

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of HYBRID MEETING of the **FAMILY, EDUCATION AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Tuesday 19 November 2024 at 2.00 pm.

Present: Councillors LYNNE DEVINE, LLOYD MELVILLE, CHRIS BEATTIE, HEATHER DORAN, BILL DUFF, IAIN GALL, ROSS GREIG, GEORGE MEECHAN, GAVIN NICOL, LOUISE NICOL, RONNIE PROCTOR MBE, JILL SCOTT, MARTIN SHEPHERD, LOIS SPEED, DEREK WANN, and BETH WHITESIDE.

Teacher

Representative: Mr MIKE CALLAGHAN and Mrs ANNA CHEYNE.

Councillor DEVINE, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Julie Bell with Councillor Chris Beattie substituting. Apologies for absence were also intimated on behalf of Mrs Christine Hay and Canon Tom Shields, Church Representatives.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/STATEMENTS OF TRANSPARENCY

There were no declarations of interest or statements of transparency made.

3. MINUTES

(a) Previous Meeting

The minute of meeting of this Committee of 24 September 2024 was approved as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

(b) Staffing Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Staffing Sub-Committee of 24 September 2024, a copy of which is appended hereto, was submitted and noted (**APPENDIX I**).

4. CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT

With reference to Article 8 of the minute of meeting of Angus Council of 26 May 2022, the Committee noted that Mrs Jackie Wilson had intimated her resignation from this Committee and, accordingly, the Council, at its meeting on 7 November 2024, endorsed the appointment of Canon Tom Shields as the representative of the Roman Catholic Church.

5. PRESENTATION BY SEAVIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL: 'SHOWCASING STEM PARTNERSHIP WORKING'

The Convener welcomed Mrs Mooney, Depute Head Teacher, Mrs Rolston, Class Teacher, 4 pupils from Seaview Primary School, and Mr Swinley, Head of Curriculum and Quality of Engineering, Dundee and Angus College, who provided an overview of how they had been exploring STEM through real world experiences and the skills they had developed through their partnership with Dundee and Angus College.

The pupils gave an overview of their recent visit to Dundee and Angus College where all primary 4 – primary 7 pupils had participated in a number of manufacturing workshops highlighting cutting edge technology including augmented reality welding, virtual reality headsets, electric karts, robotic arms and sferos. The pupils demonstrated how these workshops had allowed them to transfer the skills they had learnt into their learning, and how these could later be transferred into their future careers.

Further, the pupils advised members that the workshops had ignited their passion for STEM to the extent that they had continued their learning; engaging in a further collaboration with Dundee and Angus College, where all second level pupils' project work focused on exploring renewable technology and the journey towards a net zero emissions future and detailed examples of what activities they had taken part in including exploring electric and hydrogen

cars, advanced rescue and first aid, wind turbine technician training, and a visit to a fully electric ice cream van.

Following questions and comments, the Convener and members of the Committee commended the school and Dundee and Angus College on their partnership and thanked the pupils, Mrs Mooney, Mrs Rolston and Mr Swinley for their informative presentation and attendance.

6. ANGUS SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORT – HAYSHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

There was submitted Report No 343/24 by the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning updating members on the recent publication of an Education Scotland Report on inspection activity in an Angus school.

The Report advised that the inspection included areas of strength, areas for improvement, evaluations of the Quality Indicators and an expression of confidence in the school's capacity to improve as detailed within the Appendix to the Report.

Thereafter the headteacher from Hayshead Primary School, answered members' questions.

Following comments, and having heard members commend the headteacher, staff and wider school community on their continued achievements and progress, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the areas of strength identified the school's inspection;
- (ii) to note the areas for improvement identified in the school's inspection;
- (iii) to note the evaluation of the Quality Indicators in the school's inspection; and
- (iv) to note the expression of confidence in the school's capacity to improve.

7. ANGUS COUNCIL RESPONSE TO EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL

There was submitted Report No 344/24 by the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning providing members with details of the response submitted by Angus Council to the consultation on the Education (Scotland) Bill.

The Report advised that the Education (Scotland) Bill was introduced on 4 June and the consultation period opened on 28 June and closed on 30 August 2024. The consultation timescale for response did not allow time for committee approval prior to submission, therefore the response was submitted following consultation with the Convener and Vice-Convener of this Committee, and the leader of the Opposition Group.

Following questions and comments, the Committee agreed to note the Angus Council response as detailed within the Appendix to the Report.

8. ANGUS COUNCIL COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2024-2027

There was submitted Report No 345/24 by the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth highlighting the work undertaken in developing a new Community Learning and Development (CLD) plan for Angus for 2024-2027 and the progress and development of CLD activity in Angus.

The Report advised that the new plan has been informed by national legislation and newly published guidance, the national review of CLD, His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education's Progress Visit Report, the Angus Community Plan and the Angus Council Plan. CLD partners and stakeholders had been active and valued participants in evaluating the 2021–2024 CLD Plan and developing actions for the 2024 – 2027 CLD which were detailed in the Appendix to the Report.

Following questions and comments, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to note the outcomes of the 2021-2024 CLD reported to Policy and Resources Committee on 29 October 2024;
- (ii) to note the engagement undertaken as set out in the 'developing our new plan' as

detailed in Appendix 1 to the Report;

- (iii) to note that the draft CLD Plan 2024-2027 was approved by the Community Planning Partnership on 24 September 2024; and
- (iv) to note the actions agreed with partners as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Report.

9. TAYSIDE PLAN FOR INFANTS, CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES 2023-2026 - ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2023-2024

With reference to Article 5 of the minute of meeting of the Children and Learning Committee of 14 November 2023, there was submitted Report No 346/24 by the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning providing an update on the implementation of the Tayside Plan for Infants, Children and 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. Progress of work led by the priority groups was detailed within the Annual Report. The progress Report for 2023-26 detailed the actions and measures to be taken forward over the next three years, with further progress updates on attainment gap data and headline performance measures detailed within the Appendices to the Report.

Having heard from the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning in relation to the sequence of the Appendices, and following questions and comments, the Committee agreed:

- (i) to note the progress detailed within the Tayside Plan Annual Report 2023-2024; and
- (ii) to request that the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning present a further annual Report to the Family, Education and Justice Committee in autumn 2025.