

Education, Children and Families Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 12 December 2017

Present:

Councillors Perry (Convener), Dickie (Vice-Convener), Bird, Mary Campbell, Child, Corbett, Gordon (substituting for Councillor Ritchie), Laidlaw, Rust, Smith and Young.

Added members for Education matters

Religious Representative

Rabbi David Rose.

Parent Representative

Alexander Ramage (non-voting).

1. Deputation – Parents and Carers Councils for Braidburn, Oaklands and St Crispin’s Special Schools

The Committee agreed to hear a joint deputation from Oaklands Parents and Carers Council, Braidburn Parents and Carers Council and St Crispin’s Parents and Carers Council in relation to the holiday activity programme playscheme.

The deputation highlighted the challenges for families caring for children with disabilities such as isolation and inability to work and that these challenges were exacerbated during school holidays. The holiday playscheme offered an invaluable service.

The deputation requested that the playscheme provision be extended to be available to all children with disabilities or that one third of all places be protected for six weeks for those children with severe and complex needs.

Decision

- 1) To agree to establish a short term Working Group, comprising the Convener, Vice-Convener and Opposition Group Spokespersons to explore solutions to the holiday play scheme provision.
- 2) To delegate responsibility to the Working Group to implement any identified solutions subject to noting that any budgetary implications arising from the Working Group’s deliberations would require to be reported to the appropriate Committee for the necessary approval.

- 3) To agree that the first meeting of the Working Group would be held during the week commencing 18 December 2017 diaries permitting.
- 4) To agree that the Working Group would consider the following as part of their remit:
 - (a) to explore reserving provision for children with severe disabilities (possibly one third of provision of available places as a priority allocation);
 - (b) constraints around staffing, finance, premises and training;
 - (c) tailoring the service provision to the individual needs of families;
 - (d) working towards a solution in consultation with parents with children attending special schools and the wider parent body to ensure that all issues were considered and to look at creative ways of ensuring engagement with all parents;
 - (e) explore training and resourcing which could be provided by partner organisations.

2. Deputation – James Gillespie’s High School Parent Council – WiFi in School

The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from James Gillespie’s High School Parent Council and Adam Paton (James Gillespie’s High School Pupil and Scottish Parliament Member) in relation to WiFi availability within the James Gillespie’s High School buildings.

The deputation highlighted that there was limited access to WiFi within the school which was having a detrimental impact on learning opportunities. Many pupils had access to WiFi on their own devices and having WiFi installed in all schools would encourage pupils to engage with more online educational material, an approach which would be a minimal cost to the Council.

The deputation requested that the Committee explore implementing a ‘bring your own device’ pilot scheme and that the outcome be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.

Decision

- 1) To note that work was progressing on the overall strategy on digital learning provision across the whole school estate.
- 2) To note that, as part of that strategy, it was planned to undertake pilot schemes trialling the use of WiFi across three schools (one of which would be James Gillespie’s High School) and two others to be identified.

- 3) To note that the pilot schemes were likely to be concluded by the end of April and that a report on the outcomes would be reported to Committee as soon as possible thereafter.

5. Schools Meals Update

(a) Deputation – Leith Walk Primary and James Gillespie’s Primary Parent Councils

The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from Leith Walk Primary School Parent Council and James Gillespie’s Primary School Primary School Parent Council regarding the provision of school meals.

The deputation welcomed the provision of hot meals within schools but felt that some improvements could be made, such as reducing the levels of sugar within the food. Staff shortages in school dining rooms often meant that parents found it difficult to highlight their concerns which also caused delays in serving the food.

The deputation indicated their support for the initiative outlined in the report and asked to be involved in teaching children about healthy eating for life.

(b) Report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families

An update was provided on the school meals service including information on menu compilation, school meals uptake, Food for Life accreditation, online payment and cashless catering provision.

Motion

- 1) To note the update on schools meals with particular regard to uptake trends and Food for Life accreditation.
 - 2) To note the challenges ahead that the new services faced with rising schools rolls and early year provision.
- moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie

Amendment

- 1) To agree in light of the challenges laid out in the report by the Executive Director for Resources, to call for a further report in two cycles setting out recommendations to tackle these challenges, including, but not restricted to:
 - Extending the number of schools reaching silver accreditation.

- The impact caused by transport and time delays on the nutritional value of menu items.
 - Options to further reduce packaging.
 - A mechanism for parents to input thoughts into the menu design, with a focus on healthy options.
- 2) To agree that the report would consider how other authorities had been dealing with similar challenges.
- moved by Councillor Mary Campbell, seconded by Councillor Corbett

In accordance with Standing Order 20(7), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion:

- 1) To note the update on schools meals with particular regard to uptake trends and Food for Life accreditation.
- 2) To note the challenges ahead that the new services faced with rising schools rolls and early year provision.
- 3) To agree in light of the challenges laid out in the report by the Executive Director for Resources, to call for a further report in two cycles setting out the recommendations to tackle these challenges, including, but not restricted to:
 - Extending the number of schools reaching silver accreditation.
 - The impact caused by transport and time delays on the nutritional value of menu items.
 - Options to further reduce packaging.
 - A mechanism for parents to input thoughts into the menu design, with a focus on healthy options.
- 4) To agree that the report would consider how other authorities had been dealing with similar challenges.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Resources, submitted)

6. Schools and Lifelong Learning Estate Strategic Review – Update on Informal Consultation

a) Deputation – Currie Community High School School Parent Council

The Committee agreed to hear a joint deputation from Currie Community High School Parent Council, Juniper Green Primary School Parent Council and Woodlands School.

The deputation did not support the proposals for the South West Edinburgh Schools Review describing it as the “Nightmare before Christmas”. The deputation felt that it was irrational to close a thriving school that was at the heart of the community only to build more houses with inadequate infrastructure to support it.

There were concerns that the current proposals may lead to a decline in the existing high levels of educational attainment and that the push to encourage more children to walk/cycle to school would stop.

b) Deputation – Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pairce Parent Council

The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pairce Parent Council) and Comann Nam Parant.

The deputation stressed the importance of access to Gaelic medium education provision and that it should be open to all families who wanted it for their children. This approach would ensure revitalisation of the language and ensure that pupils would eventually become fluent Gaelic speakers.

To help broaden the appeal of Gaelic, the Parent Council pledged to continue to work with the Council to ensure sufficient GME capacity at secondary schools, quality education and a good overall experience of Gaelic from Early Years to the senior level.

c) Deputation – Kirkliston Primary School Association

The Committee agreed to hear a deputation from Kirkliston Primary School Association.

The deputation highlighted the need to ensure that positive outcomes were achieved for children and recognised the sense of urgency, the tight timescales and the need to maintain excellent standards. However, as there was no clear preferred option a wider consultation should be undertaken.

Concerns were raised regarding the potential isolation of Kirkliston due to housing development, road safety and the lack of contingency plans if the West Edinburgh High School was not delivered within the required timeline.

The deputation asked that the Committee explore all options to give children the best education, while maintaining strong links with Queensferry.

d) Report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families

An update on the informal consultations which were to be carried out in West and South West Edinburgh was presented.

Motion

- 1) To note that further work on transport and travel access to a new school, explanation of expected pupil numbers across West Edinburgh and discussions on the site opportunities for a new school within the proposed catchment area would be progressed.
- 2) To note the proposals for the informal consultation on the future of Gaelic Medium Education and that a draft statutory consultation paper would be prepared for consideration by the Education, Children and Families Committee in March 2018.
- 3) To note the update on the Wave 4 Trinity Academy feasibility study and the options appraisal for additional accommodation at Boroughmuir High School.
 - moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie

Amendment 1

- 1) To acknowledge that the proposal for a new combined school in the South West of the city was not signalled in the Local Development Action Programme (December 2016) or the Education Appraisal (March 2017).
- 2) To note that since those two reports, information had come to light via estate surveys which highlighted the need to replace Currie High School; and that the new information had prompted further reflection on how best to meet the twin demands of rising secondary rolls and a fit-for-purpose school estate.
- 3) To note that the scope of and timescale for informal consultation outlined in the report to Education, Children and Families Committee in October 2017 had evolved from those set out in the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.
- 4) To recognise that the current informal consultation, with a specific proposal on a combined school in South West Edinburgh, on three possible identified sites, had prompted significant reaction from school communities, elected members, other elected representatives and stakeholders.

- 5) To note that a number of other possibilities had already been raised and would continue to be raised as to how best to meet the twin demands outlined in paragraph 2 (above).
- 6) To request that, in advance of further consultation officers provided the following additional information outlined below in order to enhance shared understanding on:
 - a. The educational opportunities including curriculum choice provided by schools with different capacities and rolls.
 - b. The number of pupils attending each primary school in the area.
 - c. Existing cross catchment pupil placement numbers for schools in the area.
 - d. Additional information on travel to school routes and distances.
 - e. Opportunities for the retention and improvement of community facilities in the area covered by the review.
 - f. School condition issues.
 - g. Steps being taken to investigate a range of alternative sites for a new Currie High school and a new school in the West, including, for the latter, sites in and around Kirkliston. This information would be made available to all affected parents.
- 7) Therefore instructs officers to proceed with but amend the informal consultation in the following ways:
 - To make clear that the combined school option issued on 24 November 2017 had no special status and was a provisional option put forward by officers rather than a preferred proposal;
 - To clarify that all practicable options would be treated equally and the consequences of each explored.
- 8) To agree that the instructions in paragraphs 6 & 7 (above) would be reflected in a revised online consultation form; any current dialogue with school communities; and planned consultation in January and February 2018.
- 9) To agree that before any decision was taken by the Education, Children, and Families Committee at the March 2018 Committee or subsequent Committees, the Convenor called a meeting prior to that date to discuss all the evidence and invited community groups to express their views.

- 10) To agree to review the process with a view to informing future consultations and approve the setting up of a Member Officer Working Group, on strategic estate review, to support and guide further engagement on estate proposals throughout the city.
- moved by Councillor Mary Campbell, seconded by Councillor Corbett

Amendment 2

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families and add to the motion:
 - To agree to present to Education, Children, and Families Committee as part of updated report, and following results of informal consultation, information on the extent to which rationale for larger secondary schools with wider catchment areas, and the advantages and disadvantages thereof, were part of any citywide strategic review, to include:
 - analysis of attainment (and closure of attainment gap) based on size of school roll
 - availability of range of subjects and qualifications on offer based on size of school roll
 - availability of sporting and extra curricular activities
 - any Impact of increased travel times/distance from school on pupil attainment and attendance
 - considered impact on pupil support, school ethos and community links
 - cost analysis of refurbishment of existing schools versus rationalisation and replacement
- 3) To note that any policy change must be made with the agreement of elected members and remitted to Full Council.
- moved by Councillor Laidlaw, seconded by Councillor Rust.

Amendment 3

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.
- 2) To agree to remove recommendations 1.1 and 1.2, contained within the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families and replace with:

- To note the outcomes of the informal consultation carried out on the future feeder status of Kirkliston Primary School,
- To note the ongoing uncertainty over the projected pupil numbers at Kirkliston Primary School as detailed in 3.7 of the report, with the current projection showing a larger school roll than 8 of Edinburgh's current high schools by the time Queensferry High School capacity became an issue (2023) and,
- To note that such uncertainty meant it would not be possible to rule out the feasibility of Kirkliston supporting a new high school in its own right.
- moved by Councillor Young, seconded by Councillor Smith

In accordance with Standing Order 20 (7), Amendments 1 and 2 were accepted and Amendment 3 was adjusted and accepted as addendums to the motion.

Decision

- 1) To note that further work on transport and travel access to a new school, explanation of expected pupil numbers across West Edinburgh and discussions on the site opportunities for a new school within the proposed catchment area will be progressed.
- 2) To note the proposals for the informal consultation on the future of Gaelic Medium Education and that a draft statutory consultation paper will be prepared for consideration by Committee in March 2018.
- 3) To note the update on the Wave 4 Trinity Academy feasibility study and the options appraisal for additional accommodation at Boroughmuir High School.
- 4) To acknowledge that the proposal for a new combined school in the South West of the city is not signalled in the Local Development Action Programme (December 2016) or the Education Appraisal (March 2017).
- 5) To note that since those two reports, information had come to light via estate surveys which highlights the need to replace Currie High School; and that this new information had prompted further reflection on how best to meet the twin demands of rising secondary rolls and a fit-for-purpose school estate.
- 6) To note that the scope of and timescale for informal consultation outlined in the report to Education, Children and Families Committee in October 2017 had evolved from those set out in the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.

- 7) To recognise that the current informal consultation, with a specific proposal on a combined school in South West Edinburgh, on three possible identified sites, had prompted significant reaction from school communities, elected members, other elected representatives and stakeholders.
- 8) To note that a number of other possibilities had already been raised and will continue to be raised as to how best to meet the twin demands outlined in 5) above.
- 9) To request that, in advance of further consultation, officers provide the following additional information outlined below in order to enhance shared understanding on:
 - a. The educational opportunities including curriculum choice provided by schools with different capacities and rolls.
 - b. The number of pupils attending each primary school in the area.
 - c. Existing cross catchment pupil placement numbers for schools in the area.
 - d. Additional information on travel to school routes and distances.
 - e. Opportunities for the retention and improvement of community facilities in the area covered by the review.
 - f. School condition issues.
 - g. Steps being taken to investigate a range of alternative sites for a new Currie High School and a new school in the West, including, for the latter, sites in and around Kirkliston. This information would be made available to all affected parents.
- 10) To instruct officers to proceed with, but amend, the informal consultation in the following ways:
 - To make clear that the combined school option issued on 24 November 2017 had no special status and was a provisional option put forward by officers rather than a preferred proposal;
 - To clarify that all practicable options would be treated equally and the consequences of each explored.
- 11) To agree that the instructions in 9) and 10) above would be reflected in a revised online consultation form; any current dialogue with school communities; and planned consultation in January and February 2018.

- 12) To agree that before any decision is taken by the Education, Children, and Families Committee at the March 2018 Committee or subsequent Committees, the Convenor calls a meeting prior to that date to discuss all the evidence and invite community groups to express their views.
- 13) To agree to review the process with a view to informing future consultations and approves the setting up of a Member Officer Working Group, on strategic estate review, to support and guide further engagement on estate proposals throughout the city.
- 14) To agree to present to the Education, Children and Families Committee as part of updated report, and following results of informal consultation, information on the extent to which rationale for larger secondary schools with wider catchment areas, and the advantages and disadvantages thereof, are part of any citywide strategic review, to include:
 - analysis of attainment (and closure of attainment gap) based on size of school roll;
 - availability of range of subjects and qualifications on offer based on size of school roll;
 - availability of sporting and extra curricular activities;
 - any Impact of increased travel times/distance from school on pupil attainment and attendance;
 - considered impact on pupil support, school ethos and community links; and,
 - cost analysis of refurbishment of existing schools versus rationalisation and replacement
- 15) To note that any policy change must be made with the agreement of elected members and remitted to Full Council.
- 16) To note:
 - (a) the outcomes of the informal consultation carried out on the future feeder status of Kirkliston Primary School;
 - (b) the ongoing uncertainty over the projected pupil numbers at Kirkliston Primary School as detailed in 3.7 of the report by the Executive Directors for Communities and Families, with the current projection showing a larger school roll than 8 of Edinburgh's current high schools by the time Queensferry High School capacity becomes an issue (2023); and,

- (c) that such uncertainty means it would not be possible to rule out the feasibility of Kirkliston supporting a new high school in its own right.

(References – Minute of the Education, Children and Families Committee 10 October 2017 (item 10); Executive Director of Communities and Families, submitted)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Young declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a parent of a child attending Kirkliston Primary School.

Councillor Corbett declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a parent of a child attending Tynecastle High School.

7. Energy in Schools Annual Report

An overview was provided of 2016/17 energy use across the Council's school estate and the significant investment made in energy/carbon reduction initiatives across the School estate.

Due to the low wholesale cost of energy, there had been a reduction in overall energy spend in comparison to 2015/16. However, electricity costs continued to increase due to market changes. In line with previous trends, gas consumption had continued to decrease.

Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director of Resources and the positive outlook for the future energy efficiency strategy and the significant progress made on key energy efficiency projects to date.
- 2) To note that the additional detail requested by the Committee in December 2016 on energy consumption per unit floor area had been included within Appendix 2 to the report by the Executive Director of Resources.
- 3) To note that an annual progress report would be submitted to the Education, Children and Families Committee in 2018 on Energy in Schools.

(References – minute of the Education, Children and Families Committee 13 December 2016 (item 14); report by the Executive Director of Resources, submitted)

8. Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of the Education, Children and Families Committee of 10 October 2017, as a correct record.

9. Education, Children and Families Committee - Key Decisions Forward Plan

The Education, Children and Families Committee Key Decisions Forward Plan was submitted.

Decision

To note the Key Decisions Forward Plan.

(Reference – Key Decisions Forward Plan, submitted)

10. Education, Children and Families Committee Rolling Actions Log

The Education, Children and Families Committee Rolling Actions Log for December 2017 was presented.

Decision

1) To close actions 2, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24 and 29.

2) To otherwise note the remaining outstanding actions.

(References – Rolling Actions Log 12 December 2017, submitted)

11. Business Bulletin

The Education, Children and Families Committee Business Bulletin for 12 December 2017 was presented.

Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Business Bulletin – 12 December 2017, submitted)

12. School Roll Projections

Details were provided of the latest school projections for the 2017-2027 period.

Decision

To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.

(References – Minute of the Education, Children and Families Committee 13 December 2016 (item 1); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

13. Education Governance and the Establishment of a Regional Collaboration

The governance arrangements for the South East Improvement Collaborative Steering Group and the focus on collaboration in order to improve attainment, reduce the poverty related attainment gap and sharing practice were submitted.

Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.
- 2) To request an annual update on progress of the South East Improvement Collaborative.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

14. Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare from 600-1140 hours by 2020

An update was provided regarding the approach to delivering 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare to all eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds by August 2020. The expansion plan would continue to be reviewed and adapted where necessary as work was undertaken with the Scottish Government in terms of funding allocations.

Decision

- 1) To approve increasing the number of local authority early years settings providing early learning and childcare over 50 weeks and open between 8.00am and 6.00pm.
- 2) To approve the appendix to the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families to the early years admissions policy which outlined the criteria for phasing in 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare before full implementation in 2020.
- 3) To note the intention to return a report on the finalised plan to the Education, Children and Families Committee in March 2018 when the multi-year revenue and capital funding had been agreed by the Scottish Government.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee 15 August 2017 (item 12); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

15. Teacher Recruitment Update

Information was provided on the number of teacher vacancies in Edinburgh schools and an assessment of any impact on standards of learning.

Motion

To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families as an initial indication of the longer-term strategy envisaged to tackle shortage issues in teacher recruitment so as to mitigate any impact on standards of learning and teaching.

- moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie.

Amendment

- 1) To instruct officers to investigate the creation of a talent pool using available data from previous applications and current employees with a view to flagging particular in-demand specialisms including:
 - Special needs experience.
 - Ability to teach multiple STEM subjects.
 - Language skills, particularly ability to deliver Gaelic Medium EducationOfficers to report on any legal impediment to allowing applicants to 'opt-in' to being notified of new roles they may be interested in.
- 2) To instruct officers to report on the above within one cycle.
 - moved by Councillor Laidlaw, seconded by Councillor Rust.

In accordance with Standing Order 20 (7), the amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families as an initial indication of the longer-term strategy envisaged to tackle shortage issues in teacher recruitment so as to mitigate any impact on standards of learning and teaching.
- 2) To instruct officers to investigate the creation of a talent pool using available data from previous applications and current employees with a view to flagging particular in-demand specialisms including:
 - Special needs experience.
 - Ability to teach multiple STEM subjects.
 - Language skills, particularly ability to deliver Gaelic Medium EducationOfficers to report on any legal impediment to allowing applicants to 'opt-in' to being notified of new roles they may be interested in.

- 3) To instruct officers to report on the above within one cycle.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee 10 October 2017 (item 9); report by the Executive Director for Families and Communities, submitted)

16. Education Standards and Quality Report

An update was provided on the local improvement plan and a Standards and Quality Report detailing how the service, its schools and services had sought and achieved improvement in provision.

Decision

- 1) To approve the Education Standards and Quality report set out in Appendix 1 of the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.
- 2) To agree to hold a workshop to allow Members to discuss issues around attainment and to reach an understanding of the Council's priorities in this area.

(References – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families submitted)

17. Additional Support Needs and Special Schools Update 2016-17

An update was provided on progress on performance and planning over the previous 12 months in relation to the provision of services for children and young people with disabilities.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress in the implementation of the strategic priorities for Additional Support for Learning (ASL) 2017-20.
- 2) To note and welcome the continued progress in inclusive practice in our schools and the work of the Inclusion Strategy Working Group.
- 3) To note the progress in planning for the future of our special schools including:
 - (a) The successful outcome to the proposed closure of Panmure St Ann's.
 - (b) Progress in planning for the new St Crispin's and its key role in the sustainability of authority's provision for children with autism.
 - (c) Forward planning of special school provision in anticipation of future needs.
- 4) To approve the public consultation and submission of planning permission for the new St Crispin's.

- 5) To approve informal consultations to inform planning of future provision for children with autism at Kaimes and special classes and secondary resource provision.
- 6) To approve that future options for special provision would be continued as part of the Strategic Review and rising rolls programme.
- 7) To welcome the strategic improvement plan for Autism and continuing consultations with parents and other partners in its implementation.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee, 7 March 2017 (item 11); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

18. Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children

Details were provided of the increased number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children who had arrived in Edinburgh during 2016 and 2017, and the authority's approach to assessing, supporting and accommodating them.

Decision

- 1) To note the increased demand relating to arrivals of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) in Edinburgh in 2016 and 2017 and the associated budget pressures within Children's Services.
- 2) To note the actions in place to develop alternative options for the accommodation of young people.
- 3) To request that future reports on Looked After and Accommodated Children transformation include a section containing data on UASC and progress made in relation to strategies for managing demand for service.
- 4) To note that the Council was working with COSLA to make representation to the Home Office regarding level of government funding for UASC.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee, 15 August 2017 (item 14); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

19. Transfer of the Management of Secondary School Sport Facilities to Edinburgh Leisure

Details were provided of the transfer of school sports facilities to Edinburgh Leisure. Edinburgh Leisure had also taken on the administration of bookings for community access to all secondary school sport facilities.

Decision

- 1) To note the progress made with transfer of management of secondary school sport facilities to Edinburgh Leisure.
- 2) To request a report on the transfer of management of sport facilities at the remaining Council owned and managed secondary schools.
- 3) To agree that the Executive Director for Communities and Families would provide a briefing to Members on the £1.3m funding gap in advance of the Council's Budget setting meeting on 22 February 2018.

(Reference – Education, Children and Families Committee, 15 August 2017 (item 10); report by the Executive Director of Communities and Families, submitted)

20. Outdoor Learning

Performance information and progress of the Outdoor Learning Centres following the completion of an organisational review was reported.

Decision

- 1) To note the performance and progress since the completion of an organisational review of the Outdoor Learning Centres.
- 2) To note the proposed developments regarding the Outdoor Learning Centres.
- 3) To continue to support the recommendation that the City of Edinburgh Council's Primary Schools chose Benmore of Lagganlia as their first choice of a fully serviced residential outdoor learning week, providing there was available space during the peak period of mid February through to mid-November.
- 4) To continue with the provision to carry forward any budget surplus from Benmore and Lagganlia for vital future investment in infrastructure and resources to ensure their long term sustainability.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee, 1 March 2016 (item 15); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

21. Communities and Families Excursions Policy

Approval was sought for the Communities and Families Excursions Policy. The Policy set out The City of Edinburgh Council's employer framework for delivering safe, high quality excursions.

Decision

To approve the Communities and Families Excursions Policy.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

22. Schools and Lifelong Learning Staff Travelling and Working Overseas Policy

Approval was sought for a proposed Schools and Lifelong Learning Travelling and Working Overseas Policy. The Policy set out the requirements for Schools and Lifelong Learning staff proposing to travel and work overseas.

Decision

To approve the Schools and Lifelong Learning Travelling and Working Overseas Policy.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

22. Positive Action Funding in Primary Schools

An update was provided on the improvement in attainment to date for schools in receipt of positive action funding.

Decision

To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

23. Breakfast Club Update Report

An update was provided on new developments and progress made by the Council funded breakfast clubs delivered in local authority primary schools and special schools over the last 12 months.

Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.
- 2) To note the significant progress of the breakfast club programme delivered in primary schools over the last 12 months.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee 13 December 2016 (item 10); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

24. Strategic Management of School Places

Updates were provided concerning the P1 and S1 admissions for August 2017 and the number of out of catchment requests; the number of appeals lodged, the number of cases granted and individual cases won on appeal.

Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.
- 2) To request an admissions and appeals update report in December 2018.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

25. Pupil Equity Fund

Pupil Equity Funding was additional funding allocated directly to schools and targeted at closing the poverty related attainment gap. Information was provided on the guidance and support made available to schools to ensure they were able to fulfil the aims of Pupil Equity Funding.

Decision

- 1) To note the amount of funds devolved to schools in regard to Pupil Equity Fund.
- 2) To note the guidance developed to support schools.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted).

26. Open Library

An update was provided on plans for introducing the open library concept at selected libraries and community centres.

Decision

- 1) To note the plans for Open Library.
- 2) To ensure that the relevant Community Centre Management Committees were consulted on any proposals before progressing the Open Library concept.
- 3) To note that revenue implications would be included as part of the Business Case.

- 4) To agree that an update report would be submitted to the Committee in six months.

(References – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted).

27. Year of Young People 2018 - Schools and Lifelong Learning

An update was provided on a range of proposed contributions to the Year of Young People made by Schools and Lifelong Learning officers and partners.

Decision

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families and endorse the approach being taken across Communities and Families and with partners.
- 2) To agree as part of the report on the Engagement of Young People in the decision-making process of the council, to explore the possibility of electing a senior school student to the Education, Children and Families Committee on the same basis as the parental representative.
- 3) To agree to receive the report regarding the Engagement of Young People on 22 May 2018.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted).

28. Revenue Monitoring 2017/18 – Month Five Position

Details were provided of the projected five-month revenue monitoring position for the Communities and Families Directorate, based on actual expenditure and income to the end of August 2017 and expenditure and income projections for the remainder of the financial year.

Decision

- 1) To note the net residual budget pressure of £0.7m which remained at month five.
- 2) To note that approved savings in 2017-18 totalled £7.348m and were on track to be delivered in full.

- 3) To note that the Executive Director for Communities and Families had identified additional savings totalling £1m in 2017/18 to assist the delivery of an overall balanced budget position for the Council.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted).

29. Recommendations of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee of 20 October 2017

The recommendations of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee held on 20 October 2017 on a complaint against the Communities and Families Directorate were submitted.

Decision

To approve the recommendations of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee of 20 October 2017.

(Reference – report by the Chair of the Social Work Complaints Review Committee, submitted).

30. Motion by Councillor Mary Campbell – Anti-Bullying BetheChange Campaign

The following motion by Councillor Mary Campbell was submitted in terms of Standing Order 16:

Motion

“Council notes:

That ENABLE Scotland has launched their anti-bullying #BetheChange campaign.

That ENABLE Scotland’s research has shown that two-thirds of young people who have learning disabilities and/or autistic spectrum disorders have been bullied.

That ENABLE Scotland has worked with the Universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde to create five lessons for S1 and S2 pupils called ‘Lessons on Learning Disability’.

Therefore, this Committee asks that officers bring a report within two cycles on plans to role out the ‘Lessons on Learning Disability’ within City of Edinburgh Council Secondary Schools.”

- moved by Councillor Mary Campbell, seconded by Councillor Corbett

Amendment

To add the following:

“To note a report on all forms of bullying was already planned for the next Education, Children and Families Committee which instructs officers to highlight the ENABLE Scotland BetheChange Campaign.”

- moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie

In accordance with Standing Order 20 (7), the Amendment was accepted as an addendum to the motion.

Decision

To approve the adjusted motion by Councillor Mary Campbell.