

LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee held virtually on Wednesday 25 August 2021 at 9.30am.

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

In attendance: S Devlin, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); J Pepper, G Boland, S Johnston, K Robertson, B Scott and C Taylor (all Education and Children's Services); S Nicoll, S Rodger, C Flynn, L Brown, A Brown and M Pasternak (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies for absence: Councillor C Reid, Mr J Bell, Mr D McBride, 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 26 May 2021 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff

The minute of meeting of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff of 16 March 2021 was submitted and noted.

5. MINUTE OF MEETING OF PERTH AND KINROSS CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP

The minute of meeting of the Perth and Kinross Children, Young People and Families Partnership of 8 April 2021 was submitted and noted.

6. SERVICE RECOVERY UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (21/132) providing an update on (1) Service Recovery; (2) the expenditure incurred during 2020/22; and (3) the expenditure plans for the academic year 2021/22.

Resolved:

The extent of the funding received and the measures taken to deploy resources to meet the needs of children, young people and families, contained within Report 21/132, be noted.

6. SQA RESULTS 2021

There was a presentation from the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), the Head of Education and Learning and the Acting Quality Improvement Officer (Secondary) on the SQA results 2021.

7. PERTH AND KINROSS EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2021/22

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (21/133) providing (1) an update on progress against the Education Improvement Plan 2020-2021; and (2) details on the priorities set within the Education Improvement Plan 2021-2022. The new Plan covers the academic year from August 2021 to June 2022 and requires to be submitted to the Scottish Government by 30 September 2021.

Resolved:

- (i) The Education Improvement Plan 2021/2022 be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be requested to submit the Plan to the Scottish Government by 30 September 2021.

8. EXPANSION OF EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (21/134) (1) providing an update on progress to date in terms of the requirement to deliver 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) from August 2021 within Perth and Kinross; (2) outlining the phasing of 1140 hours of ELC; and (3) providing an update on progress made since May 2020 towards full implementation from February 2021.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress to date be noted.
- (i) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be requested to provide future updates on progress through the Business Management Improvement Plan (BMIP) reporting procedures.

9. FINAL UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REACH

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (21/135) providing the final update on the progress of the REACH project.

Resolved:

- (i) The success of this transformation project in its final year of implementation be noted.
- (ii) It be requested that a measure on the balance of care within REACH is incorporated in the reporting of the Education and Children's Services, Business Management and Improvement Plan (BMIP).

10. CATCHMENT FOR NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL AT BERTHA PARK AND FUTURE OF RUTHVENFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL OPTIONS APPRAISAL

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (21/136) seeking approval of the recommendation from the options appraisal (Appendix A) which has been undertaken following informal pre-consultation in respect of the catchment area for the proposed new primary school at Bertha Park, and the future of Ruthvenfield Primary School.

Resolved:

- (i) The outcome of the informal pre-consultation in respect of the catchment for the new Primary School at Bertha Park and future of Ruthvenfield Primary School be noted.
- (ii) The expenditure pressure of an additional £1,150,000 per annum in revenue costs from 2026/27, which will come forward as part of the Councils Revenue Budget setting process based on the recommendation of the options appraisal be noted.
- (iii) The recommendation of the options appraisal to proceed at this time with **Option A**, detailed in the options appraisal (Appendix A to Report 21/136); a new primary school will be built on a site adjacent to Bertha Park High School and a catchment area created for the new school. Ruthvenfield Primary School will continue to operate from its existing building with a new catchment area created and the condition of the building improved be approved.
- (iv) It be agreed that the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) commences statutory consultation in respect of the establishment of the new school and new catchment areas as detailed in Option A in the options appraisal (Appendix A to Report 21/136) and associated changes as required by the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010.

11. INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLAN 2021-2023 AND TAYSIDE REGIONAL IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE (TRIC) PROGRESS UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (21/137) (1) setting out the continued commitment to joint working through the TRIC and a single children's services plan and the next iteration of the Tayside Plan (2021-23); and (2) referencing annual progress reports for the period 2019-2021 and taking account of the progress achieved during the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Resolved:

- (i) The outlined changes to Plans and associated update reports, as well as the overview of continued progress despite disruptions of COVID-19 be noted.
- (iii) The next Tayside Plan (2021-23) and the most recent annual update reports (2019-20 and 2020-21) on the previous extended Plan be approved.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be requested to provide an annual progress report to Lifelong Learning Committee by August 2022.

12. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE PERTH AND KINROSS EDUCATIONAL TRUST COMMITTEE

Resolved:

The Committee agreed the appointment of the following members to the Perth and Kinross Educational Trust Committee:

Councillor L Barrett
Councillor I Massie
Councillor L Simpson

13. VALDICTORY

The Convener reported that Mrs Pat Giles had retired from her role as the Church of Scotland representative on the Lifelong Learning Committee having been a member since August 2011. As a former teacher Mrs Giles brought a great passion for lifelong learning and especially for improvement and raising standards across all areas of the Service. On behalf of the Committee the Convener sent her very best wishes to Mrs Giles and grateful thanks for serving as the Church of Scotland representative on the Committee.

Councillors echoed the Convener's comments.