

LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee held virtually on Monday 30 March 2022 at 9.30am.

Present: Councillors C Shiers, J Duff, C Ahern (substituting for Councillor C Reid), K Baird, L Barrett, A Forbes, I Massie, X McDade, B Pover, C Purves, J Rebbeck, F Sarwar and L Simpson; Mr A Charlton, Mrs McAuley, Professor T Moran and Mrs C Weston.

In attendance: S Devlin, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); G Boland, J Cockburn, S Cooper G Doogan, S Johnston, F Mackay, D Macluskey, L Richards, H Robertson, K Robertson, and C Taylor (all Education and Children's Services); L Brown, A Brown, M Pasternak, A McMeekin and B Parker (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies for absence: Councillor C Reid; Mrs M Conroy, Mr A Ferguson and Mr M Gowrie.

Councillor C Shiers, Convener, Presiding.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting. Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. MINUTES

(i) Lifelong Learning Committee

The minute of meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 31 January 2022 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Minute of meeting of Children, Young People and Families Partnership

The minute of meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership of 3 December 2021 was submitted and noted.

4. AGE OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY (SCOTLAND) ACT 2019

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (22/68) detailing (1) the main new duties arising from the commencement of the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019 (ACRA) of 17 December 2019 which raised the age of criminal responsibility in Scotland from 8 to

12 years of age, (2) the new and specific investigative powers for police investigating the most serious cases of harmful behaviour, and (3) new duties for local authorities. The report also alerted elected members to the duties and responsibilities of the legislation and its implementation in Perth and Kinross.

Resolved:

- (i) The new duties arising from the commencement of the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019 and the arrangements for implementing this in Perth and Kinross be noted.
- (ii) It be noted that the impact of implementation will be regularly monitored and reviewed.

5. RESERVED PLACES IN SCHOOLS 2022/2023 AND MAXIMISING CAPACITIES UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (22/69) proposing the number of reserved places for session 2022/2023 within primary and secondary schools in accordance with Section 28A of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, as amended.

Resolved:

- (i) The number of reserved places within schools which have classes with a limited number of spaces at specific stages for session 2022/2023, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 22/69, be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be requested to revise the numbers each year to reflect historical or anticipated patterns of migration, information about known movements of families in to (or out of) an area, and any current residential development.
- (iii) It be delegated to the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) to keep under review the reserved places for all schools in light of any building work in schools and in light of residential development.
- (iv) The primary schools where class capacities have been maximised during session 2021/2022 be noted.

6. VALEDICTORY TO CAROL TAYLOR

The Convener advised that Carol Taylor, Service Manager (Resource Management) would shortly be retiring after 40 years of public service. She thanked Carol for her dedicated and professional service to the Council, the Committee and to the communities within Perth and Kinross and wished her a long and happy retirement. Carol responded in appropriate terms.

This being the last meeting of the Committee before the Local Government Elections on 5 May 2022, the Convener thanked all Elected and Non-Elected members on the Committee for their attendance and participation over the last five years. She also expressed her appreciation to the Executive Director and staff within Education and Children's Services for their support over the last 5 years. Thanks were also conveyed to staff in Committee Services for their support over the last 5 years.

Councillors McDade and Rebbeck echoed the Convener's tributes and thanked Councillor Shiers for her courteous and professional leadership as Committee Convener over the last 5 years.