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**THE FIFE COUNCIL - EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE -  
REMOTE MEETING**

3rd November, 2020

10.05 a.m. – 1.15 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Fay Sinclair (Convener), James Calder, Bobby Clelland, Dave Dempsey, Linda Erskine, Ian Ferguson, Julie Ford, Gary Guichan, Helen Law, Kathleen Leslie, Rosemary Liewald, Dominic Nolan, Ross Paterson, Alistair Suttie and Craig Walker; Mr. Alastair Crockett, Mr. George Haggarty and Mr. William Imlay.

**ATTENDING:** Carrie Lindsay, Executive Director, Education & Children's Services; Kathy Henwood, Head of Education & Children's Services (Children & Families and Criminal Justice Services); Maria Lloyd, Head of Education & Children's Services (Secondary Schools and Specialist Support); Angela Logue, Head of Education & Children's Services (Primary Schools & Improvement Support; Shelagh McLean, Head of Education & Children's Services (Early Years and Directorate Support); Sarah Else, Education Officer, Avril Graham, Sustainable Estate Officer, Jane Gray, Education Officer (Acting), Jacqueline Price, Education Manager (Early Years); Rona Weir, Education Officer, Gary Peattie, Team Manager, Childcare Services, Vivienne Sutherland (Principle Educational Psychologist), Education & Children's Services; Alan Paul, Senior Manager (Property Services); Louise Playford, Service Manager (School Estate), Property Services; and Diane Barnet, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Lee Cowie (Clinical Service Manager), Fife Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) for Item No. 184.

**APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:** Mr. Bailey-Lee Robb, MSYP.

<b>180.</b>	<b>CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP</b>
	<b><u>Decision</u></b>
	The Committee noted that Councillor Craig Walker had replaced Councillor David Barratt as a member of the Education and Children's Services Sub-Committee. The Convener, on behalf of the Sub-Committee, welcomed Councillor Walker to the meeting and thanked Councillor Barratt for his contribution to date.
<b>181.</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>
	No declarations of interest were made in terms of Standing Order No. 7.1.
<b>182./</b>	

182.	<b>MINUTE(S)</b>
	<p>(a) <u>Minute of Meeting of Education and Children’s Services Sub-Committee of 1st September, 2020</u></p> <p>The Committee considered the minute of the Education and Children's Services Committee of 1st September, 2020.</p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b></p> <p>The Committee agreed to approve the minute.</p>
	<p>(b) <u>Minutes of Meeting of the Education Appointment Committee of 11th September and 7th and 8th October 2020</u></p> <p><b><u>Decision</u></b></p> <p>The Committee agreed to approve the minutes.</p> <p><i>Mr. Crockett joined the meeting during consideration of the following item.</i></p>
183.	<b>BUILDING FIFE’S FUTURE – INVERKEITHING HIGH SCHOOL OPTIONS’ APPRAISAL</b>
	<p>In accordance with Fife Council Standing Order No. 2.3 (5), Councillor Sharon Green-Wilson made representation to the Sub-Committee on this item in support of the proposal to agree Option 5, Site 10, Fleet Grounds for the replacement for Inverkeithing High School.</p> <p>The Committee, having noted Councillor Green-Wilson's comments, considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services providing the outcome of the options' appraisal of educational requirements and technical assessments for the two site options for the replacement for Inverkeithing High School.</p> <p><b><u>Motion</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Sinclair, seconded by Councillor Liewald, moved to agree Option 5, Site 10, Fleet Grounds as the preferred location for the replacement for Inverkeithing High School, subject to an addition to recommendation (3) ii) - to authorise Officers to engage with the Communities Directorate with a view to retaining the community use wing at the existing school.</p> <p><b><u>First Amendment</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Leslie, seconded by Councillor Dempsey, moved as the first amendment that -</p> <p>'Committee agrees that Option 4 is the preferred location for the replacement Inverkeithing High School subject to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a/</li> </ul>

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- a full planning assessment for Site 4 and Site 22 to determine an outcome for progression ;
- the entering into an option agreement with the landowner(s) as per the above decision ;
- the outcome of a consultation to be carried out under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010; and
- authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment to agree terms for the purchase of the land.

This should run concurrent with Officers continuing to explore funding sources with the Scottish Government.'

### **Second Amendment**

Councillor Erskine, seconded by Councillor Guichan moved as a second amendment to agree to Option 5, Site 10, Fleet Grounds as the preferred location for the replacement for Inverkeithing High School, subject to a strengthening of recommendation (3) ii) -

'To prepare and bring a future report to the Policy and Co-ordination Committee to investigate the retention, refurbishment and future investment of the Community Use Wing at Inverkeithing High School.'

With the consent of Councillors Sinclair and Liewald (for the motion) and Councillors Erskine and Guichan (for the second amendment), it was agreed to conjoin the second amendment with the motion, which became the substantive motion for the purposes of the vote.

### **Roll Call**

#### **For the Motion** - 14 votes

Councillors Clelland, Erskine, Ferguson, Ford, Guichan, Law, Liewald, Paterson, Sinclair, Suttie and Walker; Mr. Alistair Crockett, Mr. George Haggarty and Mr. William Imlay, religious representatives.

#### **For the Amendment** - 4 votes

Councillors Calder, Dempsey, Leslie and Nolan.

Having received a majority of votes, the motion was accordingly carried.

### **Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) agreed Option 5; Site 10, Fleet Grounds, as the preferred location for the replacement for Inverkeithing High School, subject to:  
i)/

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i.) the entering into of an option agreement with the landowner(s) for the acquisition of a suitable site forming part of the land owned by the Ministry of Defence at Fleet Grounds;</li> <li>ii.) completion of a full planning assessment for development on the Fleet Grounds site; and</li> <li>iii.) the outcome of a consultation to be carried out under the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010;</li> </ul> <p>(2) authorised the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in conjunction with the Head of Assets, Transportation and Environment, to agree terms for an Option Agreement with the Ministry of Defence for the purchase of the Fleet Grounds site; and</p> <p>(3) authorised officers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i.) continue to explore potential funding sources;</li> <li>ii.) prepare and bring a future report to the Policy and Co-ordination Committee to investigate the retention, refurbishment and future investment of the Community Use Wing at Inverkeithing High School;</li> <li>iii.) prepare the Brief for the option;</li> <li>iv.) appoint a Design Team to prepare designs for the new school; and</li> <li>v.) report back to a future meeting of this Sub-Committee.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">The meeting adjourned at 11.27 a.m.</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">The meeting reconvened at 11.35 a.m.</p> <p><i>Councillor Ford left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.</i></p>
<b>184.</b>	<b>OUR MINDS MATTER: FIFE SCHOOLS' COUNSELLING SERVICE UPDATE</b>
	<p>The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services providing an update on work to support young people's mental health, specifically in relation to the development of the Fife Schools' Counselling Service.</p>
	<p><b><u>Decision</u></b></p>
	<p>The Committee:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) noted the progress of the implementation of the Schools' Counselling Service and associated Our Minds Matter (OMM) developments;</li> <li>(2) endorsed proposed next steps to extend the Schools' Counselling Service and/</li> </ul>

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	<p>and Our Minds Matter developments as a continued response to the impacts of the COVID-19 context; and</p> <p>(3) approved the proposal to bring a further report to the Education and Children's Services Sub-Committee in May, 2021.</p>
<b>185.</b>	<b>ATTAINMENT SCOTLAND FUND</b>
	<p>The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services outlining the progress of the Attainment Scotland Fund (ASF) - which encompasses the Schools Fund and Pupil Equity Fund - providing an update on the work of schools in their practice to address the challenge of Closing the Poverty Related Attainment Gap. The report presented an overview of the rationale, implementation and impact, to date, of the Attainment Scotland Fund across Fife school establishments.</p>
	<p><b><u>Decision</u></b></p>
	<p>The Committee:-</p> <p>(1) noted the contents of the report;</p> <p>(2) agreed to continue to seek updates of the impact of interventions on improving educational outcomes for our children, at a Fife wide level through this Committee and locally through Area Committees;</p> <p>(3) at Area Committee, agreed Officers would link with the Area Convener to determine how they wished to best be informed as to the work and impact of the Pupil Equity Fund within their area; and</p> <p>(4) noted the work of schools in developing their practice to address the challenge of Closing the Poverty Related Attainment Gap.</p>
<b>186.</b>	<b>CHILDCARE SERVICES AND PLAY PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT</b>
	<p>The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services seeking approval on proposals to modernise Childcare Services in Fife, moving to a more commercialised model of delivering services.</p> <p><b><u>Motion</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Sinclair, seconded by Councillor Ferguson moved to approve the recommendations detailed in the report relating to proposals to modernise Childcare Services in Fife.</p> <p><b><u>Amendment</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Law, seconded by Councillor Erskine moved as an amendment to defer the report to allow for further consideration of the impact of the proposals for change on already disadvantaged communities.</p> <p><b><u>Roll Call/</u></b></p>

	<p><b><u>Roll Call</u></b></p> <p><b><u>For the Motion</u></b> - 11 votes</p> <p>Councillors Dempsey, Ferguson, Leslie, Liewald, Nolan, Sinclair, Suttie and Walker and Mr. Alistair Crockett, Mr. George Haggarty and Mr. William Imlay, religious representatives.</p> <p><b><u>For the Amendment</u></b> - 6 votes</p> <p>Councillors Calder, Clelland, Erskine, Guichan, Law and Paterson.</p> <p>Having received a majority of votes, the motion was accordingly carried.</p>
	<p><b><u>Decision</u></b></p>
	<p>The Committee:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) noted the range of services operating before the COVID-19 closure of schools, early learning and childcare services;</li> <li>(2) noted the benefits of the proposals for change; and</li> <li>(3) agreed that Childcare Services progress the proposed next steps.</li> </ol>
<p><b>187.</b></p>	<p><b>CHILD POVERTY ACTION PLAN</b></p>
	<p>The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services providing an overview of the Child Poverty Action Plan for Fife, as required in the Child Poverty Act (Scotland) 2017. The report was to be read in conjunction with the Fife Local Child Poverty Action Report (LCPAR). The LCPAR was produced in partnership with services across Fife, NHS and third sector partners who form the Local Child Poverty Action Group. This group reports to the Welfare Reform and Anti-Poverty (WRAP) Partnership and to the Children in Fife Partnership and both groups report to the Fife Partnership Board on the Plan for Fife outcomes.</p>
	<p><b><u>Decision</u></b></p>
	<p>The Committee:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) noted the contents of the report;</li> <li>(2) noted the progress of the work to date and next steps;</li> <li>(3) approved the actions for Fife Council Education and Children's Services within the LCPAR; and</li> <li>(4) additionally, agreed that the content of the report be shared with the Anti-Poverty Working Group of the Communities and Housing Services Sub-Committee to inform the wider work of the Council's anti-poverty agenda.</li> </ol>
<p><b>188./</b></p>	

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188.	<b>THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STRATEGY FOR 2020-23: BELONGING TO FIFE - PHASE 3</b>
	<p>The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services providing an update on the current Children and Families Strategy 2015-2020 and an overview of the three-year plan 2020-2023, to achieve improved outcomes for children and young people by ensuring that they are supported to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• remain in their own families and communities wherever it is safe to do so;</li><li>• develop meaningful relational based supports; and</li><li>• access a range of targeted supports that are visible and available within local communities.</li></ul>
	<b><u>Decision</u></b>
	<p>The Committee:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) agreed to approve the Strategy going forward; and</li><li>(2) requested regular updates for this Sub-Committee's consideration as the Strategy progressed.</li></ol>
189.	<b>EDUCATION &amp; CHILDREN'S SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2021</b>
	<p>The Committee considered the Education and Children's Services Sub-Committee Forward Work Programme 2021.</p>
	<b><u>Decision</u></b>
	<p>The Committee noted the Education and Children's Services Sub-Committee Forward Work Programme 2021.</p> <hr/>