

## LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 28 October 2009 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors E Grant, B Band, K Baird, G Hayton, E Maclachlan, A MacLellan, D Melloy, S Miller, L Simpson, A Stewart, B Vaughan, W Wilson and A Wylie; Mrs H Bridge, Mr S Clark, Mr I Jackson, Mrs A McAuley and Monsignor K McCaffrey.

In attendance: Councillor B Ellis (up to and including Art. 542); John Fyffe, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); Maria Walker, Depute Director (Education and Children's Services); B Atkinson, J Gilchrist, J Harding, D Henderson, W McCullough, H Smout, A Turnbull, C Webb, W Wood and S Younie (all Education and Children's Services); J Coburn (Corporate Services); A Wilson and J Adamson (both Chief Executive's Service).

Apology for Absence: Mr D Stewart.

Councillor E Grant, Convener, Presiding.

Prior to the commencement of the business the Convener congratulated Mr Ian Jackson on his re-appointment to the Teachers Council for Scotland. The Convener also referred to the appointment of Mr Chris Webb, Head of Education Services, to HM Inspectorate of Education. During his time with the Council he had led in preparations for the requirements of the Curriculum for Excellence and in moving Education and Children's Services forward to be strategically placed to meet the challenges of the future. The Convener and members thanked Mr Webb and wished him well in his new venture.

### 539. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

### 540. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

#### (i) Lifelong Learning Committee

The Minute of Meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee of 19 August 2009 (Arts. 403-411) was submitted, approved as a correct record, and authorised for signature.

#### (ii) Executive Sub-Committee

The Minute of Meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of 9 September 2009 was submitted and noted, subject to amending the note of those attending from St Ninian's Primary School (**Appendix I**).

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IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 19, THE COMMITTEE AGREED TO VARY THE ORDER OF BUSINESS FROM THAT SHOWN ON THE AGENDA.

**541. MEMBERSHIP OF PERTH AND KINROSS EDUCATION TRUST COMMITTEE**

It was reported that Councillor E Maclachlan had resigned as a member of the Perth and Kinross Education Trust, and the Committee agreed to appoint Councillor A Stewart in her place.

**542. SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION IN PERTH AND KINROSS – A FRAMEWORK FOR DELIVERY**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (09/483) informing the committee of progress in developing a new strategic framework for the delivery of Sport and Active Recreation Services in Perth and Kinross, and presenting the draft framework for information. Stuart Younie, Service Manager, Sport and Active Recreation, gave a short presentation on the report, advising the new strategy was intended to set out the commitment of the Council alongside its key partners to delivering national policy objectives and meeting the local priorities for Perth and Kinross, and showing where and how 'added value' would be achieved.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The establishment of a new strategic framework for Sport and Active Recreation, as recommended in the Best Value Review of Sport and Active Recreation, be supported.
- (ii) The draft framework, as detailed in Report 09/483, be approved, subject to subsequent final approval of the strategic document and key recommendations.
- (iii) Officers be instructed to finalise the draft framework and identify key recommendations for approval by the Lifelong Learning Committee in January 2010.

COUNCILLOR B ELLIS LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

**543. CULTURAL PLANNING**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (09/484) on the recently concluded first phase of the cultural planning programme which had focussed on Perth City, (1) providing an update on the activities and outcomes of the exercise to date; (2) outlining the programme's next steps; and (3) proposing to extend community engagement work in cultural planning across Perth and Kinross with the outcome of delivering a new cultural strategy for this area to be launched as part of the Perth 800 celebrations.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The themes emerging from the cultural planning programme in Perth City be noted.

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- (ii) The early successes in developing better partnership working in delivering cultural projects be noted.
- (iii) The proposal to extend community engagement across Perth and Kinross be approved.
- (iv) A briefing and engagement event with elected members be held before the end of December 2009, to share some of the outputs of the programme to date.

**544. COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT (CLD) STRATEGY 2009-2011**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (09/485) on the Community Learning and Development Strategy 2009 – 2011, a key document within the Community Planning structure in Perth and Kinross, advising that the activities delivered by the Council and its partners in relation to this strategy enabled individuals and communities to access the support and learning opportunities they needed to bring about change in their own lives and in the life of their community.,

**Resolved:**

- (i) The content of the revised Community Learning and Development Strategy 2009 – 2011, as outlined in Appendix 1 to Report 09/485, be approved.
- (ii) Officers be instructed to take the strategy forward with partners at a strategic and local level with communities across Perth and Kinross.

**545. PERTH AND KINROSS PARENTING STRATEGY**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (09/486) updating the Committee on progress implementing the Perth and Kinross Parenting Strategy launched in November 2008, and developed to enhance and improve co-ordination of access to parenting and family support services across the Perth and Kinross area so ensuring equality of access to services for all families in need.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 09/486 be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to present a further update of the progress on the implementation of the Strategy in December 2010.
- (iii) It be noted that Report 09/486 would be submitted to the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership.

THE FOLLOWING TWO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WERE CONSIDERED TOGETHER.

**546. ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS (ASN) REVIEW; AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR LEARNING (ASL) ACT – EVALUATION 2005/2008**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (09/487), (1) outlining the background, extent and key findings of the review commissioned in May 2008 and completed in August 2009 of the ASN Section of Education and Children's Services which played a vital part in ensuring that the needs of children and young people, potentially vulnerable children and young people were effectively met; and (2) warning of serious implications for senior managers and schools arising from recent legislation.

There was also submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (09/488) advising, (1) of the evaluation of the local implementation of the Education (Scotland) Additional Support for Learning Act 2004, which came into effect in November 2005; and (2) that the evaluation focused on four sections; information and training, ASL procedures, resolving disputes and Additional Support Meetings.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The excellent practice in the area of Additional Support Needs (ASN) be noted and the very good work of staff across the Service be recognised.
- (ii) The contents of the ASN review be noted.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to take action to implement the recommended actions contained in the review and to report on progress to a future meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee.
- (iv) It be noted that Report 09/487 would be submitted to the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership.
- (v) The evaluation findings contained in Report 09/488 with regard to the effectiveness of the local implementation of the Additional Support for Learning Act 2004 be noted.
- (vi) The recommendations for action arising from the ASL evaluation, as contained in Section 2.6 of Report 09/488, relating to information and training, ASL procedures, Additional Support Meetings and other matters, be approved.

**547. ADOPTION AND CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) ACT 2007 ETC AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2009**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (09/489), (1) regarding new legislation affecting children's services and seeking approval of the new Adoption Allowance Scheme and revised Constitution for the Fostering and Permanence Panel, which were required to comply with the new legislation; and (2) advising that work was ongoing to examine all implications arising from the Act and adjust existing protocols and practice to conform with the new legislation.

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**Resolved:**

- (i) The main changes arising from the new legislation and its impact on policy and practice be noted.
- (ii) The revised Constitution for the Fostering and Permanence Panel, as set out in Appendix 1 to Report 09/489, be approved.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to take forward implications arising from the legislation and develop revised protocols to comply with this new legislation.
- (iv) The Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) be instructed to complete the protocol for Adoption Allowances for Committee approval in due course.

**548. PERTH AND KINROSS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2008/2009 AND BUSINESS PLAN 2009/2010**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (09/490), (1) presenting the draft Annual Report for 2008/2009 and Business Plan for 2009/2010 for the Perth and Kinross Child Protection Committee; (2) demonstrating in the Annual Report the key achievements and challenges faced over the last business year and confirming the commitment to child protection individually and collectively across Perth and Kinross; and (3) setting out the activities for the business year ahead and demonstrating the Services' commitment to self-evaluation, quality assurance and continuous improvement, all as detailed in the Business Plan.

**Resolved:**

The contents of the Annual Report for 2008/2009 and Business Plan for 2009/2010, as contained in Appendix 1 to Report 09/490, be accepted.

**549. EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES SIX MONTHLY BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN (BMIP) PERFORMANCE EXCEPTION REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (09/491) reviewing the performance of Education and Children's Services against its BMIP for the period 1 April 2009 to 30 September 2009.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Education and Children's Services' Six Monthly Performance Report for 1 April 2009 to 30 September 2009, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 09/491, be accepted, subject to the amendment of the number of teachers trained under Child Exploitation and Online Protection (page 261 of the Agenda) from 700 to 300.
- (ii) It be noted that Report 09/491 would be submitted to the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee on 2 December 2009.

**550. ATTAINMENT IN PERTH AND KINROSS SCHOOLS 2009**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (09/492) presenting an analysis of children's attainment in primary schools and at S2 in secondary schools and the performance of candidates presented by Perth and Kinross schools in the 2009 diets of Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA) examinations.

**Motion (Councillors G Hayton and E Grant)**

- (i) The contents of Report 09/492 be noted.**
- (ii) The areas for improvement emerging from Report 09/492 be noted.**
- (iii) Report 09/492 be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee for their interest.**

**Amendment (Councillor B Vaughan and A Stewart)**

That the three recommendations contained in Report 09/492 be approved and a fourth recommendation be added to note the failure of the Administration to improve attainment of pupils in Perth and Kinross within a satisfactory timescale.

Amendment – 5 votes

Motion – 11 votes

**Resolved:**

In accordance with the Motion.

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