

ANGUS COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 24 FEBRUARY 2005

RESOURCES & CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – 17 MARCH 2005

ACCESSIBILITY IN ANGUS SCHOOLS - UPDATE

JOINT REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
AND THE DIRECTOR OF PROPERTY SERVICES

ABSTRACT

This report outlines progress to date and outlines further proposals to utilise resources provided by the Scottish Executive to improve the accessibility of schools for pupils, staff and wider community.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Education Committee note the content of this report.

It is recommended that the Resources and Central Services committee should:

- (i) note the content of this report
- (ii) instruct the Director of Property Services to procure the necessary works.

2. INTRODUCTION

At its meeting of 19 August 2004 the Education Committee approved report 877/04 in respect of Accessibility in Angus Schools. The report outlined the implications of The Educational (Disability Strategies and Pupils' Educational Records) Act 2002 which requires responsible bodies to prepare and implement accessibility strategies to improve, over time, access to education for pupils (and prospective pupils) with disabilities. The aim is through long-term strategic planning to improve access for all pupils with disabilities. In particular the Committee approved a range of improvements to school buildings.

Based on most recent information it is anticipated the total expenditure in the current financial year will be £220,000. Due to slippage on particular projects, e.g. Grange Primary School and Lochside Primary School, it is now anticipated that expenditure in 2004/05 will be lower than anticipated while expenditure in 2005/06 will be correspondingly higher. This is illustrated in the following table:

Financial Year	Budget per Report 877/04 £000	Expected Spend Per Report 877/04 £000	Anticipated Carry Forward £000	Revised Projected Expenditure 2004/05 £000	Revised Carry Forward to 2005/06 £000
2004/05	370	280	90	220	150

3. PROPOSALS

As indicated in Report 877/04, further proposals were required to utilise the available resources.

The uncommitted budget provision available for 2005/06 is outlined as follows:

	£000	£000
Education Budget		330
Property Renewal and Repair Fund 04/05	100	
Property Renewal and Repair Fund 05/06	<u>135</u>	<u>235</u>
		565
Plus Carry Forward 2004/2005		<u>150</u>
		715
Less Commitments		<u>557</u>
Funding Available		<u>158</u>

[Appendix A](#) outlines proposals on how the available uncommitted funding for 2005/06 will be utilised.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is provision within the Education Department revenue budget and the Property Renewal and Repair Fund for the expenditure outlined in this report. The underspend in 2004/05 will be carried forward to financial year 2005/06.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications arising from this report.

6. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Director of Finance and the Director of Law & Administration have been consulted on the terms of this report.

JIM ANDERSON
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

MIKE LUNNY
DIRECTOR OF PROPERTY SERVICES

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 this report.