on Planning for Education.

The 2012 Base had been updated with the 2013 school census and would also be updated when the session 2014 pupil placement applications for P1 and S1 were determined in late March 2014. There was also a requirement for on-going monitoring to determine if revised methodological development was required and that any such changes were fit for purpose. The report went on to provide details of the current school roll forecast caveats for 0-18 year old population trends and for housing allocations post 2019. It was noted that whilst the trend in primary school rolls was generally downward in the last decade, this was reversing, short term at least, irrespective of economic conditions as the potential pupils had already been born and were living within West Lothian. It was likely that primary school rolls would increase and remain above the 2013 roll total of 14,888 pupils for the next four years for demographic reasons irrespective of new housing development.

Information on the 2012 base school roll forecast was summarised in the report and whilst both secondary school roll forecasts showed some decline in the last two years of the forecast time period, the anticipated growth in the 2016 and 2017 cohorts could completely remove the current forecast reductions. The Base Auditable Forecast, as detailed in the appendices attached to the report, highlighted an increase in total primary rolls from 14,685 pupils in school session 2012-13 to 16,108 pupils in school session 2023-24.

During the question and answer session the Education Executive was advised that a report would be submitted to a future meeting providing details in relation to the August 2014 intake for Armadale Primary School. A report would also be submitted to a future meeting of the Education Executive providing an update in relation to Simpson and Windyknowe Primary Schools.

In conclusion, the updated school roll projections indicated growth in the pre-school and primary sectors over the forecast period with a period of limited decline in secondary rolls. If there was more sustained housing recovery then school rolls would likely show stronger increases and less decreases. There was a need to continue to monitor the broader economic context in updating school rolls and projecting school capacity requirements. It was important to review forecasts in light of any material changes, such as demographics, but particularly so with house building completions as this was the greatest single factor influencing school roll forecasts. Further school consultation and capacity enhancement would be necessary to ensure sufficient pre-school and school places were available.

It was recommended that the Education Executive:

- Agree the forecast update on pupil rolls, including the assumptions and methodology applied in producing these data, and

- Agree the school roll forecasts as being the basis for future education provision planning and consultation on development planning.

Decisions

1. The Education Executive noted the updated appendices 1(a) and 2(a) tabled at the meeting;
2. Agreed that a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Education Executive providing an update on the intake for Armadale Primary School relevant to the August 2014 intake;
3. Agreed that a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Education Executive providing an update in relation to Simpson and Windyknowe Primary Schools; and
4. Agreed the terms of the report.

6. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT SUPPORT SERVICE (CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL) - EXEMPTION FROM STANDING ORDERS

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Quality Assurance) seeking exemption from Council Standing Orders for the Regulation of Contracts in relation to the procurement of Visual Impairment Support Services (VISS) from the City of Edinburgh Council.

The Senior Education Development Manager advised that the Visual Impairment Support Services has worked in West Lothian Council's schools for a number of years, alongside other education staff and in collaboration with parents and carers, in supporting the educational and social progress of children and young people with significant levels of visual impairment. Without this specialised support being delivered directly to the pupils themselves and the on-going practical advice to those involved in their day-to-day education and care, many would otherwise require to be considered for specialist education while others would fail to maximise their educational potential and further/higher education and employment opportunities.

The Council's Standing Orders for Contracts states that officers cannot authorise an exemption from tendering procedures where the total cost of the contract was above £50,000. The Visual Impairment Support Service, was a specialist service whose practitioners were professionally trained and registered with the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS). The only available source of sufficient numbers of appropriately trained staff was the City of Edinburgh Council. An exemption from the Council's Standing Orders for Contracts Procedure was therefore sought as the cost of the contract was expected to be in the region of £65,000.

It was recommended that the Education Executive authorise the letting of a contract to the Visual Impairment Support Service without seeking

competitive quotes or tenders as a specific, specialist, provider was required.

Decision

The Education Executive approved the terms of the report.

7. RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION ON DRAFT GUIDANCE TO EDUCATION AUTHORITIES, INDEPENDENT AND GRANT AIDED SCHOOLS ON THEIR DUTIES TO DEVELOP AND PUBLISH ACCESSIBILITY STRATEGIES

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Quality Assurance) providing details of a response to the Scottish Government consultation on draft guidance to education authorities, independent and grant-aided schools on their duties to develop and publish Accessibility Strategies to improve access to the curriculum, school information and physical access. Appendix 1 to the report provided details of the response to the consultation and appendix 2 provided details of the current Accessibility Strategy Policy.

The report explained that the Scottish Government reviewed and refreshed the guidance which supported responsible bodies in fulfilling their duties to develop and publish Accessibility Strategies. The new guidance reflected current policy and legislative changes which took place since the development of the original legislation and guidance. The purpose of the guidance was to provide updated advice to local authorities and schools about how they could meet their duties to improve access to education for disabled pupils. Disabled learners faced particular barriers to learning however these barriers were not an inevitable result of their difficulties or medical conditions. The most significant disadvantages these learners experienced often stemmed from attitudinal and environmental factors, which could be changed.

Accessibility has been identified as a priority within both the approved Corporate Asset Management Strategy and Property Asset Management Plan. In relation to the school estate through the General Services Capital Programme (Property) a number of works were undertaken each year to improve accessibility for pupils to schools.

In conclusion, the guidance provided a clear summary of the legislative position as well as a very clear structure and guidance for local authorities on developing policy, procedure and best practice. Following publication of the guidelines, a multi-agency planning group would be formed to review and update the current West Lothian Council Education Services Accessibility Policy to fully reflect the aims of the national accessibility strategy as detailed in the new guidance.

It was recommended that the Education Executive agree to the response attached at appendix 1 to the report.

Decision

The Education Executive approved the terms of the report.

8. SQA RESULTS 2013 POST-APPEAL

The Education Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Quality Assurance) advising of the post-appeal performance of West Lothian pupils in Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) examinations in 2013.

The Customer and Performance Manager explained that post-appeal results were published in January 2014 and a broad analysis of the results was summarised in the report. Overall, performance has shown significant improvement in performance in S4 and S5 over the five year period from 2009 to 2013. Performance levels in West Lothian were above comparator and national averages.

The improvement achieved in West Lothian performance in SQA examinations was the result of an enhanced, strategic approach to raising attainment. Education Services had analysed the SQA 2013 data and had taken a number of key actions to further improve levels of attainment, which were summarised in the report, and included a more robust and challenging programme of monitoring levels of attainment, continued gathering of information to support Education Offices and schools in prioritising areas for improvement, grouping of local schools which encouraged schools to collaborate more effectively by sharing staff expertise and a sharper focus on improving attainment at Higher Grade across key subject areas, including English, Mathematics and the Sciences.

During the question and answer session the Head of Education (Quality Assurance) advised that a further report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Education Executive providing details of the work carried out in West Lothian to sustain and develop levels of attainment.

In conclusion, the overall performance in SQA examinations continued to improve strongly and Education Services had taken and would continue to take appropriate actions to sustain and further develop levels of attainment.

It was recommended that the Education Executive:

1. Note the continuing improvement in SQA examination results; and
2. Congratulate pupils, parents and school staff on the continuing improvements.

Decisions

1. The Education Executive noted the contents of the report;

2. Agreed that a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Education Executive to provide an update on the work carried out to sustain and develop levels of attainment in schools across West Lothian; and
3. Congratulated pupils, parents and school staff for the continuing improvements in SQA examination results.



West Lothian
Council

EDUCATION EXECUTIVE

PRIMARY SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION - ARMADALE

REPORT BY HEAD OF SCHOOLS WITH EDUCATION SUPPORT

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Education Executive of pressure on Primary School accommodation within Armadale town and outline a proposed temporary solution pending the delivery of additional permanent school capacity.

B. RECOMMENDATION

The Education Executive are recommended to approve the proposed temporary solution for responding to the pressure on Primary School accommodation within Armadale town.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; developing employees; making best use of our resources; working in partnership
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Education (Scotland) Act 1980 Standard's in Scotland's Schools Etc Act 2000
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	None
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	The resources for the installation and rental of temporary accommodation for Armadale Primary will be funded from the Local Infrastructure Fund.

VII Consideration at PDSP

PDSP 8 April 2014 agreed to submit report to the Education Executive.

VIII Other consultations

Legal Services, Head of Finance and Estates.

Parent Councils, Headteachers, and Staff underway

D. TERMS OF REPORT**D.1 Current Position**

The closing date for applications for school session 2014/15 has now passed, although late applications for placement continue to be received. The School Placement Panel met on 17 March and on 28 March. Given the on-going house building within Armadale it is reasonable to anticipate that applications for placement will continue to be received after these dates, and throughout the 2014/15 school year.

D.2 Armadale Primary

As of 28 March 2014, the anticipated pupil numbers and class organisation at Armadale Primary School are:-

Stage/Class	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
Non-Composite A	23	27	27	28	31	31	29
Non-Composite B	23	27	27	27	32	31	29
Non-Composite C	22	27	26	27			
Non-Composite D	22						
Totals	90	81	80	82	63	62	58
Spaces	10	9	10	17	3	4	8

This gives a pupil total of 516. The capacity of Armadale Primary School is 462. This class organisation requires 19 teaching spaces. 16 class bases are available, although 17 classes are currently formed. It should be noted that within this class organisation, only 10 spaces remain at the P1 stage.

Armadale Primary School currently has **16** teaching spaces and **4** General Purpose (GP) spaces.

D.3 Eastertoun Primary

As of 28 March 2014, the anticipated pupil numbers and class organisation at Eastertoun Primary School are:-

Stage/Class	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
Non-Composite	24	28	28	33	33	33	33
Composite A	17	4	12	20	4	11	17
Composite B		9			10	4	
Totals	41	41	40	53	47	48	50
Spaces	13			9			

This gives a pupil total of 320. The capacity of Eastertoun Primary School is 360. This class organisation leaves 22 free spaces within the school, 13 of which are at the P1-3 stage. This class organisation utilises all 12 of the available class bases. Although there is available capacity for 40 pupils within the school, this cannot be fully utilised because the pattern of pupil numbers requires the formation of composite classes which have a lower maximum size.

Eastertoun Primary School currently has **12** teaching spaces and **3** GP spaces. It is proposed to make available an existing room currently used as a parent support/meeting room as a potential teaching space or general purpose space for August 2014 should it be required.

D.4 St Anthony's Primary

As of 28 March 2014, the anticipated pupil numbers and class organisation at St Anthony's Primary School are:-

Stage/Class	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
Non-Composite A	25	29	28	29	28	33	24
Non-Composite B	25						
Totals	50	29	28	29	28	33	24
Spaces	0	1	2	4	5	0	9

This gives a pupil total of 222. The capacity of St Anthony's Primary School is 198. This class organisation requires the formation of an additional class utilising a general purpose space within the school.

St Anthony's Primary School currently has **7** teaching spaces and **2** GP spaces. An additional 2 classrooms and hall will be constructed and available for August 2015.

D.5 Managing places across Armadale

All applications for Armadale Primary School came from Armadale town. All except two applications for Eastertoun Primary School came from Armadale town. 9 pupils from the Armadale Primary School catchment area requested places at Eastertoun Primary School, and 9 pupils from the Eastertoun Primary School catchment area were granted places at Armadale Primary School due mainly to previous placement of siblings. All applications for St Anthony's Primary School were from within the catchment area.

There was limited scope for managing pupil numbers through refusal of placing requests, as all but two refusals would then have required to be accommodated within an alternative Armadale school.

The above pupil numbers include the admission of 19 children resident within the Armadale Primary School catchment area to Windyknowe Primary School, and two children resident within the St Anthony's catchment area to St Mary's (Bathgate) Primary School.

It may have been possible to increase capacity at the P1 stage by putting in place alternative class organisations with fewer spaces at P2-7, but it is council policy and good practice to spread available places evenly throughout the class organisation. This also avoids the need to re-composite classes to create additional spaces at a particular stage.

It must be noted that all of the figures above may rise due to ongoing house building. A relatively small increase in the number of P1 children in Armadale would require the formation of a further additional class within GP accommodation at one of the schools within Armadale.

It should be noted that within the class organisations set out in this report only 15 spaces that could be occupied by a P1 age child exist within all of the schools within Armadale town.

D.6 Proposal

It is proposed to locate temporary leased accommodation comprising four classrooms and toilet facilities within Armadale Primary School grounds.

This proposal would allow all pupils to remain within the school, with the benefit that pupils would be able to perform leadership, buddying and mentoring roles as usual. Armadale Primary is on a constrained site in terms of ground levels and playground space. To avoid the loss of playground space it is proposed to locate the temporary units partly on the grassed area adjacent to the multi-use games area (MUGA). This location is also less visible to surrounding properties.

In addition to providing sufficient teaching rooms and toilet facilities, this proposal would release four rooms for General Purpose space, in order to support delivery of the curriculum.

Consideration will also be given to pupil travel to school arrangements in order to mitigate congestion at the start and end of the school day.

The cost estimate based on 4 classrooms would be £150,000 for installation and removal and £5,000 - £6,000 per month hire. Furniture and equipment for the classrooms would cost £10,000 per class.

E. CONCLUSION

Action is recommended in order to achieve the education of all Armadale children, within the school of their parent's choice.

The proposal must be seen as a short term solution pending the provision of additional school capacity in Armadale.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments:

1. Indicative location plan, proposed temporary units - Armadale PS

Contact Person: Andrew Sneddon, Customer and Performance Manager West Lothian Council Civic Centre Howden South Road Livingston EH54 6FF

Email: andrew.sneddon@westlothian.gov.uk

Tel: 01506 281678

James Cameron, Head of Schools with Education Support

Date of meeting: 29 April 2014





West Lothian
Council

EDUCATION EXECUTIVE

PIT-STOP CAFÉ – A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE BY WHITBURN ACADEMY

REPORT BY HEAD OF EDUCATION (QUALITY ASSURANCE)

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To invite the Education Executive to view a presentation by pupils from Whitburn Academy on a social enterprise project called the 'Pit Stop Café'.

B. RECOMMENDATION

The Education Executive is recommended to note the contents of this report and the presentation.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; developing employees; making best use of our resources; working in partnership
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	N/A
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	Raising Attainment Strategy
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	Young people are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities.
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	No funding implications
VII	Consideration at PDSP	Not required
VIII	Other consultations	None

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D.1 Background

The Pit Stop project is an innovative social enterprise which received a reward at the West Lothian Big Business Breakfast in the category of “Most innovative links between business and education”. By working in partnership with a local business young people have had an opportunity to learn across subjects and develop life skills in a real-life context.

The Head Teacher has provided a detailed report (Appendix 1) and this excellent piece of work has now been nominated for a Scottish Education Award.

E. CONCLUSION

This is one of a range of learning experiences being developed by Whitburn Academy through its Enterprise Education programme and is an excellent example of the commitment in West Lothian Schools to provide opportunities and experiences which enable all young people to prepare for the world of work and life.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None.

Appendices/Attachments:

1. Report by Ian Adair, Whitburn Academy Head Teacher on the Pit Stop Enterprise Project

Contacts: Phyllis Wood, Education Officer, Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston
EH54 6FF

Email: Phyllis.wood@westlothian.gov.uk Tel 01506 282633

Elaine Cook, Head of Education (Quality Assurance)

Date of meeting: 29 April 2014

Whitburn Academy – The ‘Pit Stop’ – A Social Enterprise

This venture came about thanks to the efforts of the school’s Business Development Post Holder, Steven Williams, the owner of a prospective new local café, Ross Walker, the Network Coordinator of West Lothian’s Social Enterprise Network, Fiona Pearson, and the pupils of Whitburn Academy. As well as being the start of something new and exciting for all involved, the Social Enterprise being developed just now is actually the culmination of a year and a half’s work involving these key partners.

The initiative began with Whitburn Academy being approached by local businessman Ross Walker, with the unprecedented offer to young people at our school to be involved directly in the running of his business. Work began with students of an S5/6 Personal Development class helping design the logo for the café Ross was planning to open near the Academy, then surveying their fellow pupils to help develop and design a menu. Since then a variety of pupils, across age groups and departments, have worked on different aspects of this new business: from Art to Graphic Communications, from English to Employability and Geography, and in Maths in relation to its Personal Finance course, linked to Ross’ other (main) career in Insolvency.

During this earlier part of the process, students created advertising campaigns and art work for the café’s interior walls, its exterior signage, as well as its internal layout and its menus. In short, pupils had a direct influence on the look and feel of the café, as well as contributing significantly to ideas on what kind of food and drink it should sell – and why. The Academy’s young people also gave Ross advice on how the ‘Pit Stop’ could best advertise itself as a venue, as well as suggesting what kind of lunchtime services it should provide, and how. This was invigorating, challenging and motivating for our pupils, who gained a real insight into how a small business can be grown from nothing, learning how to target an audience and what goes into selling a concept and ideas to others.

The ‘Pit Stop’ links have continued to expand and improve. This included a project with S2 pupils in English where they created an advertising campaign for the café. This covered a variety of Literacy and English Experiences and Outcomes in a practical context, with the winning group’s ideas then used to create a leaflet, delivered to all addresses in the Whitburn area. Ross also led workshops at the school for West Lothian Enterprise and Employability events, Opportunities for All conferences, and Parent and Pupil councils. Pupils’ ideas continued to influence the development of the business, with a “text and pick up” service originating from one brainstorm and being implemented into the day to day running of the enterprise. The links between the ‘Pit Stop’ and the school became so strong that they led to it winning the “Most Innovative Links Between Business and Education” Award at the West Lothian Big Business Breakfast last term.

With the continuing generosity of the owner, Ross Walker, the project has now reached a critical point, where pupil involvement, their ideas and their drive, become key to the business growing and moving forward, and central to its success or failure. Currently, 95% of the café’s clientele are Academy pupils, funding two local, full time staff. In partnership with Ross and Fiona Pearson, the school has set up a Social Enterprise – Whitburn Academy Enterprises (WAE) – tasked with the running and organisation of the ‘Pit Stop’. A constitution was formulated, and pupils invited from the school’s Gifted and Talented Group (across S1-3) to a meeting introducing them to the concept of WAE. This group have now

elected a Chairperson, a Treasurer and a Secretary, and Whitburn Academy Enterprises is now officially in charge of the profit, organisation and running of the 'Pit Stop'. This chapter of the story promises to be both the most daunting, but ultimately the most exciting and rewarding of all. There is risk involved, but the potential for success, both financial and in terms of pupils' experiences, skills acquisition and future prospects, is enormous. After overheads, any profits will go directly to WAE and into other projects of the pupils' choosing – a great incentive, and a huge responsibility.

All of the varied ways in which Ross, the school staff, the Local Authority and above all, the young people of Whitburn Academy, have worked together has created real opportunities for achievement for pupils, and the development of a whole range of skills and experiences. Pupils have seen the fruits of their class work being used in the real world, which has really helped them to see the relevance and usefulness of a variety of aspects of the curriculum. The aim of Whitburn Academy Enterprises is now to continue engaging pupils of all abilities and ages, so that other groups will create their own social enterprise ideas and businesses under the umbrella of this one group. This should lead to more and more pupils leaving school with a far better understanding of how business works, and of what they can achieve, as well as developing their key skills for future work and life.

I believe that this project has a great deal of life left in it, and that the experiences and achievements it has afforded pupils so far are only the beginning. Ross Walker is as keen now as he was on day one to continue to expand the enterprise – his business – in partnership with pupils of Whitburn Academy. As Headteacher, I now meet weekly with the key adults – Ross, Kathleen (Steven's successor) and Fiona – alongside the WAE student board and its sub-committees: Marketing/Publicity, Operations and Finance. Only the other week, Ross was leading all three Junior House assemblies, promoting the message to pupils across S1-S3, and encouraging more to take part in this wonderful opportunity. I am personally immensely proud of what this partnership has managed to do thus far, and offered it my full support recently as I nominated the 'Pit Stop' for a prestigious Scottish Education Award.

Ian Adair
Rector, Whitburn Academy

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE AND EDUCATION EXECUTIVE TIMETABLE – 2014/2015

Meeting	Deadline of Submission of Items for Inclusion on Final Agendas	Date of Meetings
Council Executive	Noon Wed 30 July 2014	Tue 5 August 2014
Education Executive & Council Executive	Noon Wed 13 August 2014	Tue 19 August 2014
Council Executive	Noon Wed 10 September 2014	Tue 16 September 2014
Education Executive & Council Executive	Noon Wed 24 September 2014	Tue 30 September 2014
Council Executive	Noon Wed 22 October 2014	Tue 28 October 2014
Education Executive & Council Executive	Noon Wed 5 November 2014	Tue 11 November 2014
Council Executive	Noon Wed 26 November 2014	Tue 2 December 2014
Education Executive & Council Executive	Noon Wed 10 December 2014	Tue 16 December 2014
Council Executive	Noon Wed 21 January 2015	Tue 27 January 2015
Education Executive & Council Executive	Noon Wed 4 February 2015	Tue 10 February 2015
Council Executive	Noon Wed 4 March 2015	Tue 10 March 2015

Meeting	Deadline of Submission of Items for Inclusion on Final Agendas	Date of Meetings
Education Executive & Council Executive	Noon Wed 18 March 2015	Tue 24 March 2015
Council Executive	Noon Wed 8 April 2015	Tue 14 April 2015
Education Executive & Council Executive	Noon Wed 22 April 2015	Tue 28 April 2015
Council Executive	Noon Wed 20 May 2015	Tues 26 May 2015
Education Executive & Council Executive	Noon Wed 3 June 2015	Tue 9 June 2015
Council Executive	Noon Wed 24 June 2015	Tue 30 June 2015

		<p>All Council Executive Meetings will be held in Council Chambers, Civic Centre</p> <p>Start Times – Education Executive @ 10 a.m. and Council Executive @ 11.00 a.m.</p>
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