GOVERNANCE DECISION SHEET

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2024

Please let the Committee Officer know as soon as possible if you do not agree with any action proposed in this decision sheet. These are decisions of the Committee and there is an expectation that action will be taken. If for any reason it is apparent that you will not be able to act on these instructions in full or in part or that there will be a delay, please let the Committee Officer know as it may be necessary to advise the Committee or seek further instructions from the Committee.

	Item Title	Committee Decision	Cluster Required to take action	Officer to Action
3.1	Declarations of Interest and Transparency Statement	These will be recorded in full in the minute.	Governance	S Dunsmuir
5.1	Minute of Meeting of 21 November 2023	The Committee resolved: to approve the minute as a correct record.	Governance	S Dunsmuir
6.1	Committee Business Planner	The Committee resolved: (i) in relation to item 9 (Autism Strategy and Action Plan), to note that guidance from the Scottish Government was still awaited but that the Chief Officer — Integrated Children's and Family Services would issue a service update in the interim; (ii) to note that there was no requirement for a report this cycle in respect of Education and Children's Services reforms (item 16) and therefore the item was removed from the planner; and (iii) to otherwise note the planner.	Children's and Family Services	G Simpson S Dunsmuir

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9.1	Performance Management/National Improvement Framework Progress Report - Children's and Family Services - COM/24/052	(i) in relation to school attendance data, to note that the Interim Director of Children's and Family Services and the Interim Chief Officer – Education would ascertain whether communication could be developed for parents and carers to highlight the potential impacts on, for example, attainment and life expectancy, where school attendance was below 95%; further to the recent behaviour in schools survey undertaken by the EIS, to note the significant, ongoing work to support all school communities so that they could offer a safe, respectful and peaceful environment for all; (iii) to instruct the Interim Chief Officer – Education to prepare a report back to the next Committee on managing behaviour in city learning settings; and (iv) to note that officers would include within this report (a) detail of work undertaken in relation to improving the processes for reporting incidents in schools and making it easier for school staff to report and (b) information on the outputs from the Magpie Meet held in January 2024 and the sub group of Head Teachers meeting to discuss allocation of resources on staff training etc in respect of anti-bullying.	Family Services / Education	S Milne S Dunsmuir for planner S Milne

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9.2	Children's Services Board Annual Report April 2023 - March 2024 - CFS/24/046	The Committee resolved: (i) to note that the Aberdeen City Parent Forum was organising a survey of parents in relation to school meals, and that once the results were available, officers could convene a working group including parents and catering staff to discuss further, noting the suggestions about potentially sampling school meals as part of this review and taking on board previous work undertaken by the Scottish Youth Parliament in this area; (ii) in relation to the extension of free		E Sheppard / S Milne E Sheppard / S Milne
		school meals to Primary 6 and 7 pupils, to note that officers were still awaiting detail of the timescales around this and could update the Committee once this was available; (iii) in relation to the work to be undertaken on progressing more family centric approaches to support families facing complex challenges living in Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 1, to note that officers would engage with local ward Members during that process;		E Sheppard / S Milne
		(iv) to note that the Interim Director would ascertain whether it would be possible to provide information in relation to the capacities of specialist provision from pre-mainstreaming compared to now, noting that data may not be available due to the time since mainstreaming was introduced;		E Sheppard

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	(vi) (vii) (viii)	to note the progress made in delivering the Aberdeen City Integrated Children's Services Strategic Plan from April 2023 to date; to note the changes evident in data sets released over the reporting period; to approve the Aberdeen City Integrated Children's Services Strategic Plan Annual Report 2023/24; to delegate authority to the Interim Director - Children's and Family	Children's and Family Services	E Sheppard
		Services to submit the Annual Report to the Anti-Poverty and Inequality Committee for further review and thereafter to the Community Planning Management Board for ratification;		E Robertson – for information
	(ix)	to delegate authority to the Interim Director - Children's and Family Services to submit the Annual Report to the Scottish Government;	Children's and Family Services	E Sheppard
	(x)	to instruct the Interim Director - Children's and Family Services to report back to the Education and	Children's and Family Services	E Sheppard
		Children's Services Committee within two committee cycles on proposed approaches to progressing: • more family centric approaches to support families facing complex challenges living in Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation(SIMD) 1; and • a whole system approach to addressing obesity.	Governance	S Dunsmuir for planner

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9.3	Inspection Reporting - CFS/24/050	The Committee resolved: (i) to note the content of this report; (ii) to instruct the Interim Chief Officer – Education to continue to support Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) settings and schools to implement continuous improvement in keeping with the Quality Framework agreed at Committee in July 2023; (iii) to note that there had been a number of ELC settings where inspections had returned a variation of gradings; (iv) to reaffirm Aberdeen City Council's commitment to providing the highest quality Early Learning and Childcare; and acknowledge with encouragement that there was an overall upward trend of improvement in inspections; (v) to acknowledge that there had been significant collaboration with officers and Head Teachers to work on improvement through the Collaborative Improvement model; and note that this provided a central monitoring role to allow wider team support for individual schools to provide quality teaching and learning; and (vi) therefore, to instruct the Interim Chief Officer - Education to continue to report to committee on the improvement journey; and continue to work closely with Head Teachers to ensure ELC settings were receiving	Education	S Milne

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		adequate support to deliver high quality ELC provision for all children in Aberdeen City.		
9.4	Collaborative Improvement Report - CFS/24/048	The Committee resolved: (i) to note the Collaborative Improvement Review report; and (ii) to instruct the Interim Chief Officer – Education to keep Committee sighted on national developments around Collaborative Improvement models which impact the remit of the Education and Children's Services Committee.	Education	S Milne
10.1	Management of RAAC in Schools - RES/24/053	The Committee resolved: (i) to note the contents of the report; (ii) to instruct the Chief Officer — Corporate Landlord to carry out a detailed options appraisal for the long term future of Northfield Academy, with a view to providing a solution to address the presence of RAAC within the building, and to include an update on progress within the next annual update to the School Estate Plan in September 2024; and (iii) to agree that there will be active engagement with the local community and young people.	Corporate Landlord Corporate Landlord	S Booth / A Jones S Booth / A Jones
10.2	Northfield Primaries - RES/24/054	The Committee resolved: (i) to note that officers would circulate information on the outline process for the work set out in the report to Members outwith the meeting; (ii) to note the content of the report;	Corporate Landlord	A Jones

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		(iii) to instruct the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord to carry out further work to identify potential future options for improving and consolidating primary school provision in the Northfield ASG, alongside the planned review of the long term future of Northfield Academy, and to include an update on progress within the annual update to the School Estate Plan in September 2024; and (iv) to agree that there would be active engagement with the local community and young people to provide reassurance that primary and secondary changes will be considered together.	Corporate Landlord	S Booth / A Jones S Booth / A Jones
10.3	School Estate Plan Timeline - RES/24/055	The Committee resolved: to instruct the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord to implement the School Estate Plan in accordance with the revised timeline presented at Appendix 1 of the report.	Corporate Landlord	A Jones
10.4	Autumn in the City Programme 2023 - CFS/24/047	The Committee resolved: (i) to note the high level evaluation of the Autumn in the City programme; (ii) to agree to utilise the £27,914.83 which remained in the In the City 23/24 budget to design and deliver a more limited programme for the Easter holiday period; and (iii) to instruct the Interim Chief Officer – Education to report to Committee on the impact of the Easter (2024) programme following delivery.	Education Governance	S Skene S Dunsmuir for planner

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10.5	School Holiday Pattern 2025 - 2030 - CFS/24/044	The Committee resolved: (i) to approve the proposed school holiday pattern to 2030 outlined in Appendix A of the report; and (ii) to instruct the Interim Chief Officer – Education to publish details of the holiday pattern.	Education	C Johnstone
10.6	National Delivery Framework for School Age Childcare and Local Delivery Plans - CFS/24/014	The Committee resolved: (i) to note that officers would consider feedback given at the meeting by Members in respect of gaps in provision in particular areas of the city, for example, Sheddocksley and Lower Deeside when undertaking future reviews; (ii) to note the Scottish Government Delivery Framework for School Age Childcare 2023; (iii) to note the update on local delivery plans for School Age Childcare in Aberdeen; (iv) to welcome the additional funding from a successful bid to Scottish Government Inspiring School Age Childcare Spaces Programme; and (v) to instruct the Interim Chief Officer - Education to work with key stakeholders to review and refresh the Aberdeen City Council Out of School Care Policy, in line with national policy, and report back to Committee in September 2024.	Education Education Governance	L Beaton / M Duguid S Dunsmuir for planner

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11.1	Social work service provision for Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children and Young People (UASYP) - CFS/24/045	The Committee resolved: (i) to note the current plans to provide appropriate accommodation, support and intervention to meet the needs of this vulnerable group of children and young people; and (ii) to instruct the Chief Social Work Officer to provide an annual update through the Children's Services Plan Annual Report.	Integrated Children's and Family Services Governance	G Simpson / A McAlpine S Dunsmuir for planner
11.2	Bairns Hoose - CFS/24/049	The Committee resolved: (i) to note Aberdeen City's successful Bairns Hoose Pathfinder application; (ii) to note the award of £281,875 for the year 2023/24 to support Aberdeen City's delivery of a Bairns Hoose and to note a further round of funding will be made available for 2024/25 with a bid being required to be submitted by 21 February 2024;		
		 (iii) to request that the Chief Social Work Officer provides Members with an update on progress to deliver a Bairns Hoose within the Annual Child Protection Committee Report and within the annual update to Aberdeen City's Children's Services Plan; (iv) to thank officers for the immense amount of work undertaken so far to ensure a successful Pathfinder application for Aberdeen City; and note the ongoing work to deliver this transformative service for vulnerable 	Integrated Children's and Family Services Governance	G Simpson S Dunsmuir for planner

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		children and young people across Aberdeen City and further; (v) to understand that a Bairns Hoose was a transformative way of working with vulnerable children, minimising trauma and increasing wrap around support for children and young people within the justice system; (vi) to reaffirm the Council's long-term commitment to a Bairns Hoose in Aberdeen as part of the Promise; and (vii) to instruct the Chief Officer — Integrated Children's and Family Services to organise a return visit of the Committee to the Bairns Hoose, once construction of the facility is finished.		G Simpson
11.3	Secure Care Pathway Review - CFS/24/051	The Committee resolved: (i) to note the contents of the report; and (ii) to note that the outcome of the Council's self-evaluation would contribute to the annual review of the statutory Children's Services Plan with required actions being built into the plan.	Integrated Children's and Family Services Governance	G Simpson S Dunsmuir for planner

If you require any further information about this decision sheet, please contact Steph Dunsmuir, sdunsmuir@aberdeencity.gov.uk