

**THE MORAY COUNCIL**  
**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST 2009**  
**COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN**

**PRESENT**

Councillors J Hamilton (Chairman), A McKay (Depute), G Coull, J Divers, J Hogg, M McConachie, A McDonald, E McGillivray, I Ogilvie, D Ross, J Russell, M Shand, I Young, Rev C M Stewart, Rev G Swanson (Religious Representative), Mrs F Wardhaugh (Primary Representative), Mrs S Slater (Secondary Representative) and Ms F Jagger (Pupil Representative) and Councillors G McIntyre and A Wright Ex-Officio).

**IN ATTENDANCE**

The Director of Community Services, the Director of Educational Services, the Head of Educational Resource Services, the Head of Educational Development Services, the Acting Head of Educational Support Services, the Head of Children & Families, the Placement Services Manager, the Educational Resource Manager, the Libraries and Museums Manager, the Community Development and Manager (Operations), the Community Learning and development, team leader, (Adult learning), Mrs S Duffus, Ms L Whitelaw, Mrs V Cross (Quality Improvement Officers), Ms A Hannah, Project Officer, Mrs D Brands, Principal Accountant, Mrs K Wiles, Principal Solicitor (Litigation & Licensing), and Mrs S Kennedy, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Meeting.

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors M McConachie, E McGillivray, Mrs A R MacLennan, Rev C M Stewart and Rev G Swanson. (Religious Representatives) and Miss F Jagger, (Pupil Representative) and Councillor G McIntyre (ex-officio).

**1. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair invited the Committee to join him in congratulating the young people of Moray on their results in the recent examinations. He advised that the early indications were of very positive outcomes across Moray Schools. For those pupils at the end of the fourth year the results were the best ever for the highest performers and he was sure that Committee would be pleased to note that there were improvements in the results for 3 and 5 higher grades by the end of S5, which included 16 candidates who achieved 5 A's by that stage.

He commended the young people, their parents and staff on their achievements and looked forward to receiving the annual full report at the October meeting of this Committee.

The Chair also advised the Committee that Fiona Jagger of Buckie High School had been appointed as the new pupil representative for 2009/10. Unfortunately Fiona was unable to attend this meeting.

## **2. DECLARATION OF GROUP DECISIONS**

Councillor Divers declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda items 22 (appendix 1) and 31, Children & Families Performance Report, Quarter Four, January-March 2009 and Crowhall Funding 2009/10.

There were no other declarations from group leaders or spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how Members' will vote on an item on the Agenda nor any declarations of Members' Interest in respect of any Item on the Agenda. There were no declarations from group leaders or spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how Members' will vote on any item on the Agenda nor any declarations of Members' Interest in respect of any Item on the Agenda.

## **3. EXEMPT INFORMATION**

Para. No. of Minute	<u>Para. No. of Schedule 7A</u>
29	
30	
31	

## **4. WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

The meeting noted the terms of the written question from Councillor D Ross and the response thereto.

In response to a supplementary question from Councillor Ross with regard to a recent press article which reported that a teacher had given the view that a Critical Skills Programme Training Course had been one of the worst courses she had attended, the Head of Educational Resource Services confirmed that no information in the press article related to Moray.

The Head of Educational Development Services also advised that 400 teachers in Moray had attended the Critical Skills Training and positive feedback had been received and he would be happy to provide Councillor Ross with a copy of the feedback. He further advised that in verbal communication with HMle, that they had commented on the difference that the training had made and he would have been happy to discuss this information with Councillor Ross without the need for a written question.

## **5. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES - SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Educational Services asking Committee to agree the Educational Services - Service Improvement Plan 2009 – 12 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

Following consideration the Committee agreed:

- (i) to approve the Educational Services - Service Improvement Plan 2009–12; and

that copies of the plan would be made available electronically on the Intranet and Internet and that a number of copies are printed for establishments, public access via Public Libraries and Access Points and for other interested parties such as the Scottish Government and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE). Following consideration the Committee agreed:

- (ii) to approve the Educational Services - Service Improvement Plan 2009 – 12; and
- (ii) that copies of the plan be made available electronically on the Intranet and Internet and that a number of copies are printed for establishments, public access via Public Libraries and Access Points and for other interested parties such as the Scottish Government and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE).

## **6. CULTURAL EDUCATION STRATEGY**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Educational Services inviting the Committee to approve the Cultural Education Strategy as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to approve the Cultural Education Strategy for 2009 - 2011.

## **7. EDUCATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES CAPITAL BUDGET 2009 / 10**

There was submitted a report by the Directors of Educational Services and Community Services informing Committee of the projects and patterns of expenditure projected for Capital Budgets within Educational and Community Services for 2009 / 10.

## **8. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Educational Services providing Committee with a summary statement for Educational Services Revenue Budget as at 30 June 2009.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- (i) note the current position regarding the Educational and Community Services Capital Programme.
- (ii) approve the implementation of the capital projects as identified in Paragraph 4.4 of the report.
- (iii) homologate the projects listed in paragraph 4.8 of the report; and
- (iv) request that the Policy and Resources Committee give consideration to 20,000 being made available within the capital programme in order to fund the upgrading of the community changing pavilion at Pinefield, Elgin.

#### **9. SINGLETON INSPECTIONS OF PRE-SCHOOL CENTRES - PUBLISHED REPORTS FROM MAY 2009 TO JULY 2009**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Educational Services inviting the Children and Young People's Services Committee to scrutinise and note the singleton inspections of pre-school centres by the Care Commission published between May 2009 and July 2009 for the undernoted:

- (i) Jack 'n' Jill Pre School Centre; and
- (ii) 1<sup>st</sup> Base out of School Care Day Care of Children, Elgin

Following consideration the Committee noted the singleton inspections of pre-school centres by the Care Commission published between May 2009 and July 2009 in respect of the following:

- (i) Jack 'n' Pre-school Centre; and
- (ii) 1<sup>st</sup> base Out of School Care Day Care of Children, Elgin.

#### **10. INTEGRATED INSPECTIONS OF PRE-SCHOOL CENTRES - PUBLISHED REPORTS IN APRIL 2009**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Educational Services inviting the Children and Young People's Services Committee to scrutinise and note the integrated inspection of pre-school centres by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education and the Care Commission in respect of Portessie Playgroup, Portessie.

Following consideration the Committee noted the integrated inspections of pre-school centres published reports in April 2009 in respect of Portessie Playgroup, Portessie.

#### **11. HMIE SCHOOL INSPECTIONS - MORAY COUNCIL FOLLOW-THROUGH REPORT JUNE 2009**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Educational Services inviting the Children and Young People's Services Committee to scrutinise and note the most recent report published by Moray Council Educational Services following earlier school inspections by HM Inspectorate of Education in respect of Hythehill Primary School (Appendix 1).

Following consideration the Committee noted the integrated inspections of pre-school centres published reports in April 2009 in respect of Portessie Playgroup, Portessie.

## **12. HMIE SCHOOL INSPECTIONS - PUBLISHED REPORTS MAY - JUNE 2009**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Educational Services inviting the Committee to scrutinise and note the most recent reports published following inspections by HM Inspectorate of Education of schools and nursery classes in respect of:

- (i) Inspection of Seafield Primary School and Nursery Class; and
- (ii) Follow-through inspection of Kinloss Primary school.

## **13. HMIE INSPECTION OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE - MORAY COUNCIL FOLLOW-THROUGH REPORT MARCH 2009**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Educational Services inviting the Children and Young People's Services Committee to scrutinise and note the most recent report published by HM Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) of Moray Council in respect of Educational Psychology Services as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

## **14. PUBLIC PERFORMANCE REPORTING - SCHOOL MEALS IN SCOTLAND 2009**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Educational Services notifying the Committee of performance information with regard to free school meals and healthy eating.

## **15. PUBLIC PERFORMANCE REPORTING - HOME EDUCATION**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Educational Services notifying Committee of performance information with regard to elective home Education.

## **16. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES PPP BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Educational Services providing Committee with a summary statement for the PPP Budget position as at 30 June 2009 as detailed in appendix 1 of the report.

## **17. MONITORING REPORT: COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Educational Services asking Committee to consider the details of complaints received during the period 1 April to 30 June 2009 as detailed in the report.

## **18. ACTIVE SCHOOLS INITIATIVE PROGRESS REPORT**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Educational Services informing Committee of the progress of the active schools initiative, specifically against the performance indicators detailed in the Active Schools Annual Action Plan for 2008 - 2009.

## **19. ANNUAL REPORT ON SOCIAL WORK COMPLAINTS 2008 / 09**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services asking the Committee to scrutinise the operation and effectiveness of the Statutory Social Works Complaints Procedure during the period April 2008 to March 2009 inclusive.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- (i) note and approve the operation and effectiveness of the Statutory Social Complaints Procedure; and
- (ii) note the developments and measures that have been taken to strengthen complaint handling within Social Work.

## **20. INSPECTION OF MORAY ADOPTION SERVICE**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Community Services inviting the Children and Young People's Services Committee to scrutinise and note the inspection of Moray's Adoption Service by the Care Commission as detailed in appendix 1 of the report.

## **20. INSPECTION OF MORAY FOSTERING SERVICE**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Community Services inviting the Children and Young People's Services Committee to scrutinise and note the inspection of Moray's Fostering Service by the Care Commission which was completed on 25 February 2009 as detailed in appendix 1 of the report.

## **21. CHILDREN & YOUNG FAMILIES PERFORMANCE REPORT, QUARTER FOUR, JANUARY - MARCH 2009**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Community Services inviting the Committee to scrutinise the Performance Indicators for Children and Families for the quarter, 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

## **22. CHILDREN & YOUNG FAMILIES REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2009 / 10**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Community Services informing the Children & Young People's Services Committee of the position as at 30 June 2009 with regard to the Children & Families revenue budget as detailed in appendix 1 of the report.

## **23. COMMUNITY SERVICES SERVICE DEVELOPMENT & IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2008 - 09, MONITORING REPORT, QUARTER FOUR, JANUARY - MARCH 2009**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Community Services inviting the Committee to scrutinise the Department's performance against the Service Development & Improvement Plan 2008 - 09 for the quarter, 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009, as detailed in appendix 1 of the report.

## **24. DEVELOPMENT OFFICER FOR 16+ LEARNING CHOICES**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Educational Services seeking Committee approval to accept funding from the Scottish Government to support the establishment of a temporary 16+ Learning Choices Development Officer as part of The Moray Council's response to the national 16+ Learning Choices agenda.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to accept funding of £55,000 from the Scottish Government to support the establishment of a full-time temporary 15+ Learning Choices Development Officer to support the implementation of 16+ Learning Choices in Moray.

## **25. TEACHER SUPPORT FOR CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Educational Services asking Committee to homologate the acceptance of funding from the Scottish Government for the establishment of two full time posts to support the development of Curriculum for Excellence for school session 2009-2010.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to homologate the decision to accept the sum of £80,000 from the Scottish Government for the funding of two full time posts to support the development of Curriculum for Excellence for session 2009 - 10.

## **26. CELEBRATING SUCCESS**

There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Community services sharing with Committee some of the recent successes and positive developments within the Children and Families Services.

## **27. QUESTION TIME**

## **28. INVERAVON / KNOCKANDO - PAIRED HEADTEACHER MODEL (Para 1)**

Under reference to the Education and Social Services Committee dated 9 April 2008 and 28 January 2009 (paragraphs 7 and 21 of the minutes refers) there was submitted a report by the Director of Educational Services inviting Committee to note the final evaluation of the Inveravon / Knockando paired headteacher pilot and seeking agreement to establish a permanent paired headteacher arrangement.

### **29. CONTACT CENTRE (para 9)**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services seeking Committee approval for additional funding for Counselling and Family Mediation Grampian for 2009-10 for the operation of a contact centre in Moray.

Following consideration the Committee noted the successes and positive developments that Children and Families Services have achieved in recent months.

### **30. CROWHALL FUNDING 2009 / 10 (para 9)**

Under reference to the Children and Young People's Committee dated 20 May 2009 (paragraph 10 of the minute refers there was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services seeking Committee approval for the core funding of Crowhall in 2009 – 10 as detailed in the report.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to the approval of core funding for Crowhall in 2009 - 10.