

Motherwell, 25 February 2020 at 2 pm.

A Meeting of the **EDUCATION AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE**

PRESENT

Councillor McNally, Convener; Councillor Quigley, Vice-Convener; Councillors J. Ashraf, Barclay, Brannan-McVey, Burgess, Burrows, Campbell, Carragher, Castles, Douglas, Fisher, Fotheringham, Gallacher, Goldie, Graham, Hogg, C. Johnston, T. Johnston, Jones, Kelly, Kerr, Larson, Lennon, Linden, Logue, Magowan, McManus, McPake, McVey, Mooney, Shevlin and Stocks, Mr. W. Cunningham, and Mr. D. Hannan, Religious Representatives, and Mr. I. Scott, Teacher Representative.

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 (North); Head of Education (South); Business Finance Manager (Strategy); Education Manager, and Democratic Services Manager.

APOLOGIES

Councillors Goldsack, Masterton, Wilson and Woods; Rev. P. J. O'Maoil Mheana and Ms L. McBride.

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 Gallacher, Kelly, Linden and Logue each declared an interest in paragraph 7, by virtue of their membership of the Health and Social Care Integrated Joint Board. Councillors Gallacher, Kelly and Linden participated in the consideration of the matter, and Councillor Logue had left the meeting prior to consideration of the matter.

Councillor Brannan-McVey declared an interest in paragraph 8, by virtue of having been a participant in the courses referred to in the report, and participated in the consideration of the matter.

DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE/EMPLOYABILITY PATHWAYS PROGRAMME

2. The Education Manager presented a slide show providing information on winter leaver participants since leaving school.

There was submitted a report by the Head of Education (Central) (1) providing an update on the pilot Employability Pathways Programme which offered intensive support around curriculum planning, design and delivery for targeted young people who were statutory "Winter Leavers", and (2) recommending that work on the Programme be continued.

Thereon, the Convener commented on the excellent partnership working and thanked all of the staff involved.

Decided: that the proposal to continue work on the Employability Pathways Programme beyond the duration of the pilot, as outlined in the report, be approved.

1140 HOURS EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE EXPANSION PROGRAMME

3. There was submitted a report by the Head of Education (North) (1) providing an update on the progress of the 1140 Hours Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Programme; (2) advising that the Programme had moved from the planning stage to the implementation stage, and (3) outlining details on the current position with regard to infrastructure and the capital financial position, workforce, free school meals, and stakeholder engagement.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress in respect of the implementation of the 1140 Hours Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Programme be noted;
- (2) that the changes to the way in which healthy snacks were provided for children be noted, and
- (3) that the progress of the Early Learning and Childcare procurement framework be noted.

OUTCOME OF THE STATUTORY PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE RELOCATION OF WILLOWBANK SCHOOL

4. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 17 September 2019 when, *inter alia*, the Committee had agreed to adopt, for consultation, a proposal that pupils currently enrolled at Willowbank School be relocated to a more fit for purpose education facility within St. Margaret's High School Campus, Airdrie, with effect from April 2020, there was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Families) (1) advising on the outcome of the statutory public consultation in respect of the proposal; (2) summarising the main issues which have been raised in the various responses received as part of the consultation process, and (3) recommending that the Committee approve the proposal.

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Decided:

- (1) that the outcome of the statutory public consultation process, as outlined in the report, be noted, and
- (2) that the pupils currently enrolled at Willowbank School be relocated to a more fit for purpose education facility within St. Margaret's High School Campus, Airdrie, with effect from April 2020.

PROPOSALS TO ALTER THE EXISTING NON DENOMINATIONAL CATCHMENT AREAS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE RAVENSCRAIG AREA, AND TO CONSTRUCT A NON DENOMINATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL IN THAT AREA

5. There was submitted a report by the Head of Education (North) (1) advising that, due to the significant levels of house building which were underway on the Ravenscraig site, it was considered that the surrounding primary schools in the local catchment area at that location would be unable to accommodate the anticipated number of children; (2) intimating that, in light of these circumstances, there was a need to redefine the existing non denominational catchment areas of Muir Street, Glencairn, Knowetop, Berryhill and Kier Hardie Primary Schools in the Motherwell area, and to create a new catchment area within the Ravenscraig site; (3) indicating that the new catchment area would be defined by the rezoning of some streets from the catchment areas of the existing primary schools and adding them to the new proposed Ravenscraig catchment area; (4) informing (a) that the

housebuilding programme in the area provided an opportunity for the construction of a new non denominational primary school on a campus which already accommodated the Ravenscraig Sports Facility and New College Lanarkshire, and (b) that funding for this proposal had previously been agreed as part of Phase 3 of the Schools and Centres 21 Programme; (5) attaching, as an Appendix to the report, the draft consultation document in respect of proposals (a) to alter the non denominational catchment areas within the Ravenscraig area, and (b) to construct a new denominational primary school within the catchment area, and (6) recommending that the Committee (a) adopt, for consultation, the proposals contained in the draft consultation document; (b) approve the issue of the consultation document, and (c) agree that all statutory consultees and interested parties be invited to make representations on the proposals no later than 26 April 2020.

Decided:

- (1) that the draft consultation document, appended as an Appendix to the report, be approved, and the following proposals be adopted for consultation (a) that the existing non denominational catchment areas within the Ravenscraig area be altered, and (b) that a new non denominational primary school be constructed within the Ravenscraig area;
- (2) that the consultation document be made available to all statutory consultees and interested parties;
- (3) that all statutory consultees and interested parties be invited to respond to the consultation by 26 April 2020, and
- (4) that a report summarising the responses to the consultation be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

PROPOSALS TO ALTER THE EXISTING DENOMINATIONAL CATCHMENT AREAS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE RAVENSCRAIG AREA, AND TO CONSTRUCT A DENOMINATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL IN THAT AREA

6. There was submitted a report by the Head of Education (North) (1) advising that, due to the significant levels of house building which were underway on the Ravenscraig site, it was considered that the surrounding primary schools in the local catchment area at that location would be unable to accommodate the anticipated number of children; (2) intimating that, in light of these circumstances, there was a need to redefine the existing denominational catchment areas of Our Lady's and St. Francis, Cathedral and St. Thomas Primary Schools, and to create a new catchment area within the Ravenscraig site; (3) indicating that the new catchment areas would be defined by the rezoning of some streets from the existing primary schools catchment areas and adding them to the new proposed Ravenscraig catchment area; (4) informing (a) that the housebuilding programme in the area provided an opportunity for the construction of a new denominational primary school on a campus which already accommodated the Ravenscraig Sports Facility and New College Lanarkshire, and (b) that funding for this proposal had previously been agreed as part of Phase 3 of the Schools and Centres 21 Programme; (5) attaching, as an Appendix to the report, the draft consultation document in respect of proposals (a) to alter the denominational catchment areas within the Ravenscraig area, and (b) to construct a new denominational primary school within the catchment area, and (6) recommending that the Committee (a) adopt, for consultation, the proposals contained in the draft consultation document; (b) approve the issue of the consultation document, and (c) agree that all statutory consultees and interested parties be invited to make representations on the proposals no later than 26 April 2020.

Decided:

- (1) that the draft consultation document, appended as an Appendix to the report, be approved, and the following proposals be adopted for consultation (a) that the existing denominational catchment areas within the Ravenscraig area be altered, and (b) that a new denominational primary school be constructed within the Ravenscraig area;

- (2) that the consultation document be made available to all statutory consultees and interested parties;
- (3) that all statutory consultees and interested parties be invited to respond to the consultation by 26 April 2020, and
- (4) that a report summarising the responses to the consultation be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

PROMOTING, PROTECTING AND SUPPORTING BREASTFEEDING

7. There was submitted a report by the Head of Education (North) regarding proposals to explore a number of options with a view to supporting increased levels of breastfeeding in the North Lanarkshire area.

Decided: that the options, as outlined in paragraph 2.2 of the report, to support increased levels of breastfeeding in the North Lanarkshire area, the provision of appropriate facilities within educational establishments, and the incorporation of breastfeeding awareness into the education curriculum, be explored.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER 2018/19

8. There was submitted a report by the Head of Children, Families and Justice Social Work Services/Chief Social Work Officer presenting, in the Appendix to the report, the Annual Report containing information on the delivery of statutory functions, performance and improvement activity across the range of social work services for 2018/19.

Decided:

- (1) that the annual report of the Chief Social Work Officer 2018/19, as appended as an Appendix to the report, be approved, and
- (2) that the report be remitted to a future meeting of the Integration Joint Board, Performance, Finance and Audit Committee.

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 APRIL 2019 TO 3 JANUARY 2020

9. There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Families) (1) providing a summary of the financial performance of the Education and Families Service for the period from 1 April 2019 to 3 January 2020; (2) outlining details of the projected outturn as at 31 March 2020, with major outturn variances highlighted and explained; (3) indicating (a) that the Service had a net revenue budget of £414.858m; (b) that, following the realignment of activity between Council services coupled with additional grant funding, the Service budget was currently £403.828m, and (c) that it was anticipated that there would be an underspend of £ 0.127m for the financial year; (4) intimating that the budget also incorporated £6.093m of savings which had previously been approved by the Council, and it was anticipated that £4.860m of those savings would be achieved by the financial year end, and (5) attaching, as Appendices 1 to 5 of the report, a number of documents supporting the information contained within the narrative of the report.

Decided: that the report be noted.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATHCLYDE EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM NEXT GENERATION STRATEGY

10. There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Families) providing an update on progress and actions taken by the Service in response to the roll out of the Strathclyde Educational Establishments Management Information System Next Generation strategy which included the delivery of updated education management information systems to partner Councils.

Decided: that the report be noted.

WEST PARTNERSHIP IMPROVEMENT PLAN

11. There was submitted a report by the Head of Education (South) providing information relating to the West Partnership Improvement Plan 2019/20, and to the recent evaluation of the Improvement Plan for 2018/19.

Decided: that the report be noted.

CONTRACTS BELOW COMMITTEE APPROVAL THRESHOLD FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2019

12. There was submitted a report by the Head of Asset and Procurement Solutions providing, in the Appendix to the report, details of a contract 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 October to 31 December 2019.

Decided: that the report be noted.