

## GOVERNANCE

### DECISION SHEET

#### EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 2 JULY 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	<u>Declarations of Interest and Transparency Statements</u>	These will be noted in full in the minute.	Governance	S Dunsmuir
5.1	<u>Minute of Meeting of 30 April 2024</u>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> to approve the minute as a correct record.		
6.1	<u>Committee Business Planner</u>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> (i) to note that officers would remove reference to 'Interim' from the posts mentioned in the planner items; (ii) to note that officers would issue communication to parents in denominational schools to advise of the process to be undertaken, including reassurance that no decisions had been taken at this point in the process; (iii) to agree to remove items 11 (Education and Children's Services Reforms) and 14 (Sunnybank School Relocation of Additional Services –	Governance  Corporate Landlord  Governance	S Dunsmuir  A Jones  S Dunsmuir

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		Options Appraisal) for the reasons outlined in the planner; and (iv) to otherwise note the planner.		
7.1	<p><b><u>Notice of Motion - Councillor Kate Blake</u></b></p> <p>That the Education and Children’s Services Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agrees that strong parental engagement is important to educational outcomes and notes that this is enshrined in law via Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006, which established a “duty of the Scottish ministers to promote the involvement of the parents of pupils in attendance at public schools”</li> <li>2. Notes that the National Parent Forum of Scotland is a statutory consultee mentioned by name in the Education (Scotland) Act 2016 – Gaelic provisions</li> <li>3. Notes with concern the decision of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills to defund the National Parent Forum of Scotland on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024.</li> <li>4. Notes that the independent organisational review of the National Parent Forum of Scotland published in February paid for by the Scottish Government gave the following recommendation:  <i>“The findings of this review provide strong evidence of the on-going impact of NPFS. However, without adequate funding, the current situation is not sustainable, and the organisation is at risk of spiralling into a downward trajectory without the</i></li> </ol>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to note that the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning was due to meet with Connect in the next two weeks and would share an update with the Aberdeen City Parent Forum after the meeting;</li> <li>(ii) to agree that strong parental engagement is important to educational outcomes and note that this is enshrined in law via Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006, which established a “duty of the Scottish ministers to promote the involvement of the parents of pupils in attendance at public schools”;</li> <li>(iii) to agree that Aberdeen City Council supports representation of parental voice from a wide range of perspectives and experiences and recognises the benefits of improving engagement with traditionally underrepresented groups, such as parents and carers from minority ethnic backgrounds and those who have children with additional support needs;</li> <li>(iv) to acknowledge that the establishment of the new parent assembly, which will have around 100 members, will provide fresh opportunity for addressing historic challenges around</li> </ol>	Education and Lifelong Learning	S Milne

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	<p><i>financial support it requires”</i></p> <p>The review did not recommend defunding the organisation.</p> <p>5. Notes that the Cabinet Secretary has outlined in her response to the Scottish Parliament on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024 that the National Parent Panel run by the charity Connects will be up and running by the new academic year in August</p> <p>6. Instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to write to the Cabinet Secretary to ask for the implementation plan including timeline and volunteer mobilisation plan, so that there is no loss of the parental voice of Aberdeen at a national policy level and to also ask for clarification around any potential impact on Gaelic Medium Education.</p> <p>7. Instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to write to parent councils and parents across the city to reassure them of continuity of support from a national organisation.</p>	<p>engagement in the city and across Scotland;</p> <p>(v) to agree that the membership should aim to reflect diversity in Scotland, including parents, carers and families with an interest in Gaelic and Gaelic Medium Education (GME); those with children with additional support needs (ASN), neurodiversity, and those from minority ethnic backgrounds;</p> <p>(vi) to instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to write to the Cabinet Secretary seeking assurance that members of NPFS will be involved in the new parent assembly; and that parental voice and diversity in the city will be enhanced through the new model; and</p> <p>(vii) to appreciate the contribution that parental engagement makes in Aberdeen and instructs the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to continue to engage with parents and carers in the city to promote and develop parental engagement.</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p>	<p>S Milne</p> <p>S Milne</p>
9.1	<p><b><u>Performance Management Framework/Accessibility and Behaviour Progress Report - Families and Communities - CORS/24/194</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to thank Mr Paul for his presentation on Mayo;</p> <p>(ii) to note that officers would circulate information to Members outwith the meeting on the numbers included in Quintile 2, and would also reflect this in the National Improvement Framework report to be presented to</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning / Data Insights</p>	<p>S Milne / A Paterson</p>

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		Committee in September; and (iii) to otherwise note the report.		
9.2	<b><u>Inspection Reporting - F&amp;C/24/192</u></b>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> (i) to instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to continue to support Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) settings and schools to implement continuous improvement in keeping with agreed Quality Improvement Frameworks; and (ii) to note the report.	Education and Lifelong Learning	S Milne
9.3	<b><u>Approaches to Quality Improvement - F&amp;C/24/195</u></b>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> (i) to note the content of this report; (ii) to instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to immediately implement the approach detailed in the Aberdeen City Council Early Learning and Childcare Quality Improvement Framework; (iii) to instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to implement the approach detailed in the Aberdeen City Council Quality Improvement Framework across all schools from August 2024; and (iv) to instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to review the impact of arrangements on evaluations of core Quality Indicators over school session 2024/5, amending approaches as required, and report back to Committee with any proposed changes to arrangements in advance of the 2025/6 school session.	Education and Lifelong Learning  Education and Lifelong Learning  Education and Lifelong Learning  Governance	S Milne  S Milne  S Milne  S Dunsmuir for planner



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		categories; (ii) to note the high level evaluation of the Easter in the City programme; (iii) to instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to design and deliver a programme for the autumn (2024) and spring (2025) holiday periods using the budget allocated by Council; and (iv) to instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to report to Committee on the impact of the summer, autumn (2024) and spring (2025) programmes following delivery.	Education and Lifelong Learning  Education and Lifelong Learning  Governance	S Skene  S Skene  S Dunsmuir for planner
10.3	<b><u>Free School Meals Annual Update - F&amp;C/24/180</u></b>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> (i) to welcome the progress made in improving uptake in Free School Meals in the city and actions to continue increasing uptake and thanks officers, schools and families for the continued effort; (ii) to note the progress in Free School Meal provision and actions to continue increasing uptake; (iii) to instruct the Chief Officer Corporate Landlord to progress the implementation of the school meals pre-order app for all Secondary Schools in the city; (iv) to instruct the Chief Officer Corporate Landlord to report on the impact of the pre-order app in the next annual update report on Free School Meals; (v) to note that officers' service update, in November 2023, stated that '...no	Corporate Landlord  Corporate Landlord  Governance	A Campbell  A Campbell  S Dunsmuir for planner

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		<p>further work on designing and planning solutions for increasing the capacity of school kitchens and dining spaces will be undertaken, until details of any further capital grant and revenue funding from Scottish Government to support the rollout are known and until the required implementation date for the provision of free school meals to Primary 6 and 7 pupils is confirmed'; and</p> <p>(d) to agree that it is imperative that this Committee presses the Scottish Government to deliver on making primary school meals universally free and therefore instructs the Executive Director Families and Communities, in consultation with the Convener and Vice Convener of the Education and Children's Services Committee, to write to the Cabinet Secretary for Education to seek an urgent update and confirmation from the Scottish Government on when it plans to implement universal free school meals, up to Primary 7, in full.</p>	Families and Communities	E Sheppard
10.4	<b><u>Early Learning and Childcare Delivery Plan 2024-26 - F&amp;C/24/181</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to note the report on the progress and outcomes of the Early Learning and Childcare Delivery Plan 2022-24;</p> <p>(ii) to welcome the opportunity to work in partnership with Scottish Childminding Association to deliver Programme for Scotland's Childminding Future</p>		

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		<p>(PSCF), a National Partnership Programme on Childminder Retention &amp; Recruitment, in Aberdeen;</p> <p>(iii) to approve the Early Learning and Childcare Delivery Plan 2024-26 and instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to deliver the Early Learning and Childcare Delivery Plan in line with statutory guidance and Best Start: Strategic Early Learning and School Age Childcare Plan for Scotland 2022-26;</p> <p>(iv) to instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to work in partnership with the Health Determinants Research Collaborative (HDRC) to align the planned Early Learning and Childcare longitudinal study research with the next statutory consultation with Parents and Carers in June 2025; and</p> <p>(v) to instruct the Chief Officer Education and Lifelong Learning to report on the progress and outcomes of the Early Learning and Childcare Delivery Plan 2024-26, and to prepare an updated Delivery Plan for 2026-28, in June 2026, in line with our statutory duties under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>L Beaton</p> <p>L Beaton</p> <p>L Beaton</p> <p>S Dunsmuir for planner</p>
10.5	<b><u>Healthy Weight - CFS/24/188</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to note that if Members were interested in attending the event on 30 August, they could contact the Executive Director Families and</p>		



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(ii) Communities to express their interest; to note the work undertaken to learn from published research and local data;</li> <li>(iii) to endorse the proposed whole systems approach;</li> <li>(iv) to instruct the Executive Director Families and Communities to update Members on the output of the event noted in paragraph 3.17 through a Service Update, noting that officers could prepare a report if this was felt necessary depending on the outcomes from the event; and</li> <li>(v) to instruct the Executive Director Families and Communities to report progress within one calendar year.</li> </ul>	<p>Families and Communities</p> <p>Families and Communities</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>E Sheppard</p> <p>E Sheppard</p> <p>S Dunsmuir for planner</p>
11.1	<b><u>Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodivergence Bill - CFS/24/193</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to note that the Chief Officer Children's Social Work and Family Support would liaise with Health and Social Care Partnership colleagues as to (a) whether the Autism Plan would require to be updated in the interim; and (b) the uptake in respect of the annual health checks offered for people with learning disabilities; and would provide this information to Members outwith the meeting via service update;</li> <li>(ii) to note the report and the intentions of the Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodivergence (LDAN) Bill; and</li> </ul>	Children's Social Work and Family Support	G Simpson

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		(iii) to instruct the Chief Officer Children's Social Work & Family Support/Chief Social Work Officer to provide an update on progress of the Bill as appropriate.	Children's Social Work and Family Support  Governance	G Simpson  S Dunsmuir for planner
11.2	<u>Edge of Care Pilots - CFS/24/197</u>	<p><b>The Committee resolved:</b></p> <p>(i) to note that the Chief Officer Children's Social Work and Family Support would keep Members appraised of the funding allocation within future reports;</p> <p>(ii) to note the progress and learning captured by the Edge of Care Pilots;</p> <p>(iii) to note that multi-agency intensive support continues to be provided to young people who are on the edges of school and care, and that opportunities to expand the 'pilot' model will be considered within the Family Support Model; and</p> <p>(iv) to instruct the Executive Director Families and Communities to incorporate the learning from the Edge of Care Pilots within the developing Family Support Model.</p>	Children's Social Work and Family Support        Children's Social Work and Family Support / Education and Lifelong Learning	G Simpson       G Simpson / S Milne
11.3	<u>Family Support Model - F&amp;C/24/191</u>	<p><b>The Committee resolved:</b></p> <p>(i) to note the work undertaken to date to learn from published research and local data;</p> <p>(ii) to approve the high level Development Plan available in Appendix A; and</p> <p>(iii) to delegate authority to the Executive Director Families and Communities to</p>	Families and Communities	E Sheppard

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		design and recruit a change management team to drive, monitor and report on the development of the Family Support Model.		

**If you require any further information about this decision sheet, please contact Steph Dunsmuir, [sdunsmuir@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:sdunsmuir@aberdeencity.gov.uk)**