

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Educational Services Committee held by video conference on Wednesday, 9 June 2021 at 10.05 a.m.

Present: Provost William Hendrie and Councillors Jim Brown, Karen Conaghan, Ian Dickson, Diane Docherty, Jim Finn, Daniel Lennie, David McBride, Jonathan McColl*, John Mooney, Sally Page and Martin Rooney, and Mrs Barbara Barnes, Mr Gavin Corrigan, Ms Hannah Redford, Miss Sheila Rennie and Ms Julia Strang.

*Arrived later in the meeting.

Attending: Laura Mason, Chief Education Officer; Andrew Brown, Senior Education Officer – Policy, Performance & Resources; Claire Cusick, Senior Education Officer – Pupil Support; Julie McGrogan, Senior Education Officer – Raising Attainment/Improving Learning; Kathy Morrison, Senior Education Officer – Education, Learning & Attainment; Craig Jardine, Corporate Asset Manager; Sharon Jump, Capital Project Manager; Michelle Lynn, Assets Co-ordinator; Joe Reilly, Business Unit Finance Partner (Education); Alan Douglas, Legal Manager; and Scott Kelly, Committee Officer.

Also Attending: Councillors Iain McLaren and Lawrence O'Neill (both in attendance for the item 'Learning Estate Improvement Plan' only).

Apologies: Apologies for absences were intimated on behalf of Councillor John Millar and Miss Ellen McBride.

Councillor Karen Conaghan in the Chair

STATEMENT BY CHAIR – AUDIO STREAMING

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs Barnes declared a non-financial interest in the item 'Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement in West Dunbartonshire', being a member of the board of the Leamy Foundation.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Educational Services Committee held on 10 March 2021 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

LOCAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR TEACHERS

The Minutes of Meeting of the Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers held on 23 March 2021 were submitted and all decisions contained therein were approved.

OPEN FORUM

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

Note: Councillors Brown and McColl entered the meeting at this point.

LEARNING ESTATE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer:-

- (a) informing of the outcome of the site options appraisal identifying a site to accommodate the proposed Faifley Campus; and
- (b) seeking approval to proceed to the next stage of the project.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Education Officer and relevant officers in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the outcome of the Site Options Appraisal as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report which identified a campus facility located on the St Joseph's Primary site incorporating:-

- Edinbarnet P.S.;
 - St Joseph's P.S.;
 - Education Resource Centre (currently at Edinbarnet);
 - ELCC Provision (Auchnacraig/Lennox);
 - ASN Facility (currently at St Joseph's);
 - Community Library; and
 - Community space.
- (2) to note the affordability of the proposed site as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report, 'Financial Summary', and paragraph 7.7 of the report;
- (3) that the St Joseph's Primary site be taken forward as the potential campus provision and to authorise the Chief Education Officer to progress with preparation for the Statutory Consultation process to be launched at a future meeting of the Educational Services Committee;
- (4) to note that the Learning Estate Board on 30 March 2021 agreed to progress with adopting hub West Scotland as the preferred route to market;
- (5) to authorise the Chief Education Officer to develop the design and thereafter tender the same through the hub West Scotland procurement route with a report being brought to a future meeting of the Tendering Committee to allow the contract to be placed following the conclusion of both the Statutory Consultation process and the Council obtaining a suitable offer of grant funding from the Scottish Government; and
- (6) to instruct officers to work closely with all relevant service areas to maximise the benefits to the Faifley community which will be realised by the new campus with especial regard to roads and lighting to promote safer routes to school.

Note: Councillors McLaren and O'Neill left the meeting 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 activity and progress with regard to implementing West Dunbartonshire's Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement.

After discussion and having heard the Senior Education Officer – Raising Attainment/Improving Learning, 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 progress made in the past three months with the Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement in West Dunbartonshire.

Note: Ms Redford left the meeting during consideration of this item.

EARLY YEARS IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update of the plan for the expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in West Dunbartonshire Council.

After discussion and having heard the Senior Education Officer – Education, Learning & Attainment in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the progress that had been made in delivering the statutory entitlement of 1140 hours early learning and childcare; and
- (2) to note the contents of Appendix 1 to the report, 'Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Delivery Analysis'.

SCHOOL LEAVER DESTINATIONS 2019/2020

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update on our partnership approach to improving 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 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.

PUPIL EQUITY FUND UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer informing of practices to narrow the poverty related attainment gap resourced from the Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) and providing an update on how we have ensured adherence to policy and revised guidance in light of COVID-19.

After discussion and having heard the Senior Education Officer – Pupil Support in further explanation and in answer to a Member's questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note West Dunbartonshire Council's practices in relation to PEF; and
- (2) to note West Dunbartonshire Council's governance of PEF.

EDUCATION DELIVERY PLAN 2021/22 (AUGUST 2021 TO JULY 2022)

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer presenting the Education Delivery Plan 2021/22.

Having heard the Senior Education Officer – Policy, Performance & Resources in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed to note the Delivery Plan for 2021/222.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL'S INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICES DELIVERY PLAN 2021-23

A report was submitted by the Chief Education Officer providing an update on the Integrated Children's Services Plan 2021-2023. It was noted that an additional appendix to the report, containing an Equality Impact Screening and Assessment Form, had been issued to Members in advance of the meeting.

Having heard the Senior Education Officer – Pupil Support in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the Integrated Children's Services Plan 2021-2023; and
- (2) to note the Strategic Priorities (Appendix1 Integrated Children's Services Plan 2021-23).

The meeting closed at 12.35 p.m.

