

SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Minute of hybrid meeting of the Scrutiny and Performance Committee held in the Council Chambers, 2 High Street, Perth, on Wednesday 26 April 2023 at 14:00pm.

Present: Councillor C Stewart, Bailie A Bailey, Councillors K Allan, B Brawn (substituting for Councillor C Shiers), S Carr, E Drysdale, A Forbes, M Frampton, I Massie, W Robertson, and F Smith.

In Attendance: T Glen (Chief Executive), B Renton (Executive Director, Communities); S Devlin (Executive Director, Education and Children's Services); A Day, C Guild, K Johnston, F Robertson and D Stokoe (Communities), J Chiles, S Johnston, B Scott and H Robertson (Education and Children's Services), M Dickson and K Ogilvy (Health and Social Care Partnership); and L Simpson, K Molley, A Brown and M Pasternak (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Also in Attendance: H Smout and J Findlay, Culture Perth and Kinross; P Cromwell and D McElhose, Live Active Leisure; and N Williams and C Hood, Perth Theatre and Concert Hall.

Apology: Councillor C Shiers

Councillor C Stewart, Convener, Presiding.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting and an apology was noted above.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE OF 1 FEBRUARY 2022

The minute of meeting of the Scrutiny and Performance Committee of 1 February 2023 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS STATEMENT

Resolved:

The status of actions in the Outstanding Business Statement, be noted and completed actions removed accordingly.

5. UPDATE BY ARM'S LENGTH EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

(i) Culture P&K

H Smout, Chief Executive and J Findlay, Board Member delivered a seven-minute slide-based presentation on Culture Perth & Kinross developing engagement.

(ii) Live Active Leisure Ltd

P Cromwell, Chief Executive and D McElhose, Chairman, Live Active Leisure delivered a seven-minute slide-based presentation on Live Active Leisure's vision and developing the community offer.

(iii) Perth Theatre and Concert Hall

N Williams, Chief Executive and C Hood, Chairman delivered a seven-minute side-based presentation on Perth Theatre and Concert Hall community engagement.

Members questions were answered. Councillor C Stewart thanked members from the three ALEO's for their attendance and they left the meeting.

THERE WAS A 10 MINUTE RECESS AND THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 11.45am.

6. SUMMARY REPORT ON CARE INSPECTORATE AND EDUCATION SCOTLAND INSPECTIONS

There was submitted a report by Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (23/117) providing an overview of the performance of Education and Children's Services inspected and reported over the past year by the Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland, since the previous report of this type in 2022, and sets out the Service's approach to implementing improvement actions arising out of inspections, as well as the wider school improvement framework.

In response to a question from Councillor A Forbes regarding expectations from Care Inspectorate Inspections and the introduction of the National Standard for ELC, S Johnston advised that there had been review of the care inspectorate inspection frameworks due to changes in the early year landscape. B Scott added that as well as the new inspection framework, through the expansion of early learning and childcare there are ten national standards that must be followed which had led to higher expectations.

In response to a question from Councillor I Massie regarding support to school headteachers, S Johnston advised that through the local authority performance framework, engagement occurs with schools in Perth and Kinross throughout the year to ensure that schools are producing an improvement plan with contributions from school communities, parents, partners, and pupils. Schools are also asked to deliver a standards and quality report at the end of every year with support from Quality

Improvement Officers. S Johnston added that a range of other data that can be made available to alert headteachers and quality improvement officers to the types of support that are required, by highlighting the areas of strength and improvement.

In response to a question from Councillor I Massie on the Solihull Approach referred to in the Education Service Improvement Plan 2022-23, S Johnston advised that the Solihull Approach helps parents and carers improve relationships and communication with their children. B Scott added that as part of the expansion of early years and childcare, positive family relationships have been made a key priority. Four hundred members of staff have been trained under the Solihull Approach and training continues to be rolled out. B Scott confirmed that plans for next year include introducing the Solihull Approach to staff working in primary schools and targeted secondary schools. B Scott added that Education and Children's Services plan to invest in a school programme where staff teams can learn and develop together on working with parents to support children.

In response to a question from Councillor C Stewart regarding the number of school inspections over the next academic year, S Johnston advised that following the pandemic, Education Scotland have stated that they are resuming their normal regime of inspections at around 200-250 schools across Scotland, but it is uncertain at this stage how many would be undertaken throughout Perth and Kinross.

In response to a question from Councillor E Drysdale regarding assurance around support offered to school leaders who may receive a negative inspection result, S Johnston advised that Education Scotland have made significant changes to how they undertake inspections over the years. Education Scotland liaise closely with the Local Authority prior to an inspection to make them aware of any issues. S Johnston confirmed that Quality Improvement Officers would also be available for additional support throughout the process. Headteachers have advised that they feel more supported due to recent changes made by Education Scotland.

Members thanked officers for their work in supporting schools across Perth and Kinross.

Resolved:

The contents of Report 23/117, be scrutinised.

7. PERTH AND KINROSS HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP (HSCP) CLINICAL AND CARE GOVERNANCE ASSURANCE REPORT

There was submitted a report by Chief Officer (HSCP) (23/118) providing assurance to Perth and Kinross Council's Scrutiny and Performance Committee on the Clinical Care and Professional Governance of the Perth and Kinross HSCP.

In response to a question from Councillor W Robertson regarding workforce issues in several areas, K Ogilvy advised that there had been an increase in the number of agency workers across the partnership, especially in areas of nursing and social care to help reduce the gap but the Health and Social Care Partnership hoped that the use of agency workers would be a short-term solution. In response to a similar question from Councillor Brawn regarding the reasoning for staff shortages, K Ogilvy advised that workforce shortages are a national issue across Scotland which could be

due to competition with neighbouring areas for staff in the medical sector. K Ogilvy advised that a workforce plan will be implemented to analyse key issues. It is important to ensure terms and conditions are competitive and clear career structures are in place.

In response to a question from Councillor A Forbes regarding the reduction in drug deaths in Perth and Kinross, K Ogilvy advised that there had been significant investment in substance use services. The Health and Social Care Partnership have also made several improvements, including implementing a non-fatal overdoses pathway, integrating the substance use team and implementing a multi-agency assessment and triage clinic which includes health, social work and the third sector. K Ogilvy added that as well as the redesign of services, there had been an increase in capacity due to additional funding from the Scottish Government. K Ogilvy confirmed that good practice had been shared with other Local Authorities.

In response to a question from Councillor E Drysdale regarding the increase in the number of unregistered patients trying to access the public dental service for unregistered care, K Ogilvy advised that public dental service covers the whole of Tayside and issues are more severe in other areas than Perth and Kinross. He added that work had been looked at nationally to help improve access to NHS dentists by increasing capacity. Locally, M Dickson highlighted the importance of making NHS Tayside aware of the risk around capacity. If dental practices decide to go private, patients would be entitled to temporarily access to the public dental service.

In response to a question from Councillor A Forbes regarding ongoing challenges with regards to the Lloyds pharmacy contract and issues with medication deliveries in prisons throughout Tayside, K Ogilvy advised that the issue had now been resolved and a preferred provider for the national contract had been provided which would be implemented shortly. K Ogilvy added that staff's time could have been better utilised, but no risk was involved in delivering services across Tayside.

The Convener suggested a briefing session be arranged on how the Health and Social Care operates for all members. Members thanked officers for their work.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 23/118, be scrutinised.
- (ii) The Committee agreed to the level of reasonable assurance provided.
- (ii) The level of reasonable assurance agreed by the Scrutiny and Performance Committee be reported to the IJB Audit and Performance Committee.

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