

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE** held remotely on Tuesday 15 November 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Present: Councillors LYNNE DEVINE, MARTIN SHEPHERD, CHRIS BEATTIE, JULIE BELL, KENNY BRAES, IAIN GALL, ROSS GRIEG, MARK McDONALD, GEORGE MEECHAN, LLOYD MELVILLE, LOUISE NICOL, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, LOIS SPEED, CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM and BETH WHITESIDE.

Church

Representative: Mrs JACKIE WILSON.

Teacher

Representative: Mrs GILLIAN LAWRENCE.

Councillor DEVINE, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Linda Clark, Gavin Nicol and Derek Wann, with Councillors Kenny Braes and Craig Fotheringham substituting for Councillors Clark and Wann respectively. Apologies for absence were also intimated on behalf of Mr Mike Callaghan and Mrs Anna Cheyne, Teacher Representatives, with Mrs Gillian Lawrence substituting for Mr Callaghan.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 20 September 2022 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

4. PRESENTATION: AUCHTERHOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL – RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

The Convener welcomed Mrs Cowper, Head Teacher and 14 pupils from Auchterhouse Primary School who provided an overview of what they do as a Rights Respecting School.

The pupils advised the Committee of what they had done and learned through the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), including details of the playground charter, the kitbag and kitbag champions and linking the UNCRC to global awareness which included connections to a school in India and a toilet twinning fundraiser for Uganda.

Each of the pupils provided details of what they had gained from learning about the UNCRC both individually and as a school, and the importance of children's rights.

Following questions and answers, the Convener and members of the Committee congratulated the school on achieving their gold award and thanked the pupils and Mrs Cowper for their presentation and attendance.

5. TAYSIDE PLAN FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES – ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2021-22

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 12 August 2021, there was submitted Report No 381/22 by Depute Chief Executive providing an update on the implementation of the Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families over the last 12 months.

The Annual Report highlighted progress being made in relation to the five priorities outlined in the plan, with a specific focus on the local impact of shared actions of the regional

collaborative. Over the reporting period, each of the priority groups continued to implement a range of measures which supported related efforts to improve outcomes at a local level. A broad overview of these measures, the known local impact on children, young people and families and next steps were outlined in the Report and a full update was provided in the Appendix to the Report.

Having heard a number of members welcome the Report and following questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the progress detailed within the annual update report;
- (ii) to instruct that a further progress report be presented to Children and Learning Committee in autumn 2023; and
- (iii) to instruct that a revised Tayside Plan 2023-26 be presented to Children and Learning Committee in autumn 2023.

6. USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS, SOCIAL MEDIA AND MOBILE TECHNOLOGIES

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 3 October 2013, there was submitted Report No 382/22 by the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning presenting the updated Education & Lifelong Learning Directorate Policy for the Use of Electronic Communications, Social Media and Mobile Technologies.

Since October 2013, minor amendments had been made to the policy guidelines and appendices however, there had not been a substantive review. Since the original approval of the policy, digital learning and teaching had become a key strand of the Curriculum for Excellence. The updated policy modernised the language used to better reflect current technologies and pedagogical approaches. The documentation was also streamlined, with a clear focus on what employees needed to know in order to carry out their roles.

Councillor Bell referred to the guidelines and specifically the use of social media, particularly Twitter, as detailed at 5.1 within Appendix 1 to the Report and sought reassurance that amendments would be made if required.

The Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the updated Use of Electronic Communications, Social Media and Mobile Technologies Policy and accompanying documents, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Report; and
- (ii) that the policy guidelines, as detailed in at Section 5.1 of the Report be amended to accommodate other social media platforms if necessary.