

MORAY COUNCIL

Minute of Meeting of the Education, Communities and Organisational Development

Wednesday, 03 February 2021

remote locations via video conference,

PRESENT

Councillor George Alexander, Councillor James Allan, Councillor Frank Brown, Councillor Lorna Creswell, Councillor Tim Eagle, Councillor Claire Feaver, Councillor Aaron McLean, Councillor Shona Morrison, Councillor Laura Powell, Councillor Derek Ross, Councillor Amy Taylor, Councillor Sonya Warren

APOLOGIES

Councillor Paula Coy, Councillor Walter Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance at the above meeting were the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development), Chief Officer, Health and Social Care, Head of Governance, Strategy and Performance, Head of Education, Head of Education Resources, Acting Head of Children and Families and Criminal Justice Social Work, Head of HR, ICT and Organisational Development, Acting Head of Housing and Property, Corporate Parenting and Commissioning Manager, Senior Project Manager (ELC), Quality Assurance and Locality Manager and Tracey Sutherland, Committee Services Officer.

Also present for items 1 to 14a were Angela Stuart, Primary Teacher Representative and Anne Currie, Religious Representative.

Councillor Leadbitter was also present in an ex-officio role.

1. Chair of Meeting

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Aaron McLean with the exception of Item 20, Forres Golf Club/Course, in which Cllr McLean declared an interest. Item 20 was chaired by Councillor Sonya Warren.

2. Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests *

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillor Aaron McLean declared an interest in Item 20. There were no other declarations from Group Leaders or Spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how Members will vote on any item on the agenda or any declarations of Member's interests in respect of any item on the agenda.

3. Resolution

The meeting resolved in terms of Section 50A (4) AND (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items of business appearing at the relevant paragraphs of this minute as specified below, so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate paragraphs of Part 1 Schedule 7a of the Act.

Para Number of the Minute	Para Number of Schedule 7a
22	9 Information on proposed terms and/or expenditure to be incurred by the Authority
23	1 & 5 Information relating to staffing matters Information relating to the adoption, care, fostering or education of any particular child or relating to the supervision of residence of any particular child in accordance with a supervision requirement
25	9 Information on proposed terms and/or expenditure to be incurred by the Authority

4. Minute of the Meeting of Appointments Committee of 18 October 2019

The minute of the Children and Young People's Appointments Committee on 18 October 2019 was submitted and approved.

5. Minute of the Meeting of Appointments Committee of 20 November 2019

The minute of the Children and Young People's Appointments Committee on 20 November 2019 was submitted and approved.

6. Minute of Meeting of 18 and 25 November 2020

The minute of the Education, Communities and Organisational Development Committee on 18 and 25 November 2020 was submitted and approved.

7. Written Questions **

The Committee noted that no written questions has been submitted.

8. Governance Strategy and Performance Report 1 April to 31 December 2020

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of Moray Council dated 7 August 2019, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational) Development informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period from 1 April to 31 December 2020.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note performance of the Service Plan, Operation Performance Indicators and complaint to the end of December 2020.

9. HR OD and ICT Performance Report 1 April to 31 December 2020

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of Moray Council dated 7 August 2019, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational) Development informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period from 1 April to 31 December 2020.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note:

- i) performance of the Service Plans, Operational Performance Indicators and Complaints to the end of December 2020; and
- ii) note that Action HR20-22Serv.5.4 has been removed from Section 5 - Service Level Outcomes, of the Human Resources and Organisational Development Services Service Plan since it duplicated Action HR20-22-Serv.5.1.

10. Education Performance Report 1 April to 31 December 2020

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of Moray Council dated 7 August 2019, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational) Development informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period from 1 April to 31 December 2020.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note performance of the Strategic Plan, Service Plan, Recovery Outcomes and Complaints over the period April to December 2020.

11. Education Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to 31 December 2020

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) informed the Committee of the budget position for Education as at 31 December 2020.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the budget position at 31 December 2020.

12. Education Resources and Communities and Education Capital Budget Monitoring Report

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) informed the Committee of projects and proposed expenditure for Capital Budgets within Education Resources and Communities and Education for 2020/21.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

13. Education Resources Performance Report 1 April to 31 December 2020

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of Moray Council dated 7 August 2019, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational) Development informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period from 1 April to 31 December 2020.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note performance of the Strategic Plan, Service Plan, Recovery Outcomes and Complaints over the period April to December 2020.

14. Education Resources and Communities Revenue Budget Monitoring to 31 December 2020

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) informed the Committee of the budget position for Education Resources and Communities as at 31 December 2020.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the budget position at 31 December 2020.

15. Wellbeing Support for Children Young People and Families

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) and Chief Officer, Health and Social Care proposed a pilot for a streamlined locality planning model across children's services that aims to improve the deployment of multi-agency services to meet the mental health and wellbeing needs of children, young people and families in Moray.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i) approve the proposed streamlined locality planning model as a pilot for 18 months;
- ii) the costs of the pilot being met from the mental health and wellbeing funding received from the Scottish Government for 202/21 and the National Community Mental Health and Wellbeing funding'
- iii) the establishment of the additional posts as set out in the report and recommends to the Council the additional G12 project management post; and
- iv) the pilot evaluation report being presented to a future Committee meeting.

Mrs Stuart, Primary Teacher Representative and Mrs Currie, Religious Representative left the meeting following the consideration of this item.

16. Children and Families and Criminal Justice Social Work Performance Report 1 April - 31 December 2020

Under reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of the meeting of Moray Council dated 7 August 2019, a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational) Development informed the Committee of the performance of the service for the period from 1 April to 31 December 2020.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i) note performance of the Service Plan, Operational Performance Indicators and Complaints to the end of December 2020;
- ii) welcome good performance; and
- iii) note the actions being taken to improve performance where required.

17. Children and Families Social Work Revenue Budget Monitoring

A report by the Chief Officer, Health and Social Care informed the Committee of the budget position for Children and Families Social Work Services as at 31 December 2020.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the budget position at 31 December 2020.

18. Children and Families and Criminal Justice Service Plans 2020-23

A report by the Chief Officer, Health and Social Care invited the Committee to consider the Children and Families and Justice Services Social Work Service Plan for 2020-23.

Councillor Feaver raised concerns regarding approving the Plan when there are performance figures not complete, these concerns were shared by Councillor Brown.

In response the Acting Head of Children and Families and Justice Social Work explained that the Service Plan identifies areas of improvement and how the Service will know if it has made a difference. She further added that the Performance Report at Item 15 on the agenda provides the background data and it was unfortunate that this report was presented after the performance report.

The Chief Officer further added that he could understand Councillor Feaver's concerns and confirmed that the report could be brought back with the targets populated to a future meeting for approval.

Councillor Feaver, seconded by Councillor Brown moved that the report be deferred to the next meeting. As there was no one otherwise minded, the Committee agreed to defer the decision on this item to the next Committee to allow targets to be populated.

19. Continuing Care Policy Revision

Under reference to paragraph 6 of the minute of the meeting of Education, Communities and Organisational Development dated 18 November 2020, a report by the Chief Officer, Health and Social Care informed the Committee of recommended changes to the continuing care policy and processes.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i) approve the procedures (Appendix A) relating to continuing care processes;

- ii) approves the proposed method of financial payments; and
- iii) an annual report is presented to Committee that confirms the budget being spent on continuing care, and which highlights whether the costs of continuing care are in excess of budget allocation.

20. Transitions to Adulthood Policy

A report by the Chief Officer, Health and Social Care sought approval from the Committee for the Transitions to Adulthood Policy.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed:

- i) to note and approve the policy (Appendix A) for Transitions to Adulthood; and
- ii) that in 12 months a report is presented to Committee which details the outcome of monitoring and review of the policy and which may make recommendation for any further indicated change to the policy.

21. Question Time ***

Councillor Warren raised concerns about a case she had become involved in regarding a care experienced young person and was concerned that the Council was failing as a corporate parent to some of their young people.

In response, the Corporate Parenting and Commissioning Manager asked Councillor Warren to email her details of the case and she would provide a detailed response following the Committee.

Councillor Alexander sought clarification on some of the issues which had been raised regarding those attending the new Covid vaccine clinic in Elgin and reports that some of those attending were having to wait outside in the cold for a considerable period of time before being admitted to attend their appointment.

In response, the Chief Officer, Health and Social Care confirmed that he was aware of the issues and following the Committee was having a meeting with the Lead Officer to discuss the problems further and would report back to Councillors following the meeting.

Councillor Alexander further asked why the injections were not being carried out at doctor surgeries.

In response, the Chief Officer, Health and Social Care confirmed that discussions had taken place with GP surgeries and it was felt that they needed to be able to continue with the primary care functions however, if staff wished to assist in the vaccination centres outwith their working hours, this was an option open to them.

22. Forres Golf Course/Club

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) asked the Committee to consider options for the future management and operation of Forres Golf Course and Golf Club.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- i) note the proposed management options for Forres Golf Club and Course; and
- ii) approve Option C to end the current arrangements and lease the whole property to Forres Golf Club Ltd.

23. Residential Care for Looked After Children

A report by the Chief Officer, Health and Social Care sought approval from Committee to reduce the service delivered by Action for Children, providers of residential care in Moray for looked after children and also to advise the Committee of early planning for service design that will support children to remain with their families; service redesign that will offer the support and infrastructure referred to in the Promise, which places children's rights and their participation at the centre of service delivery.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:

- i) to reduce the residential service delivered by Action for Children from 3 to 2 residential houses for looked after children; and
- ii) that a new contract is formed with Action for Children for 2 residential houses for an initial period of 2 years. That period of time will inform commissioning and procurement activity.

24. Suspension of Standing Orders

The Chair sought the agreement of the Committee to Suspend Standing Order 74 to allow the meeting to continue beyond 12:45pm. This was unanimously agreed.

25. Early Learning and Childcare - Proposed Lease and Rental Arrangements

Under reference to paragraph 39 of the minute of the meeting of Education, Communities and Organisational Development dated 18 and 25 November 2020 a report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) sought agreement from Committee to agree equitable lease arrangements and rental charges for private and third sector early learning and childcare (ELC) providers operating from Council premises.

Councillor Eagle moved to defer the discussion of this report to the next meeting of the Committee to allow it to be discussed alongside the report on the hourly rate paid to nurseries as he felt it would allow for a more informed decision.

In response the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) advised that it was for the Committee to decide whether or not to defer the decision however she further added that the Committee would have knowledge of this report when making the decision regarding the hourly rate at the next meeting of the Committee.

Following further consideration, Councillor Eagle, seconded by Councillor Brown moved to defer the report to allow consideration to be given alongside the report on hourly rates paid to nurseries at the next meeting of the Committee.

As there was no one otherwise minded, the Committee agreed to defer the report until the next meeting of the Committee.