

MORAY COUNCIL

Minute of Special Meeting of the Moray Council

Friday, 09 October 2020

remote locations via video-conference,

PRESENT

Councillor George Alexander, Councillor James Allan, Councillor David Bremner, Councillor Frank Brown, Councillor Theresa Coull, Councillor John Cowe, Councillor Gordon Cowie, Councillor Paula Coy, Councillor Lorna Creswell, Councillor John Divers, Councillor Tim Eagle, Councillor Claire Feaver, Councillor Graham Leadbitter, Councillor Marc Macrae, Councillor Aaron McLean, Councillor Maria McLean, Councillor Shona Morrison, Councillor Louise Nicol, Councillor Laura Powell, Councillor Derek Ross, Councillor Amy Taylor, Councillor Sonya Warren

APOLOGIES

Councillor Ryan Edwards, Councillor Donald Gatt, Councillor Ray McLean, Councillor Walter Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance at the above meeting were the Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development), Head of Governance, Strategy and Performance, Head of Education Resources and Communities, Head of Education and Acting Head of Housing and Property.

1. Chair

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Shona Morrison.

The Chair advised the Council that following the sederunt there would be a short adjournment as a number of Councillors and Officers were having problems connecting to the meeting and this would allow time for the issues to be rectified.

2. Resumption of the Meeting

PRESENT:

Councillors Morrison, Leadbitter, Alexander, Allan, Bremner, Brown, Coull, Cowe, Cowie, Coy, Creswell, Divers Eagle, Feaver, Macrae, A McLean, M McLean, Nicol, Powell, Ross, Taylor and Warren.

APOLOGIES:

Councillors Edwards, Gatt, R McLean and Wilson.

3. Declaration of Group Decisions and Members Interests *

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct, there were no 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.

4. Learning Estate Strategy and Investment Programme Report

A report by the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) updated the Council on work to re-activate engagement on a new approach to developing a long term strategy for the learning estate, as approved by Children and Young People's Committee on 4 March 2020 and sought approval for a response to the Scottish Government on how the Council is developing the learning strategy, including identification of a priority project for investment as part of Phase 2 of the Scottish Government Learning Estate Investment Programme.

Following lengthy discussion the Council agreed:

i) to note the re-activation of engagement on a new approach to developing a long term strategy for the Learning Estate, as approved by the Children and Young People's Committee on 4 March 2020, the outcome of which will be reported to the Council for consideration before the end of this year;

ii) to submit a response to the Scottish Government Learning Directorate on the Council's progress on developing the Learning Estate Strategy with a view to securing potential opportunities for funding to support the Council's investment in the improvement of the Learning Estate and instructs the Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) to submit the response on the basis set out in this report;

iii) that the above response includes the priority project identified as set out in the report;

iv) the provision of £243,000 budget for the establishment of a Service Manager post supported by a Project Officer, Community Support Officer, Communications Officer and operational budget; and

v) that the section of the ten year capital plan relating to replacement and refurbishment of schools is developed in detail in tandem with the development of the Learning Estate Strategy and the priority project identified in this report.