

# ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of SPECIAL MEETING of the **CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE** held remotely on Thursday 3 March 2022 at 10.30 am.

**Present:** Councillors COLIN BROWN BEM, JULIE BELL, KENNY BRAES, LYNNE DEVINE, ALEX KING, BEN LAWRIE, DAVID LUMGAIR, ANGUS MACMILLAN DOUGLAS OBE, IAN McLAREN, BOB MYLES, GAVIN NICOL, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, LOIS SPEED, TOMMY STEWART and BETH WHITESIDE.

**Teacher**

**Representative:** Mr MIKE CALLAGHAN.

Councillor BROWN, Vice-Convener, in the Chair.

**1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Ron Sturrock and Mrs Anna Cheyne, Teacher Representative.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

**3. EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING BUDGET EFFICIENCIES**

There was submitted Report No 95/22 by the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning summarising the proposed budget efficiencies for the Education and Lifelong Learning directorate for the Council's 2022/23 revenue budget.

The Report indicated that approval had been granted to postpone previously agreed staffing efficiencies for one year in recognition of the mitigations required to support our children and young people at that time (Report No 79/21 refers). This decision saw the agreed saving be recalculated over the period 2022-2025.

Appendix 1 to the Report set out the proposed savings for the Education and Lifelong Learning Directorate in 2022/23. The Report also highlighted that the budget efficiencies contained within the Report should be considered in conjunction with the additional funding for permanent staff and the Scottish Attainment Challenge funding that would form part of the Education and Lifelong Learning budget moving forward.

Within the context of the Council's overall budget pressures combined with the additional ring-fenced funding provided for Education and Lifelong Learning services, all of the savings proposals as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Report, were achievable with limited impact on the learning outcomes for children and young people. Similarly, whilst some of the savings carried an element of risk this was within an acceptable appetite.

Councillor Boyd joined the meeting at this stage (10.44am).

Following a number of questions, and having heard from the Director of Education & Lifelong Learning in response, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the Education and Lifelong Learning budget issue in relation to the inflationary increase in the cost of school transport estimated at £105,000;
- (ii) to note the Education and Lifelong Learning budget issue in relation to the inflationary increase in unitary charges, estimated at £720,000;
- (iii) to note the Education and Lifelong Learning budget issue in relation to Angus Council's 'Holiday Food and Fun' programme at a cost of £180,000;
- (iv) to note the continuation of the Education and Lifelong Learning budget savings from primary staffing as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the Report;

- (v) to note the Education and Lifelong Learning budget savings as listed in Appendix 1 and detailed in Section 5, paragraphs 5.3-5.9 of the Report; and
- (vi) to note that any feedback and comments in relation to the proposals would be reported verbally to the Special meeting of Angus Council on 3 March 2022 following the meeting of this Committee by the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning.