

FALKIRK COUNCIL

EXTRACT OF MINUTE of MEETING of the EDUCATION COMMITTEE held in the MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, FALKIRK on TUESDAY 29 JANUARY 2013 at 9.30 A.M.

E39. MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS

There was submitted Report (circulated) dated 21 January 2013, by the Director of Education Services providing an update on the historical role and costs associated with the engagement of Foreign Language Assistants in secondary schools.

Discussion took place on the following:-

- the impact of developments in ICT on the teaching of modern languages
- the benefits of social contact and the person centred approach to teaching
- the commitment to modern languages in schools

Councillor Nimmo, seconded by Provost Reid moved approval of the recommendations as follows:-

- (i) to endorse the increasing use of ICT in modern foreign language departments to promote confidence in speaking and using the language, and
- (ii) to seek annual updated on the outcomes in secondary schools from participation in the ERASMUS and COMENIUS programmes.

Councillor Hughes, seconded by Councillor Alexander, having heard advice from the Depute Chief Governance Officer in relation to a proposed amendment, moved the following in addition to the motion:-

- (iii) further, endorses the reinstatement of a Modern Language Assistants Programme at the cost of £64,000 per annum, and
- (iv) to refer the recommendations to Policy and Resources Committee for approval.

On a vote being taken, 8 Members voted for the motion and 5 for the amendment.

Accordingly, **AGREED:-**

- (1) to endorse the increasing use of ICT in modern foreign language departments to promote confidence in speaking and using the language, and
- (2) to seek annual updated on the outcomes in secondary schools from participation in the ERASMUS and COMENIUS programmes.