

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 6 November 2018 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors DEREK WANN, LOIS SPEED, JULIE BELL, KENNY BRAES, COLIN BROWN, LYNNE DEVINE, BILL DUFF, BEN LAWRIE, CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, MARK McDONALD, IAN McLAREN, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, TOMMY STEWART, RON STURROCK and BETH WHITESIDE.

Teacher

Representatives: Mr MIKE CALLAGHAN and Mrs ANNA CHEYNE.

Councillor WANN, Convener, in the Chair.

Prior to the commencement of the business, the Convener took the opportunity to highlight a number of activities being undertaken in schools to commemorate Remembrance Day and events marking 100 years since the end of the First World War.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Angus MacMillan Douglas OBE and Bob Myles, with Councillors Craig Fotheringham and Ian McLaren substituting respectively. An apology for absence was also intimated on behalf of Miss Lesley Hood.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

3. MINUTES

(a) Previous Meeting

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 18 September 2018 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

(b) Staffing Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Staffing Sub-Committee of 18 September 2018, a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted and noted (**APPENDIX I**).

4. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 4 SEPTEMBER TO 23 OCTOBER 2018

There was submitted Report No 333/18 by the Strategic Director - People providing key information to members with regard to services delivered in the Children and Learning Directorate for the period 4 September to 23 October 2018 relating to:-

- Child Poverty – The Cost of the School Day (Schedule 1)
- Care Inspectorate Inspection of Bramble Cottages Care Home Service (Schedule 2)
- Update on Monifieth Cluster Schools Options Appraisal (Schedule 3)

Having heard the Convener and a number of members welcome the valuable work and progress made by the Directorate and staff (Schedules 1 and 3), and congratulate the staff of Bramble Cottages on an excellent Inspection Report (Schedule 2), the Committee agreed to note the contents of the Report.

5. ANGUS COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018-2021

With reference to Article 24 of the minute of meeting of the Communities Committee of 18 August 2015, there was submitted Report No 334/18 by the Chief Education Officer highlighting the work undertaken in developing a new Community Learning and Development Plan for Angus for 2018–2021, and the progress and development of Community Learning and Development activity.

The draft Plan 2018-2021 set out the key priorities, based on implementation and self-evaluation of the first plan, improvements identified as a result of HMle Inspection and on-going engagement with key partners and stakeholders. The plan built on successes and challenges and took account of the changing landscape to illustrate how Community Learning and Development contributed to the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and locality priorities. The draft plan had been approved, in principle, by the Angus Community Planning Partnership on 19 September 2018.

Having heard a number of members welcome the Plan, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the work undertaken in preparation of the Angus Community Learning and Development Plan for 2018-2021, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Report;
- (ii) to note that the draft Plan 2018-2021 had been approved, in principle, by the Angus Community Planning Partnership;
- (iii) to note the actions agreed with partners, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the Report; and
- (iv) to request that following completion of the current consultation, a copy of the finalised plan be circulated to all elected members for information.

6. EARLY YEARS EXPANSION PROGRAMME – GRANT APPLICATION SCHEME

With reference to Article 11 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 19 April 2018, there was submitted Report No 335/18 by the Head of Schools and Learning providing members with details of a proposed grant application scheme for partner early learning and childcare providers, and seeking approval to open the scheme for applications as part of the early years expansion programme.

The Report indicated that the Scottish Government had confirmed details of the multi-year funding package allocated to Angus for the expansion of early learning and childcare. The funding package was based on finance templates submitted by local authorities and as part of the Angus template, provision had been made for the funding of a grant application scheme to allow the Council's contracted partners to access financial support for their own expansion plans.

The Scheme would be open to all 31 contracted partners in Angus, and applicants would be encouraged to consider alternative, complementary sources of funding to support their applications. Applicants would also be required to submit evidence to support their proposals, such as project plans and quotes from third party contractors. Applications would be considered and, if necessary, prioritised against three main criteria; local supply and demand, local Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation rank and additional local and regional considerations.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the background information and proposals for the implementation of a grant application scheme for private and voluntary early learning and childcare providers;
- (ii) to approve the implementation of the scheme, as detailed in the Report; and
- (iii) to note that a summary of the grant awards made under the scheme would be the subject of a future information Report to this Committee.