FALKIRK COUNCIL

EXTRACT OF MINUTE of MEETING of the POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on TUESDAY 8 APRIL 2008 at 10.30 a.m.

PR9. REFERRALS FROM EDUCATION AND LEISURE COMMITTEE – 25 MARCH 2008

With reference to Minute of Meeting of the Education and Leisure Committee held on 25 March 2008 (Paragraphs EL74, EL75, EL77, EL78 and EL76 respectively refer), there was submitted Report (circulated) dated 31 March 2008 by the Director of Education listing the Reports considered by the Education and Leisure Committee at its meeting on 25 March 2008, namely:-

- Update Report on Reduction of Class Sizes
- Improvement of the Achievement and Attainment of Looked After Children
- Cultural Co-ordinators
- Breakfast Clubs
- Early Years Development

The Reports considered by the Education and Leisure Committee on 25 March 2008 were appended for Members' information.

Councillor Gow, seconded by Councillor Nimmo, moved the recommendations as agreed by the Education and Leisure Committee.

Early Years Development

By way of an Amendment in relation to the Report on Early Years Development, Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Kenna, moved that Committee agrees there has not been proper consultation on all issues pertaining to the Administration's Nursery School closure programme and agrees to halt this meantime until the following additional consultation has been carried out:-

- (1) At least 2 public meetings within the affected nursery schools. One during the day to suit young parents and one in the evening.
- (2) These public meetings be widely advertised and invitations be issued to all local community groups and local members.
- (3) That the meetings be attended by the Convener of the Education and Leisure Committee and the Leader of the Administration.
- (4) Proposals for the longer term use of the buildings vacated by the nurseries be intimated to the community and form part of the consultation exercise.

Following a short adjournment to consider the terms of the Amendment and with the consent of the seconder, Councillor Gow amended the terms of her motion to request that further consultation take place in terms of the appropriate Regulations and in respect of the proposals for all of the Nursery School provision detailed in the Report.

On a division, 4 Members votes for the Motion and 4 voted for the Amendment.

There being an equality of votes, and in terms of Standing Order 21.6, the Convener used her casting vote in favour of the Motion.

Accordingly, RESOLVED in terms of the Motion, namely:-

- (1) to note the proposals as set out in Section 5 of the Report, and
- (2) to agree that further consultation take place in terms of the appropriate Regulations and in respect of the proposals for all of the Nursery School provision detailed in the Report.