

ANGUS COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

23 April 1996

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Report No. 264/96

SECURITY IN SCHOOLS

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of a staff development initiative for Head Teachers prepared by Tayside Police.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Education Committee notes the terms of this report.

BACKGROUND

The Crime Prevention Officers of Tayside Police, assisted by personnel from Tayside Fire Brigade have prepared a presentation for schools which aims to highlight security and safety issues for pupils, staff and other users of school premises.

The presentation has particular significance in the light of the tragedy at Dunblane Primary but is however aimed at establishing safe, consistent routines and practices with an emphasis on good housekeeping. In particular, members' attention is drawn to the series of publications for staff, undertaken by TRC's Education Department in 1995, and entitled "Working in a Secure Environment."

The key elements of the presentation include:-

- reference to "Working in a Secure Environment"
- reference to Dunblane
- cost effectiveness
- school design
- multi entrances and exits
- reception/identification systems for visitors
- logging of all incidents
- involvement of the whole community
- fast response to vandalism

- involvement of pupils through project work
- involvement of press and media

It is hoped to encourage schools to undertake a self-assessment in terms of their school-specific context. Emphasis will be given to reviewing and, where appropriate, revising management approaches following awareness-raising activities.

The Crime Prevention Team from Tayside Police have been invited to present their materials initially at Head Teacher meetings later this term.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific financial implications arising from the approval of this report. However, if, in the light of experience, any specific issue arises which would require additional expenditure, a further report would then be submitted to the Education Committee.

CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Director of Law and Administration and Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

JIM ANDERSON

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.