

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 22 September 2015 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors SHEENA WELSH, LYNNE DEVINE, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, MARTYN GEDDES, SHEILA HANDS, JIM HOUSTON, BRIAN BOYD, GLENNIS MIDDLETON, MAIRI EVANS, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, EWAN SMITH, and PAUL VALENTINE.

Church Representatives: Mr BILL SIMPSON.

Teacher Representatives: Ms KATRINA JOHNSTON and Mr JOHN PRATTI.

Councillor WELSH, Convener, in the Chair.

The Convener welcomed Katrina Johnston and John Pratti to the meeting following their appointment as teacher representatives.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors David May, Donald Morrison and Mark Salmond with Councillors Brian Boyd, Mairi Evans and Craig Fotheringham substituting respectively. Apologies for absence were also intimated on behalf of Councillor Margaret Thomson and Mrs Georgina Mallie.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 11 August 2015 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

4. INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 27 JULY TO 11 SEPTEMBER 2015

There was submitted and noted Report No 367/15 by the Strategic Director – People providing key information to members with regard to services delivered to the People Directorate for the period 27 July to 11 September 2015.

5. ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT SESSION 2014-2015

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 24 February 2015, there was submitted Report No 368/15 by the Strategic Director – People presenting the Annual Evaluation Report for the Schools and Learning and Children and Young Peoples' Services business units within the People Directorate covering the period 2014-2015.

The Report indicated that the Annual Evaluation Report complemented the information contained in the People Directorate Annual Performance Report 2015 presented to the Children and Learning Committee in August 2015.

The Report provided details of some of the major successes within the People Directorate during 2014-2015 together with a range of performance information and school and service level self-evaluation activities that helped to assess performance.

Having heard a number of members welcome the excellent Annual Evaluation Report, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note and endorse the contents of the Annual Evaluation Report for 2014-2015, as detailed in the Appendix to the Report; and

- (ii) to commend the Director and her staff on their achievements during the previous year.

6. CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE – ATTAINMENT IN BROAD GENERAL EDUCATION ATTAINMENT AND SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY EXAMINATION DIET JUNE 2015

There was submitted Report No 369/15 by the Strategic Director – People describing Angus Schools' attainment across the Broad General Education (BGE) and Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) examination diet in session 2014-2015. The Report provided two measures of attainment for the BGE – teachers' professional judgement and the standardised assessment scores, together with information on the most recent examination data for the 2015 SQA diet.

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 the Council's progress in relation to the Broad General Education; and
- (ii) to note the Council's most recent attainment in relation to the Scottish Qualifications Authority examination diet.

7. ANGUS SCHOOLS ANNUAL SURVEY 2014/2015

There was submitted Report No 370/15 by the Strategic Director – People summarising the findings of a survey conducted with children, young people, parents and staff at the end of session 2014/15 and detailing the further actions proposed in response to the key findings.

The Report indicated that it was important that the key themes arising from the survey analysis were clearly understood which would ensure that any improvement activity planned in response to the survey feedback met the needs of our children, young people, staff and parents. It was also recognised that responding to a survey may not be everyone's preferred means of providing information and therefore early in session 2015/2016, a number of further actions had been undertaken. Further feedback from these actions would be analysed with the aim of producing a short document, the proposals for which were outlined in Section 5 of the Report.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the key findings of the Angus Schools' Annual Survey 2014/2015; and
- (ii) to approve the recommended next steps, as detailed in Section 5 of the Report.

8. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Committee agreed, in terms of Standing Order 27(2) that the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following item so as to avoid the disclosure of information which was exempt in terms of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, Paragraph 1.

9. APPONTMENT OF A RELATIVE OF A CHIEF OFFICER

With reference to Article 8 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 13 January 2015, there was submitted Report No 371/15 by the Strategic Director – People seeking homologation of the decision taken to approve the appointment of the relative of a Chief Officer to the permanent teaching staff of Angus Council.

The Committee agreed to approve the recommendation, as detailed in the Report