

# STANDARDS AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Standards and Scrutiny Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 8 March 2006 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors Barrett, Coburn, Ellis, Mair, Jack, Lennie and Lloyd, Mr C Mackie and Mr F Shewan

In Attendance: B Malone (Chief Executive) (until Art. 180); M Cochlan (Chief Executive's Service) (until Art. 180); D Roberts (Executive Director – Housing & Community Care), A Turnbull (Housing & Community Care) (until Art. 180); A Nairn, M Kay, McLucklie, D Henderson and M McLeish (all Corporate Services); B Renton (until Art. 180), P Fagan and L Mason (both until Art. 178) (all Education & Children's Services); J Walker (Planning & Transportation) (from Art. 178 to Art. 181).

Also Attending: Councillor Hunter

Apologies: Mr I Jackson

Councillor Lloyd, Presiding.

## 175. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

## 176. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minute of Meeting of the Standards and Scrutiny Committee of 25 January 2006 (Arts. 75-79) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

## 177. MINUTE OF AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Audit Sub-Committee of 10 November 2005 was submitted and noted (**Appendix I**).

## 178. HMle, CARE COMMISSION AND EDUCATION AUTHORITY REPORTS ON STANDARDS AND QUALITY IN SCHOOLS, PRE-SCHOOL CENTRES AND OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/171) advising the Committee of the key findings and progress made with the main points for action as set out in the three summary reports (Appendices 1-3 to Report 06/171) from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMle), the Care Commission and the Education Authority, relating to Royal School of Dunkeld Primary School; Tulloch Primary School Nursery Class; and Abacus Day Nursery, Auchterarder.

### **Resolved:**

#### **(a) Royal School of Dunkeld Primary School**

- (i) The findings of the HMle Inspection Report on the standards and quality in the Royal School of Dunkeld Primary School be noted.
- (ii) The Lifelong Learning Committee be asked to note the Standards and Scrutiny Committee's disappointment at the findings and the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be asked to report back on progress on the Action Plan.

#### **(b) Tulloch Primary School Nursery Class, Perth**

The findings of the Care Commission/HMle Integrated Inspection Report on the standards and quality in Tulloch Primary School Nursery Class, Perth be noted.

#### **(c) Abacus Day Nursery, Auchterarder**

- (i) The findings of the Care Commission/HMle Integrated Inspection Report on the standards and quality in Abacus Day Nursery, Auchterarder be noted.
- (ii) Members of the Committee be advised of the age range of children attending the nursery.

#### **179. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – PROGRESS REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Corporate Services) (06/172) providing a review of Freedom of Information within the Council after one year of operation.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The Council's performance in relation to Freedom of Information and the impact of requests on staffing resources be noted.
- (ii) A report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee on the progress being made with the FOI Case Management System.

#### **180. CARE COMMISSION INSPECTION OF RESIDENTIAL CHILDCARE SERVICES**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (06/173) detailing the Care Commission's inspection of the residential units for looked after and accommodated young people.

**Resolved:**

The findings of the recent Care Commission inspection of residential units for looked after and accommodated young people and that the recommendations contained within the report were to be integrated into practice be noted.

#### **181. QUARTERLY MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Business Change and Improvement (06/174) drawing together a range of performance information in a single document to show how the Council is performing against key targets and projects.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 06/174 be approved and noted.
- (ii) Further information be circulated to members of the Committee on targets and performance outcomes for building control.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be asked to investigate the potential benefits of a teacher support service as identified by the Convener.
- (iv) Information be circulated to members of the Committee on the cost of relocating the Tayside Contracts Depot from Glenearn Road to Inveralmond, Perth.

COUNCILLOR JACK, MR C MACKIE AND MR B SHEWAN LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

COUNCILLOR ELLIS AS VICE-CONVENER TOOK THE CHAIR AT THIS POINT.

#### **182. GYPSY/TRAVELLERS FOLLOW UP THEMATIC STUDY 2005**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (06/175) informing the Committee of the follow up study of Gypsy/Travellers conducted by Communities Scotland in September 2005 and the findings reported in November 2005.

**Resolved:**

The contents of Report 06/175 and the Action Plan attached thereto be noted.

#### **183. CARE COMMISSION INSPECTION – HOMELESS HOUSING SUPPORT SERVICE**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (06/176) outlining the findings of the Care Commission's inspection of the homeless housing support service in October 2005 and the proposals in an action plan for complying with the recommendations.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The findings detailed in Report 06/176 be noted.
- (ii) The action plan attached to Report 06/176 for complying with the recommendations identified be approved.
- (iii) The proposed action to publicise Report 06/176 to comply with this requirement of the Care Commission be approved.

#### **184. CARE COMMISSION INSPECTION – OLDER PEOPLE’S HOUSING SUPPORT SERVICE**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (06/177) outlining the findings of the Care Commission’s inspection of the older people’s housing support in November 2005 and the proposals in an action plan for complying with the recommendations.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The findings detailed in Report 06/177 be noted.
- (ii) The action plan attached to Report 06/177 for complying with the recommendations identified be approved.
- (iii) The proposed action to publicise Report 06/177 to comply with this requirement of the Care Commission be approved.