

## GOVERNANCE

### DECISION SHEET

#### EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 24 JUNE 2025

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
2.1	<u>Determination of Exempt Business</u>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> To consider items 11.1 and 11.2 with the press and public excluded	N/A	N/A
3.1	<u>Declarations of Interest and Transparency Statements</u>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> These will be recorded in the minute	Governance	S Dunsmuir
5.1	<u>Minute of Meeting of 29 April 2025</u>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> (i) to note that reasons given for the consideration of urgent items of business would be recorded in future minutes; and (ii) to approve the minute as a correct record.	Governance	S Dunsmuir
6.1	<u>Committee Business Planner</u>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> (i) in relation to items 22 (Northfield Asset Review) and 25 (Northfield Academy, Northfield Primary Schools and Wider Asset Review - approval of Outline Business Case and consultation proposal) to note that these had now been combined on the		

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		<p>planner into one item;</p> <p>(ii) to agree to remove item 28 (School Age Childcare Policy) from the planner; and</p> <p>(iii) to otherwise note the business planner.</p>	Governance	S Dunsmuir R McKean (for info)
9.1	<p><b>Performance Management Framework/March 2025 Insight Release Summary Report - <u>CORS/25/161</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to note that the Chief Officer – Children’s Social Work and Family Support had advised that officers would review the learning from the recent Scottish Government campaign to increase the number of foster carers and provide an update in Autumn to Committee on any work being undertaken locally as a result; and</p> <p>(ii) to otherwise note the report.</p>	<p>Children’s Social Work and Family Support</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>G Simpson</p> <p>S Dunsmuir for planner</p>
9.2	<p><b><u>Approaches to Quality Improvement - F&amp;C/25/151</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to note the content of this report;</p> <p>(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;</p> <p>(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 2025;</p> <p>(iv) to instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning to</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p>	<p>S Milne</p> <p>S Milne</p> <p>S Milne</p>

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		<p>review the impact of arrangements on evaluations of core Quality Indicators over school session 2024/25, amending approaches as required, and report back to Committee with any proposed changes to arrangements in advance of the 2025/6 school session; and</p> <p>(v) to instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong learning to narrow the focus of the National Improvement Framework Plan for session 25/26 in order to focus more extensively on leading, learning, teaching and assessment in order to realise further improvement.</p>	<p>Governance</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p>	<p>S Dunsmuir for planner</p> <p>S Milne</p>
9.3	<b><u>Inspection Reporting - F&amp;C/25/154</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to request that officers review the formatting of the action plan appendices for future reports;</p> <p>(ii) to note the content of the report; and</p> <p>(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 the Quality Improvement Frameworks being considered by Committee today.</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p>	<p>S Milne</p> <p>S Milne</p>
10.1	<b><u>2024/25 Education Climate Change Report - F&amp;C/25/144</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to note the summary of events that took place in schools to educate children and young people about</p>		

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		<p>Climate Change, Biodiversity and the drive towards Net Zero in session 2024-25;</p> <p>(ii) to note the work of the Youth Climate Change Group;</p> <p>(iii) to thank the pupils for their significant efforts in promoting and actioning environmental work in schools and citywide;</p> <p>(iv) to agree that this important area of focused activity should continue;</p> <p>(v) to instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning to support the Youth Climate Change Group to collate and share a yearly summary of the most impactful projects in our schools, through means to be determined by the group, to inspire other young people across the city;</p> <p>(vi) to invite representatives from the Youth Climate Change Group to present the report to Committee in subsequent years; and</p> <p>(vii) to instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning to report back on progress by committee report within one calendar year.</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>M Reid</p> <p>M Reid</p> <p>M Reid</p> <p>S Dunsmuir for planner</p>
10.2	<b><u>Free School Meals Annual Update - F&amp;C/25/092</u></b>	<p><b>The Committee resolved:</b></p> <p>(i) to note that officers would share any update on discussions with the Scottish Government about the expansion of free school meals to eligible S1 to S3 pupils to Members</p>	Corporate Landlord	A Campbell

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		<p>via email outwith the meeting, and to request that officers discuss with the Scottish Government how to successfully follow on from the test of change to ensure there was no drop off once the test of change ended;</p> <p>(ii) to note the progress in Free School Meal provision and actions to continue increasing uptakes;</p> <p>(iii) to note the Scottish Government's decision to stop data collection via the annual Healthy Living Survey, and the move to collecting data on school meal uptakes and free school meals registrations via the Local Financial Return;</p> <p>(iv) to note the successful implementation of the Pre-order app in Secondary Schools and the positive impact it has had on both customer numbers and Revenue; and</p> <p>(v) to agree the pilot scheme to expand free school meals to pupils in S1 to S3 whose families are in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment is to be welcomed.</p>		
10.3	<b><u>Whole System Approach to Healthy Weight - F&amp;C/25/152</u></b>	<p><b>The Committee resolved:</b></p> <p>(i) to request that officers continue to review the language used in future reports to ensure appropriate terminology was used;</p> <p>(ii) to note the work undertaken to date;</p> <p>(iii) to continue to endorse the Whole Systems Approach to Healthy Weight known as Healthy Weight Aberdeen;</p>	Education and Lifelong Learning	N Paterson

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		<p>and</p> <p>(iv) to instruct the Chief Officer – Education and Lifelong Learning to report progress on the service’s delivery of the Whole Systems approach, Healthy Weight Aberdeen, through a service update within 12 calendar months.</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>N Paterson</p> <p>S Dunsmuir for planner</p>
10.4	<b><u>Incidents and Behaviour Action Plan Progress - F&amp;C/25/153</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) in relation to the report recommendation to report back through National Improvement Framework updates, to note that the Executive Director and Chief Officer – Education and Lifelong Learning would liaise outwith the meeting in respect of whether a full report back on the behaviour plan was to be provided, and the timescales for this;</p> <p>(ii) in relation to the recently issued Scottish Government document on consequences in schools, to note that the Executive Director would look to share this more widely with staff;</p> <p>(iii) to note that the Chief Officer – Education and Lifelong Learning would provide a service update to Members outwith the meeting in relation to how many schools had not used the incident reporting system and whether that number had declined since the previous year;</p> <p>(iv) to note that there was missing text at action 15 in the behaviour action plan appendix, and the Chief Officer –</p>	<p>Families and Communities / Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Families and Communities / Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Governance</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p>	<p>E Sheppard / S Milne</p> <p>E Sheppard / S Milne</p> <p>S Milne</p> <p>S Dunsmuir for planner</p> <p>S Milne</p>

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		<p>Education and Lifelong Learning would provide the detail of this to Members;</p> <p>(v) to note the content of the report; and</p> <p>(vi) to instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning to continue to plan preventative professional learning and report progress against the local Behaviour Plan through regular National Improvement Framework updates.</p>	Education and Lifelong Learning	S Milne
10.5	<b><u>Health &amp; Wellbeing Report - F&amp;C/25/155</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to note the content of the report;</p> <p>(ii) to acknowledge the hard work of secondary schools, and the wider support staff in Education and Lifelong Learning in supporting S5 Girls to improve their mental health outcomes;</p> <p>(iii) to instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning to consider the findings of the report and plan next steps as part of work being taken forward to develop the next Local Outcome Improvement Plan and associated National Improvement Framework Plan; and</p> <p>(iv) to instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning to report the findings of the next Health and Wellbeing surveys to Committee following the next survey point.</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>E Powell</p> <p>E Powell</p> <p>S Dunsmuir</p>

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10.6	<b><u>Review of Spaces for Additional Support Needs - F&amp;C/25/158</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></p> <p>(i) to note the findings of the review as outlined in the report;</p> <p>(ii) to instruct the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord to continue providing support to head teachers and staff in schools to make best use of the space available to them for supporting pupils with additional support needs, to reflect existing and emerging policies and guidance in this area;</p> <p>(iii) to instruct the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord to ensure that the Council's specification of spaces for additional support needs in future new school buildings and school refurbishment projects continues to be regularly reviewed and updated, to reflect ongoing feedback received locally, and any relevant national and local guidance on the design of spaces for additional support needs;</p> <p>(iv) to note current provision of spaces offered across the whole school estate and instruct the Chief Officer – Corporate Landlord to (a) identify any opportunities for sharing good practice in order to develop support for ASN for the benefit of pupils and school communities and (b) to bring back a report as soon as possible based on the adequacy or otherwise of spaces for Additional Support Needs within each School within the city, in order to</p>	<p>Corporate Landlord</p> <p>Corporate Landlord</p> <p>Corporate Landlord Governance</p>	<p>A Jones</p> <p>A Jones</p> <p>A Jones S Dunsmuir for planner</p>



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		truly understand the actual requirements for each school; and (v) to note that the Executive Director had undertaken that officers would provide an interim service update on the above in September.	Corporate Landlord Governance	A Jones S Dunsmuir for planner
10.7	<b><u>Bucksburn and Dyce Long Term Secondary School Provision: Outline Business Case - F&amp;C/25/159</u></b>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> (i) to note the preferred option for ensuring appropriate future provision of secondary education at Dyce and Bucksburn, as detailed within the Outline Business Case at Appendix A of the report; and (ii) to instruct the Chief Officer - Corporate Landlord in consultation with the Chief Officer – Education and Lifelong Learning to consult with officers at Aberdeenshire Council on proposals for adjusting the Dyce Academy catchment area to align with the City boundary, therefore removing all areas of Aberdeenshire including Newmachar and Kingseat from the catchment area, and to report back to this Committee on the outcomes of these discussions and recommendations for next steps, within the next two committee cycles.	Corporate Landlord  Corporate Landlord / Education and Lifelong Learning  Governance	A Jones  A Jones / S Milne  S Dunsmuir for planner
10.8	<b><u>ABZCampus - F&amp;C/25/150</u></b>	<b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> (i) to note the progress made in delivering ABZ Campus which aimed to further broaden the curriculum offer for young people in the Senior Phase in Aberdeen City Council schools;		

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		<p>(ii) to instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning to support the roll out of Phase 3 ABZ Campus; and</p> <p>(iii) to instruct the Chief Officer - Education and Lifelong Learning to continue to report the progress of ABZ Campus to Members through a yearly service update.</p>	<p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Education and Lifelong Learning</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>M Jones</p> <p>M Jones</p> <p>S Dunsmuir for planner</p>
10.9	<b><u>Ukrainian School Partnerships project - International Travel - F&amp;C/25/128</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> to approve travel for a teacher to attend Krakow in September 2025, with the purpose of the visit being to help teachers from partnered schools to get to know each other and guide them along the journey of developing their partnership and project (travel funded by the British Council, with no cost to the local authority).</p>	Education and Lifelong Learning	C Johnstone
11.1	<b><u>Bucksburn and Dyce Long Term Secondary School Provision: Outline Business Case - F&amp;C/25/159 - Exempt Appendix</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> to note the appendix</p>	N/A	N/A
11.2	<b><u>ABZ Campus - F&amp;C/25/150 - Exempt Appendix</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> to note the appendix</p>	N/A	N/A
12.1	<b><u>Bairns Hoose Update - F&amp;C/25/157</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b> (i) to note the update of progress made by the Aberdeen City Pathfinder to deliver a Bairns Hoose and the Scottish Government grant award for</p>		

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		<p>2025/26 to support delivery of Aberdeen's Bairns Hoose;</p> <p>(ii) to note that an incremental approach to opening the Bairns Hoose would commence from the Summer of 2025;</p> <p>(iii) to instruct the Chief Officer – Children's Social Work and Family Support / Chief Social Work Officer to arrange a visit for Committee Members to the Bairns Hoose upon completion of the build; and</p> <p>(iv) to instruct the Chief Officer – Children's Social Work and Family Support / Chief Social Work Officer to provide a service update in June 2026.</p>	<p>Children's Social Work and Family Support</p> <p>Children's Social Work and Family Support</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>G Simpson</p> <p>G Simpson</p> <p>S Dunsmuir for planner</p>
12.2	<b><u>Children's Social Work Statistics, Scotland 2023-24 - F&amp;C/25/160</u></b>	<p><b><u>The Committee resolved:</u></b></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, and it required it, 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 2024/25 Statistical Report following its publication in Spring 2026.</p>	<p>Children's Social Work and Family Support</p> <p>Governance</p>	<p>G Simpson</p> <p>S Dunsmuir for planner</p>

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