

Motherwell, 21 May 2019 at 2 pm.

A Meeting of the EDUCATION AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE

PRESENT

Councillor McNally, Convener; Councillor Quigley, Vice-Convener; Councillors J. Ashraf, Bonnar, Burgess, Burrows, Cameron, Campbell, Carragher, Castles, S. Coyle, Feeney, Fisher, Gallacher, Goldsack, Graham, C. Johnston, T. Johnston, Jones, Kelly, Kerr, Larson, Lennon, Linden, Logue, Magowan, Masterton, McKendrick, McManus, McPake, H. McVey, Reddin, Shevlin, Stephen, Stocks, Wilson and Woods; Mr. W. Cunningham and Mr. D. Hannan, Religious Representatives, and Ms. L. McBride, Teacher Representative.

ALSO PRESENT

In accordance with Standing Order 64(A), Councillor MacGregor attended as a substitute for Councillor Barclay.

CHAIR

Councillor McNally (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Executive Director (Education and Families); Head of Children, Families and Justice Social Work Services; Head of Education (Central); Head of Education (South); Head of Communities; Senior Manager (Education and Families); Forward Planning and Specification Manager; Business Finance Manager (Strategy); Enterprise Manager; Principal Music Instructor; Continuous Improvement Officer, and Democratic Services Manager.

APOLOGIES

Councillors Barclay, Rev. P.J. O'Maoil Mheana, and Mr. I. Scott.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN TERMS OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2000

1. Declarations of interest were received from Members, details of which are set out below:

Councillors Burgess, Kelly, Linden and McNally each declared an interest in paragraph 12, by virtue of their membership of the Board of North Lanarkshire Leisure Limited, and did not participate in the consideration of the matter, and

Councillors T. Johnston, McManus, McPake and H. McVey, each declared an interest in paragraph 13, by virtue of their being Partner Directors of CultureNL Limited. Councillors T. Johnston and McManus did not participate in the consideration of the matter. Councillors McPake and H. McVey had further declared that, in accordance with paragraph 5.18 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, an Exclusion permitted their participation in the consideration of the matter.

At this point, the Convener invited Jim Park, Principal Music Instructor, to present a video of the North Lanarkshire Novice and Juvenile Schools Pipe Bands at the National Tartan Day Parade in New York in April 2019. Thereafter, the Convener thanked Jim and all of the staff involved in preparing the young people for the event. Jim then left the meeting.

1140 HOURS EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE EXPANSION PROGRAMME UPDATE

2. There was submitted a report by the Head of Education (Central) providing a focus on the required provisions of staffing to support the successful delivery of the 1140 Hours Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Programme.

The Convener moved that the report be continued to the meeting of the Committee to be held in September to allow greater discussion on the report with partners, but advised that he had received a request from Councillor Magowan to ask a question.

Councillor Magowan then indicated that, in fact, she had a number of questions to which the Convener advised that a full discussion would take place at the next meeting of the Committee.

Councillor Magowan, seconded by Councillor T. Johnston, moved in terms of Standing Order 56 that Standing Orders 13(d) and 14 be suspended to permit the Committee to debate the matter in the absence of an amendment to the motion.

On a vote being taken, the motion for suspension of Standing Orders was supported by 21 votes and thus failed to obtain the necessary support of two thirds of the 40 Members present and voting.

Decided: that the report be continued to the meeting of the Committee to be held in September to allow greater discussion on the report with partners.

SCHOOLS AND CENTRES 21 PROGRAMME - PHASE 3 PROJECTS - PROPOSALS FOR NEW BUILD PRIMARY SCHOOLS

(1) NEW BUILD CHRYSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL - OUTCOME OF STATUTORY PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- C** 3. With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of the former Education Committee held on 11 September 2018 when, *inter alia*, that Committee had agreed to adopt, for consultation, a proposal by the Head of Education (South) for the construction of a new build Chryston Primary School at a different location to that of the existing Primary School, there was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Families) (1) advising on the outcome of the statutory consultation process in respect of the proposal; (2) summarising the main issues which had been raised in the various responses received as part of the consultation process; (3) recommending that the Committee approve the proposal for the new build Chryston Primary School to be constructed on a site to the South of Cliffvale Road, Chryston, and (4) intimating that should the Committee approve the proposals, the Service would continue to scrutinise the proposals beyond the statutory education consultation stage and through the statutory planning process.

Decided:

- (1) that the new build Chryston Primary School be constructed on a site to the south of Cliffvale Road, Chryston, as detailed in the report;
- (2) that, on completion of the new build school, all pupils attending the existing Chryston Primary School transfer to the new build school, and
- (3) that it be noted that the Service would continue to scrutinise the proposals beyond the statutory education consultation stage and through the statutory planning process.

(2) NEW BUILD ST KEVIN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, AND REALIGNMENT OF ST KEVIN'S NURSERY CLASS TO BARGEDDIE PRIMARY SCHOOL - OUTCOME OF STATUTORY PUBLIC CONSULTATION

4. **C** With reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of the former Education Committee held on 20 November 2018 when, *inter alia*, that Committee had agreed to adopt, for consultation, proposals by the Head of Communities for (1) the construction of a new build St. Kevin's Primary School at a different location to that of the existing Primary School, and (2) the closure of St. Kevin's Primary School Nursery Class and the establishment of Bargeddie Primary School Nursery Class, there was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Families) (a) advising of the outcome of the consultation process in respect of the proposals; (b) summarising the main issues which had been raised in the various responses received as part of the consultation process; (c) recommending that the Committee approve the proposals for (A) the construction of a new build St. Kevin's Primary School on the site of the former Drumpark School; (B) the transfer of all pupils who attended the existing St. Kevin's Primary School to the new build school on completion of the project, and (C) the closure of St. Kevin's Primary School Nursery Class and the establishment of Bargeddie Primary School Nursery Class, and (d) intimating that, should the Committee approve the proposals, the Service would continue to scrutinise the proposals beyond the statutory education consultation stage and through the statutory planning process.

Councillor McNally, seconded by Councillor Quigley, moved that the Committee approve the recommendations set out in the report.

Councillor Stephen, seconded by Councillor Magowan, moved, as an amendment, that the Committee:

"(1) approve that a new primary school for St. Kevin's Primary School be provided at the old Drumpark School site, on the condition that a safe walking routes to school assessment be undertaken and a report be brought back to Committee before further action is undertaken; and that thereafter on completion of the new build school all pupils from the existing St. Kevin's Primary School at that time will transfer to the new school at the new location; (2) approve the closure of St. Kevin's Primary School Nursery Class and establish this as Bargeddie Primary School Nursery Class, and (3) otherwise note that the proposals would continue to be closely scrutinised beyond the statutory education consultation stage."

On a vote being taken, 17 Members voted for the amendment and 23 Members voted for the motion, which was accordingly declared carried.

Decided:

- (1) that the proposals to construct a new build St. Kevin's Primary School on the site of the former Drumpark School, as detailed in the report, be approved;
- (2) that, on completion of the new build school, all pupils who attended the existing St. Kevin's Primary School would transfer to the new build school;
- (3) that St. Kevin's Primary School Nursery Class be closed and Bargeddie Primary School Nursery Class established, and
- (4) that it be noted that the Service would continue to scrutinise the proposals beyond the statutory education consultation stage and through the statutory planning process.

DIGITAL NL CLASSROOM - LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE

5. There was submitted a report by the Senior Manager (Education and Families) (1) advising that the digital future for North Lanarkshire schools and establishments was central to the vision of 'We Aspire – A Shared Ambition for North Lanarkshire', and the Plan for North Lanarkshire'; (2) outlining
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plans to create a digital learning system across all learning establishments in North Lanarkshire; (3) describing how the Digital NL Classroom arrangements would be tailored more closely to the needs of young people, and aligned more effectively to key employment sectors; (4) setting out details of the five principal objectives which would underpin future activities to expand digital learning in schools; (5) intimating that the project was a key strand of activity within the Digital NL planning which was being brought forward within the wider Transformation Programme; (6) providing details therein of (a) the scope of tests of change which were required to progress the preferred models to facilitate learning across schools through digital connectivity, and (b) the initial steps being taken to develop a Digital NL Classroom, including the implementation of a pilot initiative in 2019/20, and (7) advising that a further detailed report on the technical, operational, training and funding requirements of the project prior to a full rollout would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

During discussion on the report a Member requested that a report by the Head of Business Solutions on the proposed Digital and IT Strategy for the Council which had been considered by the Transformation and Digitalisation Committee at its meeting on 4 April 2019, be circulated to Members of the Committee for their interest.

Decided:

- (1) that the initial steps being taken by the Service in developing a Digital NL Classroom, including a pilot initiative in 2019/20, be noted;
- (2) that it be noted that a further report on the technical, operational, training and funding requirements of the project, prior to a full rollout, would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee, and
- (3) that the report by the Head of Business Solutions on the proposed Digital and IT Strategy for the Council, which had recently been considered by the Transformation and Digitisation Committee, be circulated to the Members of this Committee for their interest.

DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE DELIVERY PLAN 2019-2021

6. There was submitted a report by the Senior Manager (Education and Families) (1) presenting, in the Appendix to the report, the Developing the Young Workforce Delivery Plan 2019-2021 which set out how the Service would ensure effective implementation of the National Improvement Framework priority: "improvement in employability skills and sustained positive post-school leaver destinations for all young people"; (2) advising that the Delivery Plan was mapped against universal, additional and intensive services in line with the strategic planning framework of the Service; (3) intimating that, as employability was a key element of The Plan for North Lanarkshire, the Delivery Plan was centred around curriculum delivery for young people from early years to the senior phase, and that, as such, it provided support for workforce development, inclusive economic growth, and excellence and equity in education, and (4) indicating that the Delivery Plan was a key strand of activity within the ongoing Review of Employability.

Decided:

- (1) that the revised Developing the Young Workforce Delivery Plan 2019-2021, as set out in the Appendix to the report, be approved, and
- (2) that further reports highlighting the programmes and options that the Service would offer in future years, including the outcome of the ongoing Review of Employability, be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.

ENABLING CURRICULAR PROGRESSION TO ENSURE POSITIVE OUTCOMES FROM EDUCATION FOR ALL

7. There was submitted a report by the Senior Manager (Education and Families) (1) advising that improvement in standards in literacy and numeracy were critical to the economic success of North Lanarkshire; (2) intimating that there was evidence to show that one of the greatest barriers to improvement was low levels of achievement in these areas which could impede the progress of learners in their journeys beyond school; (3) advising how planning was being developed within the Service to ensure that all young people benefit from effective pathways in literacy and numeracy, and (4) highlighting the plans which were in place, or being developed, to ensure that practitioners were well informed about national standards in these areas in order that they could provide a more effectively designed, relevant curriculum which would be planned and delivered locally to meet the needs of young people now and in the future.

Decided:

- (1) that the approach to enabling curricular progression to ensure positive outcomes, as outlined in the report, be approved, and
- (2) that the report be otherwise noted.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE CORPORATE PARENTING STRATEGY AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2019-2022

8. There was submitted a report by the Head of Children, Families and Justice Social Work Services (1) presenting, in the Appendix to the report, the North Lanarkshire Corporate Parenting Strategy and Improvement Plan 2019-2022; (2) intimating that the Strategy and Improvement Plan had been developed in collaboration with key partners and in partnership with Today Not Tomorrow, a group of care experienced young people; (3) advising that the Strategy and Improvement Plan provided a key vehicle to drive forward the Council's aspirations for care experienced young people; (4) indicating that these aspirations were reflected in a number of key pledges which framed the Strategy and which also echoed key themes within "We Aspire – A Shared Ambition for North Lanarkshire"; (5) stating that a key element supporting the pledge to ensure care experienced children and young people were afforded the opportunity to succeed in education and work was the development of the virtual school model, and (6) providing an update on the progress of the development of that model.

Thereon, the Convener, on behalf of the Committee, expressed his thanks to the Today Not Tomorrow group for their assistance in the development of the Strategy and Improvement Plan.

During consideration of this item of business, the Committee was advised that a workshop on "Attainment" would be held for Elected Members to take place on 3 June 2019 at 2 pm.

Decided:

- (1) that the North Lanarkshire Corporate Parenting Strategy and Improvement Plan 2019-2022, as set out in the Appendix to the report, be approved;
 - (2) that further reports on progress, in line with the Programme of Work for Education and Families and the Council, be submitted to future meetings of the Committee;
 - (3) that the Service facilitate an Elected Members Briefing and Training Session on Elected Members' responsibilities as corporate parents, and on the Corporate Parenting Strategy and Improvement Plan 2019-2022, in conjunction with the Council's Talent and Organisational Development Section, and
 - (4) that the report be otherwise noted.
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REVISED SCHEME FOR CURATOR AD LITEM AND REPORTING OFFICERS PANEL

9. There was submitted a report by the Head of Children, Families and Justice Social Work Services (1) advising that the Council had a statutory duty to maintain a Panel of Curator Ad Litem and Reporting Officers; (2) intimating that the role of the Officers was to investigate the circumstances in respect of adoption or permanence order applications and to report thereon to the Court; (3) setting out, in Appendices 1 to 3 to the report, the revised Scheme for the approval and maintenance of a Curators Ad Litem Panel, and (4) indicating that the Sheriff Principal of the South Strathclyde, Dumfries and Galloway Sheriffdom, and the Airdrie and Hamilton Sheriff Court Faculty of Lawyers, were supportive of the revised Scheme.

Decided: that the revised Scheme for the approval and maintenance of a Curator Ad Litem and Reporting Officers Panel, as set out in Appendices 1 to 3 to the report, be approved.

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT - PROVISIONAL OUTTURN

10. There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Families) (1) providing a summary of the financial performance of the former Education, Youth and Communities Service for the period from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019; (2) outlining details of the provisional outturn as at 31 March 2019, with major outturn variances highlighted and explained; (3) indicating that the Service had a net revenue budget of £411.524m, and that it was anticipated that there would be underspend of £2.988m for the financial year; (4) advising that the budget incorporated £8.866m of savings which had previously been approved by the Council, and that it was anticipated that £7.554m of those savings would be delivered by the financial year-end, and (5) attaching, as Appendices 1 to 5 to the report, a number of documents supporting the information contained within the narrative of the report.

Decided: that the report be noted.

CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT - PROVISIONAL OUTTURN

11. There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Families) (1) providing details of the financial performance and progress of the Capital Programme for the former Education, Youth and Communities Service for 2018/19; (2) advising that the provisional outturn position for the Service highlighted a net underspend of £3.306m which was primarily due to the preparatory work required to support the roll-out of projects during the first year of Participatory Budgeting within the Local Development Plan; (3) intimating that the Service had implemented a number of budget adjustments and virements which had been approved by the Strategic Capital Delivery Group to ensure that available resources more closely reflected operational activity across projects, and (4) attaching, as Appendices 1 to 3 to the report, a number of documents supporting the information contained within the report.

Decided: that the report be noted.

Councillors Burgess, Kelly, Linden and McNally by virtue of their membership of the Board of North Lanarkshire Leisure Limited, had each declared an interest in the matter prior to consideration of the following item of business. Councillors Kelly, Linden and McNally did not participate in the consideration of the matter. Councillor Burgess had already left the meeting at this point.

Thereon, Councillor McNally demitted the Chair and Councillor Quigley assumed the chair for the next item of business.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE LEISURE LIMITED: 2018/19 - OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING FOR QUARTER 3, AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AS AT 27 JANUARY 2019

12. There was submitted a report by the Head of Business Solutions (1) outlining details of the performance of North Lanarkshire Leisure (NLL) Limited in meeting its performance indicator targets in Quarter 3 of 2018/19; (2) setting out (a) in Appendix 2 to the report, details of the financial performance of NLL against its approved revenue budgets for the period from 1 April 2018 to 27 January 2019, and (b) in Appendix 3 to the report, the financial performance of NLL against its approved capital budget for the period from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019; (3) providing an update on the preparations for the integration of NLL with CultureNL Limited, and (4) attaching, as Appendices 1, 4, 5 and 6 to the report, a number of documents supporting the information contained within the narrative of the report.

Decided:

- (1) that the operational performance of NLL for Quarter 3 of 2018/19 be noted;
- (2) that the financial performance of NLL against its approved 2018/19 revenue and capital budgets, as detailed in Appendices 2 and 3 to the report, be noted, and
- (3) that the report be otherwise noted.

Councillor McNally resumed the Chair

Councillors T Johnston, McManus, McPake and H. McVey, by virtue of being Partner Directors of CultureNL Limited, had each declared an interest in the matter prior to consideration of the following item of business. Councillors McPake and H. McVey had further declared that, in accordance with paragraph 5.8 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, an Exclusion permitted their participation in consideration of the matter. Councillor T Johnston did not participate in the consideration of the matter. Councillor C. Manus had left the meeting by this point.

CULTURENL LIMITED: 2018/19 - OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE MONITORING IN QUARTER 3, AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TO 1 FEBRUARY 2019

13. There was submitted a report by the Head of Business Solutions (1) summarising details of the operational performance of CultureNL (CNL) Limited for Quarter 3 of 2018/19 from 1 October to 31 December 2018 against previously approved indicators and targets; (2) outlining details of the financial performance of CNL against its approved 2018/19 revenue and capital budgets as at 1 February 2019; (3) providing an update on the current status of the activity to integrate North Lanarkshire Leisure Limited with CNL to provide a single entity for the delivery of cultural, sports and leisure activities, and (4) attaching, as Appendices to the report, a number of documents supporting the information contained within the narrative of the report.

Decided:

- (1) that the operational performance of CNL in Quarter 3 of 2018/19, from 1 October to 31 December 2018, be noted;
- (2) that the financial performance of CNL against its approved revenue and capital budgets as at 1 February 2018 be noted, and
- (3) that the current status of work to deliver cultural, sports and leisure activities through a single integrated entity, with effect from 1 June 2019, be noted.

SCOTTISH ATTAINMENT CHALLENGE

14. There was submitted a report by the Head of Education (South) (1) providing details therein of progress made in the Scottish Attainment Challenge in primary and secondary schools in North Lanarkshire for school session 2018/19, including details of the progress made to support Care Experienced Children and Young People; (2) setting out (a) in Appendix 1 to the report, the Mid-Year Progress Report for 2018/19 which had been submitted to the Scottish Government at the end of March 2019, and (b) in Appendix 2 to the report, the Council's proposed Scottish Attainment Challenge Plan for 2019/20, and (3) advising that a full report on outcomes from the Scottish Attainment Challenge would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

Decided:

- (1) that it be noted that a full report on outcomes from the Scottish Attainment Challenge would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee, and
- (2) that the report be otherwise noted.

CONTRACT AWARDED BELOW COMMITTEE APPROVAL THRESHOLD FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2019

15. There was submitted a report by the Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions providing, in the Appendix to the report, details of contracts, with a value in excess of £50,000 but less than £500,000, for Services which had been awarded by him in accordance with the Council's General Contract Standing Orders, during the period from 1 January to 31 March 2019.

Decided: that the report be noted.