

## ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 12 August 2014 at 2.00pm.

**Present:** Councillors SHEENA WELSH, LYNNE DEVINE, COLIN BROWN, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, MARTYN GEDDES, SHEILA HANDS, JIM HOUSTON, DAVID MAY, GLENNIS MIDDLETON, DONALD MORRISON, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, MARK SALMOND, EWAN SMITH, MARGARET THOMSON and PAUL VALENTINE.

**Church**

**Representatives:** Mr BILL SIMPSON.

**Teacher**

**Representatives:** Mr DAVID DRYSDALE

Councillor WELSH, Convener, in the Chair.

Prior to the commencement of the formal business, the Convener congratulated the many pupils across Angus who had received positive news from SQA regarding their performance in this year's examination diet. The Council recognised the very significant milestone reached in the transformational change programme in the new curriculum and qualifications system in Scotland

**1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES**

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Mr Jim Hammond.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

**3. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WELLBEING RESEARCH**

Karen Nowland and Russell Hamilton from the Scottish Government gave a presentation to members on a wellbeing community survey that would be undertaken across Angus on 1 September, the evidence based results of which would be used to improve outcomes for children, with the focus shifting the balance of investment away from reactive, expensive services towards earlier and more effective intervention.

Following a number of questions from members Ms Nowland and Mr Hamilton were thanked for their interesting and informative presentation.

**4. MINUTES**

**(a) Previous Meeting**

The [minute of meeting of this Committee of 20 May 2014](#) was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

**(b) School Attendance Sub-Committee**

The [minute of meeting of the School Attendance Sub-Committee of 20 May 2014](#), a copy of which was appended hereto (**APPENDIX 1**) was submitted and noted.

**(c) Angus Joint Negotiating Committee for Teachers**

The [minute of meeting of the Angus Joint Negotiating Committee for Teachers of 28 May 2014](#), a copy of which was appended hereto (**APPENDIX II**) was submitted and noted.

## 5. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 6 MAY TO 24 JULY 2014

There was submitted and noted [Report No 300/14](#) by the Strategic Director – People providing key background information to members with regard to services delivered in the People Directorate for the period 6 May to 24 July 2014.

## 6. AUDIT SCOTLAND REPORT ON SCHOOL EDUCATION

There was submitted [Report No 301/14](#) by the Strategic Director – People summarising the recommendations made by Audit Scotland in its recent Report on school education and outlining the action planned by Angus Council to respond to these.

The Report indicated that Audit Scotland's Accounts Commission had published a report on 19 June 2014. The audit had focused on primary and secondary education and was aimed at addressing how efficiently and effectively Scottish Councils were using their resources to maximise pupil achievement in schools. Audit Scotland's Report had identified nine recommendations for Councils with these recommendations detailed in the Report along with a summary of Angus Council's progress.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note Audit Scotland's Report recommendations on school education;
- (ii) to endorse Angus Council's action to address these recommendations; and
- (iii) that a briefing be arranged to specify Committee requirements with regard to attainment reporting.

## 7. CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE – BROAD GENERAL EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

There was submitted [Report No 302/14](#) by the Strategic Director – People describing Angus schools' attainment across the Broad General Education (BGE).

The Report indicated that one of the key entitlements of Curriculum for Excellence (CFE) was that all children should receive a rounded education, known as a broad general education (BGE), from early years through to the end of S3, before moving on to a senior phase in S4 to S6 which would include studying for qualifications. Each area of the curriculum in the broad general education was broken down into experiences and outcomes often called Es&Os.

The Report set out the current position within Angus with the aspirational expectation that 90% of children and young people would be secure in their learning within the appropriate level at the end of P1, P4, P7 and S3.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note Angus Council's progress in relation to the Broad General Education; and
- (ii) that an annual update on progress in relation to the Broad General Education be submitted to this Committee.

## 8. SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION FOR CARE LEAVERS AT MILLGATE LOAN, ARBROATH

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of the Social Work and Health Committee of 16 February 2012, there was submitted [Joint Report No 304/14](#) by the Strategic Director – People and Strategic Director – Communities, seeking approval to establish supported accommodation provision for young people leaving care at Millgate Loan in Arbroath.

The Report indicated that the provision would improve outcomes for care leavers and in doing so significantly reduce the costs associated with unsuccessful transitions when young people moved from the care system to living independently.

The Committee agreed to approve the proposals for developing the property in Millgate Loan to provide improved accommodation options for care leavers.

**9. PEOPLE DIRECTORATE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2013/14**

With reference to Article 4 of the minute of meeting of the Education Committee of 22 August 2013, there was submitted [Report No 305/14](#) by the Strategic Director – People, advising of the production of the 2013/14 Annual Performance Report for the People Directorate.

The Report indicated that as an integral part of the Council's Performance Management Arrangements each directorate was required to prepare an Annual Report for submission to their Service Committee in the first Committee cycle following the recess. These Reports were designed to give members, employees and the public (who had access to the Reports via the Council's website) an at a glance picture of performance within the directorates during the previous financial year.

The Committee, for its interest, agreed to note the terms of the People Directorate Annual Performance Report for 2013/14.