

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

**11th February, 2020**

**10.00 a.m. – 12.50 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Fay Sinclair (Convener), David Barratt, James Calder, Ken Caldwell (substituting for Councillor Rosemary Liewald), Dave Dempsey, Linda Erskine, Ian Ferguson, Julie Ford, Gary Guichan, Kathleen Leslie, Dominic Nolan, Ross Paterson, Ryan Smart (substituting for Councillor Bobby Clelland), Alistair Suttie; and Mr. William Imlay.

**ALSO  
PRESENT:** Councillor Tony Orton (for Para. 162)

**ATTENDING:** Carrie Lindsay, Executive Director, Education & Children's Services, Shelagh McLean, Head of Education & Children's Services (Early Years and Directorate Support), Angela Logue, Acting Head of Education & Children's Services (Primary Schools & Improvement Support), Maria Lloyd, Head of Education & Children's Services (Secondary Schools and Specialist Support), Kathy Henwood, Head of Education & Children's Services (Children & Families & Criminal Justice), Neil Finnie, Service Manager (Policy & Prevention), Jason Omond, Solutions Specialist, Business Technology Solutions, Kevin O'Connor, Head Teacher, St. Columba's High School, Education & Children's Services; Louise Playford, Service Manager (School Estate), Property Services; Alison Binnie, Business Partner, Finance; and Diane Barnett, Committee Officer, Legal & Democratic Services.

**APOLOGIES  
FOR  
ABSENCE:** Councillor Helen Law, Mr. Alastair Crockett, Mr. George Haggarty and Bailey-Lee Robb, MSYP.

**160. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order No. 7.1.

**161. MINUTES**

- (a) Minute of Meeting of the Education and Children's Services Committee of 29th October, 2019

The Committee considered the minute of the Education and Children's Services Committee of 29th October 2019.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

(b)/

- (b) Minute of Meeting of the Education Appointment Committee of 11th December, 2019

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

- (c) Minute of Meeting of the Education Appointment Committee of 17th January, 2020

In terms of accuracy, the Committee noted that the Headteacher appointment was in respect of Valley Primary School.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed to approve the minute.

**162. BUILDING FIFE'S FUTURE - INVERKEITHING HIGH SCHOOL SITE SELECTION UPDATE**

In accordance with Fife Council Standing Order, Para. 2.3 (5), Councillor Tony Orton made representation to the Committee on this item in support of the Committee's original decision of 29th October, 2019.

The Committee, having noted Councillor Orton's comments, considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services - following a recommendation by the Education and Children's Services, Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 14th November, 2019 (minute ref: Para. 4. of 2019.ECHSC.2 refers) - that this Committee should consider reviewing both options on the existing site (Site 3).

This report was, therefore, seeking a determination on whether the preferred site options for the location of the replacement for Inverkeithing High School should include any further options, specifically those relating to the existing site (Site 3).

**Motion**

Councillor Sinclair, seconded by Councillor Erskine moved, in the absence of any significant new information, to confirm this Committee's previous decision of 29th October, 2019 - the preferred options for the location of the replacement school - Option 4: Sites 4 and 22, North of the A921 (East and West); and Option 5: Site 10, Fleet Grounds - be progressed.

**Amendment**

Councillor Dempsey, seconded by Councillor Leslie moved as an amendment that the preferred options should include a new build on Site 3, until such time as the suitability or otherwise of the existing earthworks material was established.

**Vote/**

**Vote**

Amendment - 5  
Motion - 9

**Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) agreed in terms of the motion - to progress the preferred options for the location of the replacement school (as previously agreed at its meeting on 29th October, 2019), ie, Option 4: Sites 4 and 22, North of the A921 (East and West); and Option 5: Site 10, Fleet Grounds; and
- (2) for these preferred options, agreed to authorise officers to:-
  - (a) continue to explore potential funding sources;
  - (b) explore the community requirements and opportunities presented by the options;
  - (c) investigate and negotiate with any land owners acquisition costs for the preferred options;
  - (d) prepare the Brief for each option;
  - (e) appoint a Design Team to prepare designs for the new school for each option; and
  - (f) report back to a future Committee on the preferred options.

**163. EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE - REVENUE BUDGET 2019/20 PROJECTED OUTTURN**

The Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services and the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services providing an update on the forecast financial position for the 2019-20 financial year, for the areas in scope of the Education and Children's Services Committee.

**Decision**

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the current financial performance and activity as detailed in the report;
- (2) that officers would ensure that the risks associated with Looked After Children were appropriately managed whilst acting to address the projected overspend in Children and Families Service; and
- (3) that the Education and Children's Services Directorate continued to implement the Strategy approved by the Executive Committee on 13th January, 2015, as updated by subsequent reports, most recently the report/

report to this Committee on 22nd January, 2019, to reduce the reliance on purchased care placements and increase the number of children who could be looked after safely at home or in kinship care.

**164. EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN 2019/20 - PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee considered a joint report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services and the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services providing information on the overall progress of the Education and Children's Services Directorate's capital programme for the current financial year, 2019-2020, including progress on major projects.

**Decision**

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the financial position as detailed in the report, and
- (2) that the budget had been revised to reflect the outcome of the Capital Plan review undertaken in February, 2019 and subsequent re-phasing exercise carried out in June, 2019.

**165. SCHOOLS WORKFORCE PLANNING: ACADEMIC SESSION 2019/20**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services providing an update on teacher and early years staffing for the current academic session 2019/20, including information on the progress in relation to workforce planning for 2020/21.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the content of the report and the progress with the developments detailed therein.

The meeting adjourned at 11.40 a.m.

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The meeting re-convened at 11.50 a.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Fay Sinclair (Convener), David Barratt, James Calder, Ken Caldwell, Dave Dempsey, Linda Erskine, Ian Ferguson, Julie Ford, Gary Guichan, Dominic Nolan, Ross Paterson, Ryan Smart, Alistair Suttie; and Mr. William Imlay.

**166. ANYWHERE, ANYTIME LEARNING FOR SCHOOLS**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services providing an overview of Anywhere, Anytime Learning and making recommendations for its future role for the Education Service.

**Decision/**

**Decision**

The Committee noted the success of the pilot project in St. Andrews and Inverkeithing High Schools and the move to enable Anywhere, Anytime Learning across all Fife High Schools initially and, if there was a demand, across the upper classes in Primary Schools in the future.

**167. INSPECTION OUTCOMES**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services providing an overview of the outcomes and key messages from inspections of:

- Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) settings, Primary, Secondary and Special Schools undertaken by Education Scotland;
- Care Inspectorate within the Early Learning Centres;
- Care Inspectorate within Family Placement Service; and
- Care Inspectorate within Out of School/Creche Provision.

**Decision**

The Committee noted:-

- (1) the overview of the outcomes and key messages from inspections; and
- (2) areas of success and progress, as well as the actions taken to ensure continued improvement.

**168. SECONDARY SCHOOL STAFFWISE SURVEY - PROGRESS**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Education and Children's Services detailing the progress made by the Directorate and more specifically secondary schools with regard to the 'Staffwise' staff wellbeing survey undertaken within all educational establishments, centrally based Education, Children and Families and Criminal Justice teams in January/February, 2019. This report followed on from the report on the survey presented at the Education and Children's Services Committee on the 17th September, 2019.

**Decision**

The Committee:-

- (1) noted the progress made so far by the Directorate and Secondary schools in progressing this work following analysis of the survey;
- (2) agreed to consider a further report in September detailing progress in Secondary schools, providing evidence on how well actions had been implemented in advance of the next survey due to go live in early 2021; and
- (3) agreed to participate in local area workshops to consider more detailed information available.

*Councillor/*

*Councillor Ford left the meeting following consideration of the above item.*

**169. CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER ANNUAL REPORT**

The Committee considered a report by the Chief Social Work Officer presenting the 'Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report 2018/19'.

**Decision**

The Committee noted the content of the 'Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report 2018/19'.

**170. EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2020**

**Decision**

The Committee noted the Education and Children's Services Committee Forward Work Programme 2020, subject to further amendment.

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