



**MINUTES OF MEETING of the EDUCATION, SPORT AND LEISURE COMMITTEE held within the Council Chamber, Greenfield, Alloa, FK10 2AD, on TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2014 at 10.00 am.**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Ellen Forson, Convenor (In the Chair)  
Councillor Walter McAdam, MBE, Vice Convenor  
Councillor Alastair Campbell  
Councillor Irene Hamilton  
Councillor George Matchett, QPM  
Councillor Bobby McGill  
Councillor Les Sharp  
Councillor Jim Stalker

Father Michael Freyne, Appointed Member (Roman Catholic Church)  
Pastor David Fraser, Appointed Member (Scottish Baptist Church)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

David Leng, Head of Education  
Kevin Kelman, Assistant Head of Education  
Alan Milliken, Assistant Head of Education  
Sharon Johnston, Acting Assistant Head of Education  
Michael Boyle, Education Business Support Manager  
Sharee MacKerron, Head Teacher, Alva Academy  
Janice McCrum, Solicitor, Legal Services (Clerk to the Committee)

**ESL(14)68      APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Gary Womersley (Ex Officio Member) and Rev Sang Y Cha, Appointed Member (Church of Scotland).

**ESL(14)69      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**ESL(14)70      MINUTES OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2013**

The minutes of the meeting of the Education, Sport and Leisure Committee held on Thursday 21 November 2013 were submitted for approval.

**Decision**

The minutes of the meeting of the Education, Sport and Leisure Committee held on Thursday 21 November 2013 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Convenor.

**ESL(14)71      EDUCATION SERVICES QUARTER 3 PERFORMANCE 2013/14  
PROGRESS REPORT**

A report which provided the Committee with an update for the third quarter (October-December 2013) on the progress made against the targets contained within the Business Plan for Education was submitted by the Head of Education.

**Motion**

That the Committee agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Irene Hamilton.

**Decision**

Having commented on and challenged the performance of the Education Services over the third quarter of the 2013-2014 plan, the Committee agreed unanimously to note the information set out in the report.

**ESL(14)72      PLACING REQUEST - RESERVED PLACES**

A report which identified the number of places requiring to be reserved in Clackmannanshire's schools during academic session 2014/15 to ensure sufficient provision for children at their local catchment schools, was submitted by the Head of Education.

**Motion**

That the Committee agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Irene Hamilton.

**Decision**

The Committee agreed unanimously to:

- (1) approve the recommended places to be reserved for catchment area children for session 2014/15 at the following primary schools:
  - Abercromby Primary School
  - Menstrie Primary School
  - Redwell Primary School
  - St Serf's Primary School, and
  - Sunnyside Primary School
- (2) delegate authority to the Head of Education to determine allocation of reserved places at specific year stages in each school.

**Action**

Head of Education

**ESL(14)73      INCREASE IN EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE ENTITLEMENT TO  
600 HOURS**

A report which summarised the results of consultations with stakeholders and outlined the preferred model of delivery of 600 hours of early learning and childcare for 2014/2015 in Clackmannanshire was submitted by the Head of Education.

The Children and Young People Bill is currently going through the Scottish Parliament and is expected to become an Act in 2014. The Bill sets out the intention to increase the amount and flexibility of funded early learning and childcare to meet local need.

### **Motion**

That the Committee agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Irene Hamilton.

### **Decision**

The Committee agreed unanimously to :

- (1) the delivery of 600 hours of early learning and childcare for all 3 and 4 year olds as outlined in the report for session 2014/2015.
- (2) the joint work being undertaken to develop a model of delivery for Looked After 2 year olds and 2 year olds subject to a Kinship Care Order.
- (3) Continued work to develop a more flexible model of delivery of 600 hours early learning and childcare from August 2015.

### **Action**

Head of Education

### **ESL(14)74 INSPECTION OF ALVA ACADEMY - PUBLICATION OF EDUCATION SCOTLAND'S REPORT**

A report which updated the Committee on the outcome of the recently published (5 November 2013) report by Education Scotland on their inspection of Alva Academy was submitted by the Head of Education.

### **Motion**

That the Committee agrees the recommendations set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Walter McAdam, MBE.

### **Decision**

Having had opportunity to put questions to the Head Teacher of Alva Academy who was in attendance and having considered the outcome of the inspection and commented on the key findings identified in the published inspection report attached as Appendix 1, the Committee agreed unanimously to note the information set out in the report.

- ***Councillor Campbell withdrew at this point in the proceedings. Seven elected members and two appointed members remained present.***

### **ESL(14)75 NOTICE OF MOTION IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 16.0 - SUPPORT FOR SCOTLAND'S FAMILIES**

A notice of motion in terms of Standing Order 16.0 which asked Committee to welcome the Scottish Government's announcement of additional funding to support free school meals and an expansion in child care provision and to recommend that Clackmannanshire Council

expresses its commitment to delivering this package, was submitted by Councillor Ellen Forson.

In terms of Standing Order 10.8, Councillor McGill raised a point of order regarding the competency of the motion in that the motion recommends that Clackmannanshire Council expresses its commitment to delivering a package for families across Clackmannanshire where there has been no previous debate or discussion on the matter.

The meeting adjourned at 11.02 am to allow the Clerk to consider whether or not the motion was competent. When the meeting resumed at 11.08 am, 7 elected members and 2 appointed members remained present.

Having considered the position, the Clerk ruled that the motion was competent in terms of Standing Order 16.7.

### **Motion**

The Committee welcomes the Scottish Government's announcement that families and young people across Scotland will benefit from millions of pounds of additional funding, to support free school meals and a significant expansion in childcare provision, which will deliver:

- 600 hours of free nursery education for all 2 year olds in workless households, benefitting 8,800 children across Scotland - 15% of all 2 year olds - from August 2014;
- The extension of 600 hours of free child care to 2 year olds from the hardest pressed families in receipt of a range benefits, benefitting 15,400 children - 27% of 2 year olds - from August 2015;
- £3.5m in 2014-15 to support an additional 2,000 child care workers;
- And, from January 2015, free school meals for all children in primaries 1-3, saving families over £300 per child per year and benefitting approximately 1730 pupils in the Clackmannanshire Council area.

The Committee notes that the Scottish Free School Meals Campaign is supported by EIS, STUC, UNISON, Children in Scotland, Church of Scotland, Save the Children, Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland, Poverty Alliance, One Parent Families Scotland, Shelter Scotland and Children 1st.

The Committee recommends that Clackmannanshire Council express their commitment to delivering this package for families across Clackmannanshire.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Irene Hamilton.

Councillors Matchett, McGill and Stalker withdrew from the meeting at this point in the proceedings (11.18 am). A quorum of 4 elected members remained present.

### **Voting**

In terms of Standing Order 14.8, Councillor Sharp asked for a roll call vote. The Committee agreed that a vote be taken by calling the roll and at this stage there were four elected members present who were eligible to vote. On the roll being called, the members present voted as follows:

#### **Votes for the motion (4)**

Councillor Ellen Forson  
Councillor Irene Hamilton  
Councillor Les Sharp  
Councillor Walter McAdam

**Decision**

The motion was carried by 4 votes.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed to welcome the Scottish Government's announcement that families and young people across Scotland will benefit from millions of pounds of additional funding to support free school meals and a significant expansion in child care provision and recommended that Clackmannanshire Council expresses its commitment to delivering the package for families across Clackmannanshire.

**Action**

Chief Executive

ENDS 11.20 am

