

## **LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE**

Minute of meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee held in the Gannochy Suite, First Floor, Dewar's Centre, Glover Street, Perth on Wednesday 26 August 2015 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors B Band, G Walker, P Barrett (substituting for Councillor L Simpson); C Gillies, K Howie, G Laing, E Maclachlan, A Munro, D Pover, C Shiers, A Stewart, B Vaughan and W Wilson; Mrs H Bridge, Mrs P Duncan, Mr I Jackson and Mrs M McFarlane.

In attendance: B Atkinson, Depute Director (Education and Children's Services); S Devlin, P McAvoy, F Robertson, D Henderson, D MacLeod, G Boland, P Davison, S Farrer, A May, and K Robertson (all Education and Children's Services); A O'Brien, K Donaldson, L Potter, C Flynn and L Brown (all Chief Executive Service).

Apologies for absence: Councillors L Simpson; Mrs P Giles and Mrs A McAuley.

Councillor B Band, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led discussion on Arts. 529-534 and 538 and the Vice Convener led discussion on Arts. 535-537.

Prior to the commencement of business:

### **(i) Re-phasing of New Secondary School**

The Convener reported that the Executive Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, at its meeting on 30 July 2015, had agreed that the operational opening date for the new secondary school be rephased from August 2018 to August 2019. The information and feedback received from parents remained valid and had helped to shape the final proposals. Due to the change in date a different group of pupils will be the first students in the new school. As a consequence, Education and Children's Services will undertake direct engagement with those parents to ensure that their views are heard and are taken into account in the final proposal decision report. The Convener reported that the outcome of the consultation will be reported back to the meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee on 4 November 2015.

### **529. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

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

### **530. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillor's Code of Conduct.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL  
LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE  
26 AUGUST 2015

**531. MINUTES**

**(i) Lifelong Learning Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 27 May 2015 (Arts. 348-360) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

**(ii) School Estate Sub-Committee**

The minute of meeting of the School Estate Sub-Committee of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 5 March 2015 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix I)**

**(iii) Executive Sub-Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 4 May 2015 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix II)**

**(iv) Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff**

The minute of meeting of the Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff of 24 March 2015 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix III)**

**532. PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP**

**(i) Minute of meeting of the Economy and Lifelong Learning Group**

The minute of meeting of the Economy and Lifelong Learning Group of 6 February 2015 was submitted and noted.

**(ii) Minute of meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Group**

The minute of meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Group of 20 February 2015 was submitted and noted.

**(iii) Children, Young People and Families Partnership – Update**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Depute Director (Education and Children's Services (15/330) providing an update on the activities of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership, formerly the Children and Young People's Strategic Group.

**(iv) Economy and Lifelong Learning Group Briefing Paper**

There was submitted and noted a joint briefing note by the Executive Director (Environment) and the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (15/336) providing an overview of the discussion and actions arising from the latest meeting of the Community Planning Economy and Lifelong Learning Group.

**533. STATUTORY CONSULTATION – ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS  
SPECIALIST PROVISION AT OAKBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (15/331) (1) informing the Committee of the outcome and findings of the statutory consultation exercise undertaken in respect of Oakbank Primary School, and (2) seeking approval to implement the proposal to establish Additional Support Needs Specialist Provision at Oakbank Primary School, with effect from August 2015.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of the Consultation Report, attached as Appendix A to Report 15/331, be noted.
- (ii) The implementation of the proposal to establish Additional Support Needs Specialist Provision at Oakbank Primary School, with effect from August 2015 be approved.

**534. STATUTORY CONSULTATION – ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS  
SPECIALIST PROVISION AT ERROL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (15/332) (1) informing the Committee of the outcome and findings of the statutory consultation exercise undertaken in respect of Errol Primary School, and (2) seeking approval to implement the proposal to establish Additional Support Needs Specialist Provision at Errol Primary School, with effect from August 2016.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of the Consultation Report, attached as Appendix A to Report 15/332, be noted.
- (ii) The implementation of the proposal to establish Additional Support Needs Specialist Provision at Errol Primary School, with effect from August 2016 be approved.

**535. UPDATE REPORT ON THE EXTENSION TO THE ENTITLEMENT OF FREE  
SCHOOL MEALS FOR PRIMARY 1 TO PRIMARY 3**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (15/333) providing an update on the support put in place to meet the Council's statutory requirement across Perth and Kinross schools in relation to the entitlement, since January 2015, of all Primary 1 to Primary 3 pupils to receive free school meals and detailing the uptake to date.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to monitor and develop, as appropriate, the ongoing delivery of the extension to free school meals and a further update report be submitted to the Committee in 12 months' time.

**536. SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE IN PERTH AND KINROSS**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (15/334) describing the range of services provided by Education and Children's Services which benefit, or recognise the contribution of older residents within Perth and Kinross. The report focused on those activities of greater relevance to those in the later part of their life and which meet the needs and interests of this group, in particular building community capacity and resilience, supporting physical health and reducing social isolation and poor mental health.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The services for older people in Perth and Kinross provided by Education and Children's Services, as detailed in Report 15/334, be noted.
- (ii) The improvement areas as detailed in paragraph 2.31 of Report 15/334 be endorsed.

COUNCILLOR A STEWART LEFT THE MEETING DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM.

**537. TEACHER NUMBERS**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (15/335) setting out the Council's plans to meet the Scottish Government's requirement that local authorities maintain, as a minimum, the total teachers full-time equivalent at 2014/15 levels and maintain, as a maximum, the pupil: teacher ratio at 2014/15 levels and advising of the monitoring of the arrangements which have been established by Scottish Government. The report also described the difficulties experienced by the Council in recruiting permanent, temporary or supply teachers, and the measures which are being used or investigated to address these issues.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 15/335 be noted.
- (ii) The approaches already undertaken to address difficulties in teacher recruitment, as detailed in paragraphs 2.10 to 2.15 of Report 15/335, be endorsed.
- (iii) The investigation and development of longer-term measures, as detailed in paragraph 2.1 of Report 15/335, be endorsed.
- (iv) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to write to Scottish Government requesting the introduction of a teacher training facility in Perth.
- (v) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to give further consideration on how to attract probationer teachers to Perth and Kinross.
- (vi) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to submit a further report to the Lifelong Learning Committee in early course on other alternative action to address the difficulties being experienced by the Council in the recruitment of supply teachers.

**538. SHORT LIFE MEMBER OFFICER WORKING GROUP**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (15/346) advising of the considerations and recommendations of the Short Life Member Officer Working Group established by the Lifelong Learning Committee at its meeting on 11 March 2015 to discuss how elected and non-elected members of the Committee might have a more active role in consideration of and supporting the improvement of educational performance in Perth and Kinross Council.

**Resolved:**

- (i) It be recommended to the Council that the Scheme of Administration be amended to confirm that the Executive Sub-Committee of the Lifelong Learning Committee be given a wider remit to consider reports by both Education Scotland and Education and Children's Services on individual school performance, pre-school partner providers and community learning, including general aspects of education provision, learning and teaching, the curriculum, and care and welfare.
- (ii) It be recommended to the Council that the Scheme of Administration be amended to confirm that the Scrutiny Committee be given the wider remit to consider trends in reports by both Education Scotland and Education and Children's Services on individual school performance, pre-school partner providers and community learning, including general aspects of education provision, learning and teaching, the curriculum and care and welfare.

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