

GOVERNANCE

DECISION SHEET

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 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>	The Committee resolved: These will be recorded in full in the minute.	Governance	S Dunsmuir
4.1	<u>Deputations</u>	The Committee resolved: These will be recorded in full in the minute.	Governance	S Dunsmuir
5.1	<u>Minute of Meeting of 2 July 2024 - for approval</u>	The Committee resolved: to approve the minute as a correct record.	Governance	S Dunsmuir
4	<u>Committee Business Planner</u>	The Committee resolved: (i) to note that the Clerk would liaise with the Executive Director and her team to assign dates or explanations to the reports in the planner where the date for reporting back was to be confirmed; (ii) to note that the Chief Officer – Education and Lifelong Learning would present a report to the November meeting on the Parental	Governance / Families and Communities Education and Lifelong Learning	S Dunsmuir / E Sheppard S Milne

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		<p>Involvement and Engagement Plan and that officers would ensure this was added to the business planner;</p> <p>(iii) to note the reasons outlined in the planner for the delay to items 4 (National Children with Disabilities Thematic Inspection) and 5 (Children’s Social Work Workforce Planning); and</p> <p>(iv) to otherwise note the business planner.</p>		
5	<p><u>Notice of Motion - Councillor McLeod</u></p> <p>That Committee:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. notes the number of privately educated children at independent schools in Aberdeen. The latest estimate is approximately 2530; 2. notes the number of state secondary schools in Aberdeen that are at full capacity is 2; 3. notes the number of state secondary schools in Aberdeen at 90 – 100% capacity is 4; 4. notes the policy of the UK Labour government to apply VAT on private school fees; 5. notes the report from the Institute of Fiscal Studies that, as a result of this, between 3% and 7% of privately educated children may be forced to leave and look for places in state schools. If this figure is correct then that equates to between 75 and 175 pupils looking 	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to agree the majority of parents/guardians in Aberdeen chose to ensure their children were educated by the local authority; (ii) to agree that Aberdeen City Council was extremely competent in delivering education throughout the city, thanks to the dedicated staff who were employed within our schools; (iii) to agree that the UK Labour Government’s decision to apply VAT on private schools should bring an estimated £150 million in Barnett consequentials to the Scottish Government which could result in employing 1800 new teachers across Scotland; (iv) to note the position of the First Minister John Swinney who said that the SNP supported the policy to introduce VAT on private independent schools; and (v) to agree to take no action in respect to 	N/A	N/A

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		<p>meeting;</p> <p>(iii) to note that a service update in respect of the work around Healthy Weight was expected to be circulated in October;</p> <p>(iv) to congratulate staff and pupils at Riverbank School on winning the Scots Bairns Book of the Year for <i>Summer e Magic Scurry</i>, and to note that officers would consider how best to publicise where the book was available to purchase;</p> <p>(v) in relation to the Youth Climate Group, to note that officers would provide an update to Members outwith the meeting on the work of the group, particularly in relation to any work undertaken on whole school environmental efficiencies;</p> <p>(vi) to note the content of the service Self-Evaluation and Plan contained in Appendix A;</p> <p>(vii) to instruct the Chief Officer – Education and Lifelong Learning to implement the proposed Aberdeen City National Improvement Framework Plan 24/25; and</p> <p>(viii) to instruct the Chief Officer – Education and Lifelong Learning to maintain a review of the 24/25 Plan in light of any impacting national legislative or policy provisions through the education reform agendas and advise Committee of any required changes in due course.</p>	<p>Families and Communities / Governance</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p>	<p>E Sheppard / S Dunsmuir</p> <p>S Milne</p> <p>S Milne / M Reid</p> <p>S Milne</p> <p>S Milne</p>

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7	<u>Performance Management Framework Report - CORS/24/274</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:</u> to note the report.	Data Insights	A Paterson
8	<u>Inspection Reporting - F&C/24/267</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:</u> (i) to note that officers would pass on the Committee's congratulations to Seaton School Nursery in Aberdeen for being announced as the top performing nursery in Scotland for 2024; (ii) to note the content of this report; and (iii) 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 approved at Committee in July 2024.	Education and Lifelong Learning Education and Lifelong Learning	S Milne S Milne
9	<u>Music Service Update - F&C/24/212</u>	<u>The Committee resolved:</u> (i) to note that officers would include data about tuition at primary school level broken down by school in the next report; (ii) to instruct the Chief Officer – Education and Lifelong Learning to continue to extend opportunities for music making through partnership working between the Music Service and Aberdeen City Music School and others; and (iii) to instruct the Chief Officer – Education and Lifelong Learning to	Education and Lifelong Learning Education and Lifelong Learning Education and Lifelong Learning /	B Edwards B Edwards B Edwards / S Dunsmuir (for

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		report back on progress in one calendar year.	Governance	planner)
10	<u>School Age Childcare Policy - F&C/24/235</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to note the work undertaken with key stakeholders to review and refresh the Aberdeen City Council Out of School Care Policy, in line with national policy and updated guidance, and;</p> <p>(ii) to approve the School Age Childcare Policy and the Agreement (Appendices 1 and 2), which had been reviewed for approval by the Council's Policy Group and Risk Board.</p>	Education and Lifelong Learning	L Beaton / M Duguid
11	<u>Community Learning and Development Plan - F&C/24/269</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) in relation to "Empowering our Gypsy Traveller community", to note that officers would contact the Adult Learning team to ascertain what work was being done with those travellers who did not use the Gypsy Traveller site and (a) share this with Members outwith the meeting and (b) include detail on this in future reports;</p> <p>(ii) to note the content of the Community Learning and Development (CLD) review and the recommended outcomes to be realised;</p> <p>(iii) to note the progress made towards delivery of the Community Learning and Development Plan 2021-2024;</p> <p>(iv) to approve the proposed interim Plan; and</p>	Education and Lifelong Learning	M Stewart

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		<p>within schools for supporting pupils with additional support needs, and in consultation with the Chief Officer – Education and Lifelong Learning, to report back to the Committee with recommendations for improving such spaces where this was required;</p> <p>(v) to agree that the aim and priority of the asset review in Northfield was to invest in the area and enhance community and learning provision locally and there would be no detrimental impact on services;</p> <p>(vi) to note that the Community Campus Model, approved by Committee in November 2021 was a community-based education model that ensured improved learning environments and opportunities for our children and young people;</p> <p>(vii) to note that the Family Support Model, approved by Committee in July 2024, aimed to empower residents, build trust and consistent relationships through support that was flexible and responsive to local needs;</p> <p>(viii) to agree that the Northfield Community asset review would encompass the principles of both the Community Campus Model and the Family Support Model to deliver services for our children and families in line with our commitment to drive targeted improvement in our SIMD1 quintiles;</p>		

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		<p>(ix) to agree that new purpose-built learning environments in Northfield would represent an appropriate opportunity to meet the inclusion needs of primary and secondary pupils;</p> <p>(x) to agree the intended scope of the proposed asset review in Northfield to include all public assets, and instruct the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord to proceed with the review and to commence engagement with all partners working in the wider Northfield area;</p> <p>(xi) to instruct the Chief Officer – Education and Lifelong Learning to work closely with the Northfield community throughout this process to ensure community empowerment and resilience was prioritised in all stages of planning; and</p> <p>(xii) to instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning to work with the Northfield Advisory Group to invite and support their guidance in shaping improvements and outcomes</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning / Corporate Landlord</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning / Corporate Landlord</p>	<p>S Milne / S Booth / A Jones</p> <p>S Milne / S Booth / A Jones</p>
13	<u>Denominational Primary Schools Feasibility Study - F&C/24/264</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to request that officers circulate information to Members outwith the meeting on the list of projects in the Condition & Suitability programme which had led to improvements being made at St Joseph’s School and Holy Family School since 2016;</p>	Corporate Landlord	A Jones

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (ii) to note the content of the report; (iii) to regret the lack of a proper and open consultation with all the people of Aberdeen on the possibility of establishing a Catholic Secondary School in Aberdeen; (iv) to welcome the pause in recommending any changes to the Roman Catholic school estate; (v) to agree to recommend to Full Council that it establish a working group consisting of representatives from Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council, representatives from the Catholic Church, parent representatives and staff representatives. This group would work in a spirit of cooperation and partnership to explore what is an appropriate level of provision of Catholic schools in the city and produce a costed plan as to how this level of provision might be realised; (vi) to instruct the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord to continue to monitor pupil numbers at all three primary schools and report back on this and the findings of the above working group to the Education and Children’s Services Committee in September 2025; (vii) to decide to take the opportunity provided by this pause to instruct the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord to engage with all the people of 		

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		<p>Aberdeen on the possibility of establishing a Catholic secondary school in the city; and</p> <p>(viii) to agree that the pause proposed in the paper would in no way delay the urgently needed work to provide for the refurbishment of St. Peter's School.</p> <p><u>Following the vote, the matter was referred to Full Council for a decision under Standing Order 34.1.</u></p>		
14	<u>Children's Social Work Statistics - F&C/24/270</u>	<p><u>The Committee resolved:</u></p> <p>(i) to note that care experienced children and those children who need protection in Aberdeen City, were, predominantly, receiving care and protection in line with national averages;</p> <p>(ii) to note that where performance differed from national averages, there were improvement plans in place; and</p> <p>(iii) to instruct the Chief Social Work Officer to update the Education and Children's Services Committee on the 2023/24 Statistical Report following its publication in Spring 2025.</p>	Children's Social Work and Family Support / 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