

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of SPECIAL MEETING of the **CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Thursday 15 February 2018 at 11.00am.

Present: Councillors MARK SALMOND, DEREK WANN, JULIE BELL, KENNY BRAES, COLIN BROWN, LYNNE DEVINE, RICHARD MOORE, ANGUS MACMILLAN DOUGLAS OBE, BILL DUFF, BOB MYLES, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, LOIS SPEED, TOMMY STEWART, RON STURROCK and BETH WHITESIDE.

Teacher

Representatives: Mr MIKE CALLAGHAN.

Councillor SALMOND, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Ben Lawrie and Mark McDonald, with Councillors Richard Moore and Bill Duff 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. REVIEW OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SERVICE

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 13 January 2015, there was submitted Report No 52/18 by the Head of Schools and Learning summarising the outcomes of a review of Angus Schools' Instrumental Music Service and seeking approval for recommended changes to service delivery.

The Report indicated that a previous recommendation to redesign the service in 2015 had not been approved. In the context of further budget efficiencies the need to revisit potential savings in this non-statutory area of service provision had been identified as part of the Council's change programme. A reduction of the service supported the Council's requirement to deliver a balanced budget whilst retaining most of the service as the benefits of learning an instrument and maintaining an effective music tuition service were recognised. The recommended changes to service delivery as detailed in Section 5 of the Report, would deliver budget savings of £150,152.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the removal of vacant posts within the Instrumental Music Service;
- (ii) to approve the removal of the Instrumental Music Service Co-ordinator's post;
- (iii) to approve the creation of the post of Senior Instructor; and
- (iv) to maintain music tuition fees at the current level.

4. ANGUS SCHOOL STAFFING – BUDGET EFFICIENCIES

There was submitted Report No 69/18 by the Head of Schools and Learning summarising the outcome of a recent review of Angus schools' staffing and seeking approval for recommended changes to service delivery.

The Report provided an overview of the proposals, including changes to teacher workforce and school support staff. The recommended changes to service delivery, as detailed within Section 5 of the Report, would deliver budget savings of £1.671 million over a 3 year period.

Having heard from Mr Callaghan and a number of members, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the adaption to Angus secondary schools staffing formula;

- (ii) to approve the reduction of secondary school teacher absence cover;
- (iii) to approve the removal of vacant visiting teacher posts;
- (iv) to approve the redesign of visiting teacher provision;
- (v) to approve the budget realignment to account for previously agreed primary school management budget efficiencies;
- (vi) to approve the removal of primary head teacher meeting cover budget;
- (vii) to approve the reduction of primary school teacher absence cover;
- (viii) to approve the removal of temporary school office positions;
- (ix) to approve the removal of absence cover for local government staff in schools;
- (x) to approve the removal of re-grading provision for local government staff that were no longer required; and
- (xi) to note the proposed staffing reductions for 2019-2021 in secondary school teacher absence cover and additional primary teacher staffing and that these would be reviewed as part of the 2019/2020 budget process.