

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

At a Hybrid Meeting of the Educational Services Committee held in the Civic Space, 16 Church Street, Dumbarton on Wednesday, 15 June 2022 at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors Karen Conaghan, Gurpreet Singh Johal*, Daniel Lennie, David McBride, Jonathan McColl, Michelle McGinty, June McKay, John Millar, Lawrence O'Neill, Martin Rooney, Gordon Scanlan and Hazel Sorrell, and Mrs Barbara Barnes**, Mr Gavin Corrigan, Miss Ellen McBride and Ms Julia Strang.

*Arrived later in the meeting.

**Entered the meeting following consideration of the item under the heading 'Appointment of Third Religious Representative to the Educational Services Committee'.

Attending: Laura Mason, Chief Education Officer; Andrew Brown, Senior Education Officer – Policy, Performance & Resources; Claire Cusick, Senior Education Officer – Services for Children & Young People; Julie McGrogan, Senior Education Officer – Raising Attainment/Improving Learning; Kathy Morrison, Senior Education Officer – Early Learning & Childcare; Michelle Lynn, Assets Co-ordinator; Joe Reilly, Business Unit Finance Partner (Education); Nigel Ettles, Section Head – Litigation (Legal Officer); and Scott Kelly, Committee Officer.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Lauren Oxley and Clare Steel.

Councillor Michelle McGinty in the Chair

STATEMENT BY CHAIR – AUDIO STREAMING

Councillor McGinty, Chair, advised that the meeting was being audio streamed and broadcast live to the internet and would be available for playback.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

RECORDING OF VOTES

The Committee agreed that all votes taken during the meeting would be carried out by roll call vote to ensure an accurate record.

OPEN FORUM

The Committee noted that no open forum questions had been submitted by members of the public.

APPOINTMENT OF THIRD RELIGIOUS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer requesting confirmation of the reappointment of the third religious representative to the Educational Services Committee.

Having heard the Committee Officer in answer to a Member's question, the Committee agreed to confirm the reappointment of Mrs Barbara Barnes as the third religious representative on the Educational Services Committee until the next local government elections.

It was noted that Mrs Barnes was in attendance and she joined the meeting as a Member of the Committee at this point.

STRATEGY TO RAISE ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT IN WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update on:-

- (a) changes to the Scottish Attainment Challenge programme; and
- (b) the progress with implementing Educational Services' improvement priorities for attainment and equity.

After discussion and having heard the Senior Education Officer – Raising Attainment/Improving Learning and relevant officers in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the progress made in the past three months with two key priorities: The Scottish Attainment Challenge and West Dunbartonshire Council's Education Improvement Framework;
- (2) the continuation of aspects of the Covid Education Recovery Plan; and
- (3) to note that regular updated reports would advise of progress.

Note: Councillor Johal entered the meeting during consideration of this item.

EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE PROGRESS UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update on progress made within the framework developed to provide high quality Early Learning and Childcare in West Dunbartonshire Council.

After discussion and having heard the Senior Education Officer – Early Learning & Childcare and the Chief Education Officer in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the progress to ensure delivery of the statutory entitlement of 1140 hours of high quality early learning and childcare.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS STRATEGY UPDATE REPORT

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update on the progress of the strategy to support children and young people with Additional Support Needs (ASN).

After discussion and having heard the Senior Education Officer – Services for Children & Young People in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the progress on the strategy and plans to address the projected increase in demand for services.

SCHOOL LEAVER DESTINATIONS 2020/21

A report as submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update on our partnership approach to improve the number of our young people leaving school and entering a positive destination.

After discussion and having heard the Senior Education Officer – Policy, Performance & Resources and the Chief Education Officer in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed to note the analysis and action plan recommended for improvement.

UPDATE TO DEVOLVED SCHOOL MANAGEMENT (DSM) GUIDANCE

A report as submitted the Chief Education Officer seeking approval of changes made to the Devolved School Management (DSM) Guidance in Education establishments.

After discussion and having heard the Senior Education Officer in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed to approve the update to the Devolved School Management (DSM) Guidance which was contained in Appendix 1 to the report.

The meeting closed at 3.15 p.m.