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**THE FIFE COUNCIL - EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE - GLENROTHES**

28th August, 2018

10.00 a.m. – 12.45 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Fay Sinclair (Convener), David Barrett, James Calder, Linda Erskine, Ian Ferguson, Helen Law, Kathleen Leslie, Rosemary Liewald, Dominic Nolan, Ryan Smart and Alistair Suttie, and Mr Alastair Crockett, Mr George Haggarty and Mr William Imlay.

**ATTENDING:** Carrie Lindsay, Executive Director (Education & Children's Services), Shelagh McLean, Head of Education & Children's Services (Equity & System Improvement), Dougie Dunlop, Head of Education & Children's Services (Enhancing Opportunities for the Vulnerable), Jacqueline Price, Education Manager, Clark Graham, Early Learning Officer, Lynn Gillies, Service Manager (Family Support), Stuart Booker, Executive Support Officer and Avril Graham, Sustainable Estate Officer, Education & Children's Services Directorate, Alison Binnie, Business Partner, Andrew Ferguson, Committee Services Manager and Susan Williams, Committee Administrator, Finance & Corporate Services Directorate.

**APOLOGIES**

**FOR ABSENCE:** Councillors Mary Lockhart, Craig Walker and Richard Watt and Mr Bailey-Lee Robb.

Prior to the start of the meeting the Convener welcomed Mr William Imlay to his first meeting of the Committee as a religious interest representative from the Church of Scotland.

75. **MINUTES**

(a) Education and Children's Services Committee – 22nd May, 2018

**Decision**

The Committee approved the minute.

(b) Education Appointment Committees of 11th, 17th, 23rd, 25th and two minutes of 8th June and 14th and 22nd June, 2018

**Decision**

The Committee approved the minutes.

(c)/

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- (c) East Fife Trust Committee of 12th April, 2018

### **Decision**

The Committee approved the minute.

- (d) West Fife Trust Committee of 20th April, 2018

### **Decision**

The Committee approved the minute.

## 76. **EARLY LEARNING & CHILDCARE**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) detailing the proposed model for delivering the planned expansion of Early Learning & Childcare (ELC) from 600 to 1,140 hours from August 2020 for all eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds and seeking approval of the proposed Nursery Building Programme to increase capacity for 1,140 hours in Fife.

### **Decision**

The Committee agreed to:-

- (a) support the continued development of pilot schemes to inform the proposed model of delivery for 1,140 hours of Early Learning & Childcare;
- (b) approve the Nursery Building Programme to increase nursery provision across Fife;
- (c) support the development of a new Early Learning & Childcare Admission Policy from August, 2020; and
- (d) note the development of the procurement process to include private nurseries, playgroups and childminders in delivering funded Early Learning & Childcare on behalf of Fife Council.

## 77. **A BETTER CONNECTED DIRECTORATE FOR 2020**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) providing a progress update on the work undertaken by Education & Children's Services in becoming "A Better Connected Directorate" (ABCD).

### **Decision**

The Committee:-

- (a)/

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- (a) provided suggestions and comments on the progress made on the directorate redesign; and
- (b) approved the next steps identified for the roll out of the model in a transition phase to 2020.

### 78. **BUILDING FIFE'S FUTURE – THE SCHOOL ESTATE**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) outlining the Education & Children's Services Directorates' approach relating to the school estate and their vision for future expansion to make population grow.

#### **Decision**

The Committee:-

- (a) noted the current position with regard to the status of the school estate;
- (b) noted the challenges presented by the existing school estate;
- (c) approved the key priorities and principles and implementation strategy as set out in the report; and
- (d) agreed to recommend that the Council should now commit to the replacement of Inverkeithing High School and that officers should prepare detailed plans which could include working within capital resources. Also, in reviewing the Council's capital programme, additional provision should be made to address the need for the future replacement/renewal of Woodmill, St. Columba's, Glenrothes and Glenwood High Schools, and further agreed that officers bring back a report to the meeting of the Committee in November setting out the process and timetable for the implementation.

*(Councillor Ryan Smart left the meeting following consideration of the above item).*

### 79. **EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE PLAN**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) providing an overview of the updated Education & Children's Services Directorate Improvement Plan for the 2018/19 school session. The updated plan met the statutory requirement on Fife Council to produce an improvement plan, based on the National Improvement Framework and also provided a framework for the Directorate to continue improving the impact and effectiveness of its collaborative working across children's services through the implementation of A Better Connected Directorate.

#### **Decision/**

**Decision**

The Committee approved the updated Education & Children's Services Directorate Plan for 2018/19.

80. **EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE – REVENUE BUDGET 2017/18 - PROVISIONAL OUTTURN REPORT**

The Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) and the Executive Director (Finance & Corporate Services) advising of the provisional outturn position for the 2017/18 Education & Children's Services Revenue Budget.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to:-

- (a) note the provisional outturn position (subject to audit) for 2017/18 as detailed in the report, and the reasons for the main variances;
- (b) note that the Education & Children's Services Directorate would continue to implement the strategy approved by the Executive Committee in January, 2015 to reduce the reliance on purchase care placements and increase the number of children who could safely be looked after at home or in kinship care; and
- (c) otherwise note the contents of the report.

*(Councillor David Barrett left the meeting during consideration of the above item).*

81. **EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE – CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN 2017/18 - PROVISIONAL OUTTURN REPORT**

The Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) and the Executive Director (Finance & Corporate Services) providing a summary of the Education & Children's Services financial position against the Capital Budget for the financial year 2017/18 together with an overview of progress on individual projects within the capital investment plan.

**Decision**

The Committee noted:-

- (a) the outturn position for the 2017/18 Capital Investment Plan. These figures were provisional being subject to audit;
- (b) the reported spend of £11.774m representing 63% of the approved Capital Programme for 2017/18; and
- (c)/

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- (c) that budget variance of £6.906m would be carried forward to financial year 2018/19.

### 82. **EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE – REVENUE BUDGET 2018/19 PROJECTED OUTTURN**

The Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) and the Executive Director (Finance & Corporate Services) providing details on the projected outturn for the 2018/19 Education & Children's Services Revenue Budget.

#### **Decision**

The Committee agreed to:-

- (a) note the current financial performance and activity as detailed in the report;
- (b) note that officers would continue to manage the budget whilst ensuring that the risks associated with looked after children were appropriately managed; and
- (c) note that the Education & Children's Services Directorate would continue to implement the strategy approved by the Executive Committee on 15th January, 2015, to reduce the reliance on purchase care placements and increase the number of children who could safely be looked after at home or in kinship care.

### 83. **EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE – CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN 2018/19 PROJECTED OUTTURN**

The Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director (Education & Children's Services) and the Executive Director (Finance & Corporate Services) providing details of the Education & Children's Services projected financial position against the Capital Budget for the current financial year, 2018/19, as well as an overview of progress on individual projects.

#### **Decision**

The Committee agreed to:-

- (a) note the financial position as detailed in the report; and
- (b) note that the budget had been revised to reflect the outcome of the Capital Plan re-profiling undertaken in June, 2018.

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84. **EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME**

**Decision**

The Committee noted the current version of the Work Programme which would be further updated, as appropriate.

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