

ANGUS COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

21 AUGUST 2001

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2002/2003

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Education Committee

- a notes the contents of this report
- b approves the 2002/2003 term and holiday dates set out in the Appendix

2 BACKGROUND

Reference is made to the meeting of the Education Committee on 24 April 2001 when a draft scheme of school terms and holidays for session 2002/2003 was approved as a basis for consultation (Agenda Item 4).

3 CONSULTATION – RESPONSES

- 3.1 Very few responses were received this year – which could reasonably be interpreted as meaning that most consultees are supportive of the draft timetable which was circulated for comment.
- 3.2 One (primary) School Board did respond : that response offered support for the inclusion of Easter Monday in the school Spring Holiday (as proposed), but suggested amending the timing of two In-Service closure days from those proposed (Friday 29 November 2002 and Monday 2 December 2002) to alternative dates end-on to the Autumn holiday.
- 3.3 No other proposed amendments were received.

4 SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES (2002/2003) IN NEIGHBOURING COUNCILS

- 4.1 The main term dates are precisely the same as those on which Dundee City Council and Perth & Kinross Council are currently consulting.

There are differences in proposed occasional holiday dates and on proposed in-service closure days – differences which also existed during the era of Tayside Regional Council.
- 4.2 Aberdeenshire Council normally has its October fortnight one week later than Angus, but otherwise it is anticipated that the patterns of term and holiday dates will be similar.

5 ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

- 5.1 Given the unusually low lack of response it may be wise to adopt precisely the dates on which consultation took place (on the assumption that a lack of response indicates approval).

- 5.2 The very specific amendment put forward by one School Board would represent a significant departure from previous practice; there have been no other representations made (this year or previously) supporting such a change. In these circumstances it is recommended that no amendment is made to the draft scheme.
- 5.3 St Andrew's Day falls on a Saturday in November 2002. As flagged up in the report considered by Committee in April, no school holiday for St Andrew's Day is therefore being proposed in 2002/2003.

6 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 This report is being considered by the council's Central Consultative Committee, and an account of the deliberations of that group will be provided for the Education Committee prior to its consideration of this report.
- 6.2 In accordance with the Standing Orders of the Council, this report has been the subject of consultation with the Chief Executive, the Director of Finance and the Director of Law & Administration. The Director of Personnel has also been consulted.

7 HUMAN RIGHTS

There are no Human Rights implications arising from this report.

Jim Anderson
Director of Education

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.

APPENDIX

JAA/CJ