

Education, Children and Families Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 22 May 2018

Present:

Councillors Perry (Convener), Dickie (Vice-Convener), Bird, Mary Campbell, Corbett, Griffiths, Howie, Laidlaw, Rust, Smith and Young.

Religions Representatives

Rabbi David Rose and Dr Rita Welsh

Parent Representative

Alexander Ramage (non-voting)

1. Update on the Informal Consultation in West/South West Schools - Deputations

(a) Deputation - Clovenstone Primary Parent Council

The deputation stated they felt they had not been given the opportunity to be properly represented at the earlier stage of the informal consultation process. They felt the status quo was not the best way forward and their preference was for Alternative Option 2. This would create a new school and allow access to the latest facilities and equipment, with a large staff team, which would be beneficial to all children as well as those with additional needs. They did not think that Alternative Option 1 was satisfactory as the WHEC building would stay the same, and that Alternative Option 3 would create difficulties for those travelling by bus.

(b) Deputation - Canal View Primary Parents Committee

The deputation indicated that there had been a low turnout for the first workshop. There was widespread support for Alternative Option 2 which would provide safe travel and provide a new school building. Some families had commented that Option 3 might be beneficial through the socially mixed catchment. However, overall the view was that Alternative Option 2 would provide the stability and the best opportunity for success in their children's future education.

(c) Deputation - Joint deputation from Currie Community High School, WHEC Parent Council and Woodlands School Parents Council.

The deputation indicated that they were shocked at the proposals to close their local school and were grateful for the alternative options presented. They believed that Alternative Option 1 with investment in new and refurbished buildings for all the local community high schools would provide the best education for their children and would best meet travel, environmental and community needs.

With respect to Alternative Option 2, families from Currie had indicated that they did not want the catchment divided, which was not educationally beneficial and would cause problems with travel

They deputation felt that Alternative Option 1 provided the best opportunity to achieve a positive outcome for their communities and would provide education locally and ensure the safety of pupils

(d) Deputation - Educational Institute of Scotland

The deputation indicated that since the last consultation, there had been concerns expressed by members about the limited scope of the informal consultation and an inability to consider the various options and the way in which success was measured.

Concerns were expressed about the radical changes which would be involved with Options 2 and 3, the failure to acknowledge the strengths of certain schools and the big improvements which had been made. There was also a need to challenge the continuing stigma of certain schools, to close the attainment gap and to carefully consider the issue of the size of schools and the issue of mental health.

The deputation supported Alternative Option 1 as the way forward.

(e) Deputation - Councillor Susan Webber

Councillor Webber reminded the Committee of the huge support for Alternative Option 1, which had been expressed by deputations at the Committee on 29 March 2018. Concerns had also been expressed about the failure to hear the views of the parents of Canal View. Most people wanted their schools to stay in their communities, the constant delays were causing uncertainty and the issue of addressing special needs had to be addressed.

She urged Committee to take cognisance of the views of the communities when making their decision.

2. Schools WiFi - Deputation from James Gillespie's High School Parent Council

The deputation indicated that all Local Authorities were committed to enable all pupils to access Wi-Fi in schools and this was achievable, but there were issues to be addressed. There were issues about security, but young people had to make informed choices about digital technology to facilitate learning and not let the Council decide for them. They spent considerable time on their phones and knew about the dangers. Poverty should not affect young people's learning, however, lack of access to Wi-Fi for some pupils was having that effect.

To promote equity there could be certain measures such as having a "one to one" policy, whereby devices were loaned out to pupils and having a "bring your own device" policy. Significant savings could be made on text books and moving to on-line learning, within a sensible timeframe.

The deputation asked the Committee to agree to commit to "bring your own device" policy at least for the next decade and to look at a citywide policy of a one to one pilot project and eventually a full policy in about 10 years' time.

3. Outcome of the Informal Consultation on the Future of Gaelic Medium - Deputation from Comann Nam Pàrant (Dun Eideann)

The Committee heard a deputation from Comann Nam Parent (Dun Eideann) the representative organisation for families with children in all stages of Gaelic Medium Education (GME) in Edinburgh.

The deputation indicated that they supported the recommendations in the interim report and hoped there would be all party agreement to ensure implementation of these recommendations. The deputation highlighted, in particular, recommendation 1.3 of the report to prepare a strategic plan for the whole journey of Gaelic Medium Education growth and development from Early Years to Secondary and asked for a clear commitment from the Committee to support this recommendation and to recognise the urgency of providing a plan which gave certainty for GME families.

The primary focus of GME families remained the quality of education and the entitlement to emersion in GME. They therefore welcomed commitments in the report to maintain and improve the quality of GME, examine the work force recruitment strategy and increase the curriculum offer at James Gillespie's High School. They looked forward to the publication of the strategic plan for the growth and development of GME, enabling the entire school community to work together to build a sustainable future for GME in Edinburgh.

4. Trialling the Use of Technology to Stream Live Data from Classroom to Pupil Unable to Attend School - Deputation from NLRP12

The Committee heard a deputation from NLRP12 in respect of Trialling the Use of Technology to Stream Live Data from Classroom to a Pupil Unable to Attend School.

The deputation indicated that they were disappointed about the lack of implementation of the technology to allow a child who was the only one in the UK with a rare disease to attend school. 25 such units operated in schools throughout the UK and Edinburgh lagged behind Europe in this respect. The Equality Act of 2010 stated that there were limited circumstances in which provision of a particular reasonable adjustment for a disabled pupil would disadvantage other pupils.

The deputation stated that people living with rare diseases faced significant challenges in education, employment, leisure, transport and mobility. They were also subject to moral suffering and reduced quality of life. Finally, it was stated that some of the facts in the report were incorrect.

5. Update on the Informal Consultation in West/South West Schools

Following an extensive informal consultation on the future of school infrastructure in the West and South West of Edinburgh, Committee was provided with three options for consideration of which one should be progressed to a statutory consultation.

A detailed Outcomes of the Informal Consultation report had also been considered at a Special Meeting of the Education, Children and Families Committee on 29 March 2018.

Motion

- 1) To agree to continue consideration of the report to the Additional Meeting of the Education, Children and Families Committee on 21 June 2018, in order to investigate the issues that had arisen both during and since the special meeting held on 29 March 2018, as part of the consultations and further deputations heard at this meeting.
- 2) In relation to the school sites and catchment areas, to agree:
 - (a) To investigate alternative school sites for the proposed New West Edinburgh High School which would include Kirkliston and Hillwood primary catchment areas, and depending on the preferred site, may also include Maybury. Suitable sites should reflect the fact that Kirkliston would be the largest feeder school and the associated transport implications.
 - (b) To agree to review the catchment boundaries in Kirkliston, Hillwood, Maybury and the East Milburn Tower cluster/s.

- 3) In relation to Option 2, to investigate alternative school sites in the Clovenstone, Canal View and Juniper Green Primary School area and in light of community feedback, to consider an alternative boundary that would see Juniper Green Primary School continue to align to the Currie catchment.
 - 4) In relation to Option 3:
 - (a) To agree to present option 3 as two separate options - options 3 and 4 - and to assess the potential of the separate sites.
 - (b) To address issues in developing new option 4 in light of recent planning committee decisions.
 - 5) In relation to educational issues, to instruct officers to report back on the following educational issues raised in recent written submissions to members of the Committee, as part of the overall consultation, particularly in relation to options 3 and 4:
 - What was the minimum size of school that would provide an acceptable curriculum choice.
 - What work/research was there to determine whether there was a disproportionate negative impact on pupils with additional learning needs attending larger schools.
- moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie

Amendment

- 1) To note that option 1 - which built on the existing community schools - had many strengths, having emerged with significant support from the informal consultation and offered the clearest pathway to delivery, being based on existing sites, and the opportunity to build on longstanding school communities in Wester Hailes and Currie; and therefore to support Option 1 to be taken forward to statutory consultation.
- 2) To recognise views expressed by some staff and parents and staff within Wester Hailes Education Centre feeder primaries about the importance of maximising the educational and other opportunities for young people in the Wester Hailes area.
- 3) To note that any statutory consultation could not start until August 2018 at the earliest.
- 4) Therefore to request that a working group be set up to take account of the views expressed in point 2) above and to develop a long term plan for education in the Wester Hailes community, including but not limited to:
 - Research to understand the decisions parents and young people make about placing choices
 - Dealing with reputation and communication issues
 - Strengthening the curriculum offer

- Strengthening the partnership with feeder primaries and nearby high schools
- 5) To request an update on and full remit for setting up the working group to be reported to the Committee in June 2018.
- 6) To recognise that the overwhelming feedback to the informal consultation had been to move forward with Option 1: Status Quo. Refurbished Balerno High School and WHEC (existing community facilities retained). Replacement Currie High School. New high school/s in West Edinburgh, as the option to be taken forward to statutory consultation.
- 7) To note that this was the majority view of the parent councils from Balerno High School, Currie Community High School, Woodlands School and Wester Hailes Education Centre as well as all primary schools with the exception of Clovenstone Primary and Canal View Primary – although committee noted the majority of parents consulted at Canal View expressed a preference for Option 1.
- 8) To note the particular needs of children attending Woodlands School and the strong preference expressed by learners, parents and staff to retain the school in its current site and the significant impact any move could have on the health and wellbeing of these vulnerable young people.
- 9) To note that Option 1 had also been noted as the preferred option by the EIS which had stated “members of the EIS believe these could best be achieved by developing and evolving the existing provision, rather than by undertaking a radical reorganisation. Key to this was the desire to retain both Currie Community High School (CCHS) and Wester Hailes Educational Centre (WHEC) at the heart of their respective communities, and to keep the strong links between CCHS and Woodlands School.”
- 10) To note that Option 1 was the second most cost effective option.
- 11) In relation to the school sites and catchment areas, to agree:
 - (a) To investigate alternative school sites for the proposed New West Edinburgh High School which would include Kirkliston and Hillwood primary catchment areas, and depending on the preferred site, might also include Maybury. Suitable sites should reflect the fact that Kirkliston would be the largest feeder school and the associated transport implications.
 - (b) To agree to review the catchment boundaries in Kirkliston, Hillwood, Maybury and the East Milburn Tower cluster/s
- moved by Councillor Mary Campbell, seconded by Councillor Corbett

Voting

For the motion: 6 votes
 For the amendment: 5 votes

(For the motion - Councillors Bird, Dickie, Griffiths, Howie, Perry and Young.
 For the amendment - Councillors Mary Campbell, Corbett, Laidlaw, Rust and Smith)

Decision

- 1) To agree to continue consideration of the report to the Additional Meeting of the Education, Children and Families Committee on 21 June 2018, in order to investigate the issues that had arisen both during and since the special meeting held on 29 March 2018, as part of the consultations and further deputations heard at this meeting.
- 2) In relation to the school sites and catchment areas, to agree:
 - (a) To investigate alternative school sites for the proposed New West Edinburgh High School which would include Kirkliston and Hillwood primary catchment areas, and depending on the preferred site, may also include Maybury. Suitable sites should reflect the fact that Kirkliston would be the largest feeder school and the associated transport implications.
 - (b) To agree to review the catchment boundaries in Kirkliston, Hillwood, Maybury and the East Milburn Tower cluster/s
- 3) In relation to Option 2, to investigate alternative school sites in the Clovenstone, Canal View and Juniper Green Primary School area and in light of community feedback, to consider an alternative boundary that would see Juniper Green Primary School continue to align to the Currie catchment.
- 4) In relation to Option 3:
 - (a) To agree to present option 3 as two separate options - options 3 and 4 - and to assess the potential of the separate sites.
 - (b) To address issues in developing new option 4 in light of recent planning committee decisions.
- 5) In relation to educational issues, to instruct officers to report back on the following educational issues raised in recent written submissions to members of the Committee, as part of the overall consultation, particularly in relation to options 3 and 4:
 - What was the minimum size of school that would provide an acceptable curriculum choice.
 - What work/research was there to determine whether there was a disproportionate negative impact on pupils with additional learning needs attending larger schools.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee, 29 March 2018 (item 1); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

Declaration of Interests

Councillor Young declared a non-financial interest in the above item as she was the parent of a child in a primary school affected by the proposals

Dr Rita Welsh declared a non-financial interest in the above item as she was a member of the ministry team at WHEC, was a resident in Currie and had a grandchild in a primary school affected by the proposals

6. Business Bulletin

The Education, Children and Families Committee Business Bulletin for 22 May 2018 was presented.

Decision

- 1) To note the Business Bulletin.
- 2) To note that the pilot study for James Gillespie's High School WiFi would be in place for the start of the next academic session (August 2018).
- 3) To agree that all future communications to JGHS parents and families about the pilot should be issued through the office of the Head Teacher.

(Reference – Business Bulletin, submitted)

7. Outcome of the Informal Consultation on the Future of Gaelic Medium Education (GME)

On 12 December 2017, the Committee approved that an informal consultation should be progressed to consider the future of Gaelic Medium Education (GME). An update was provided on the outcomes of the informal consultation process.

Decision

- 1) To approve the establishment of a rising rolls working group for James Gillespie's High School.
- 2) To approve the preparation of a strategic plan for the whole journey of Gaelic Medium Education growth and development from Early Years to Secondary.
- 3) To approve the establishment of a short term working group to oversee the development of the strategic growth plan for Gaelic Medium Education which addressed increasing the supply of GME teachers, expansion of curriculum opportunities and long term accommodation requirements.
- 4) To note that the GME strategic growth plan would be prepared for consideration by stakeholders in August with a final plan submitted to this Committee in October 2018.
- 5) To request officers to ensure that the Gaelic perspective was taken account of and incorporated in future reporting across the Council.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee 12 December 2017 (item 6); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

8. Trialling the Use of Technology to Stream Data Live from the Classroom to Pupil Unable to Attend School

The Council wished to trial technical solutions which could be used within schools to assist children who were physically unable to attend school but could otherwise positively engage in learning.

Details were provided of the general conditions for a trial of such technology and then on one specific trial and the issues that arose surrounding the use of such technology.

Motion

- 1) To note the proposal to trial use of AV1 technology in St John's RC Primary School from October to December 2018.
 - 2) To agree that consultation with the school community (teachers, parents, children) should take place in advance of this trial.
 - 3) To agree that the views of the school community should be taken into account when deciding on whether use of the technology represented a reasonable adjustment for a child's disability.
 - 4) To agree that the decision to proceed with any such trial should be taken by a *senior manager* within Communities and Families.
 - 5) To agree that evaluation of a trial should consider whether the technology enhanced the child's learning without impacting on attendance and that the impact on the wellbeing of the child and on other children and wider stakeholder groups should also be evaluated.
- moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie

Amendment

- 1) To approve paragraphs 1), 3 and 4 of the motion by Councillor Perry.
- 2) Delete paragraph 2) of the motion by Councillor Perry and replace with:
"To note the impact of the Equalities Act and the feedback from the Equalities and Human Rights Commission and the Equality Advisory Support Service which presumed that if this technology was required by the affected child that it should not be dependent on other parents approval and added: "but parental objections to the principle should not automatically prevent a practical trial."
- 3) Delete paragraph 5) of the motion by Councillor Perry and replace with:
"To note that evaluation of a tool to enable 'children unable to attend school' should not have a success metric based whether it impacted on attendance, as it should be a given that children using the system could not attend. Committee therefore removes "without impacting on attendance."
- 4) **Background**
To add: "Issue was first raised to officers in July 2017."

5) **Main Report**

Para 3.2 Replace “The straightforward way” to “One way”

Para 3.4 Replace “can be controlled remotely to move around the school” to “can be controlled remotely to move the camera to follow the teacher’s voice.” Removes last sentence “As lessons are live-streamed they would not be recorded.” As this suggests the AV1 is recorded when in fact it also live-streams

Para 3.6 Add as a first sentence “AV1 was used in 450 schools across Europe, including 25 in the UK across 12 local authorities.”

- moved by Councillor Laidlaw, seconded by Councillor Rust

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

Decision

To approve the following adjusted motion by Councillor Perry:

- 1) To note the proposal to trial use of AV1 technology in St John’s RC Primary School from October to December 2018.
- 2) To note the impact of the Equalities Act and the feedback from the Equalities and Human Rights Commission and the Equality Advisory Support Service which presumed that if this technology was required by the affected child that it should not be dependent on other parents approval and added: “but parental objections to the principle should not automatically prevent a practical trial.”
- 3) To agree that the views of the school community should be taken into account when deciding on whether use of the technology represented a reasonable adjustment for a child’s disability.
- 4) To agree that the decision to proceed with any such trial should be taken by a *senior manager* within Communities and Families.
- 5) To note that evaluation of a tool to enable ‘children unable to attend school’ should not have a success metric based whether it impacted on attendance, as it should be a given that children using the system could not attend. Committee therefore removes “without impacting on attendance.”

6) **Background**

To add: “Issue was first raised to officers in July 2017.”

7) **Main Report**

Para 3.2 Replace “The straightforward way” to “One way”

Para 3.4 Replace “can be controlled remotely to move around the school” to “can be controlled remotely to move the camera to follow the teacher’s voice.” Removes last sentence “As lessons are live-streamed they would not be recorded.” As this suggests the AV1 is recorded when in fact it also live-streams

Para 3.6 Add as a first sentence “AV1 was used in 450 schools across Europe, including 25 in the UK across 12 local authorities.”

(References – Minute of the Education, Children and Families Committee 10 October 2017 (item 1); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

9. Minute

Decision

- 1) To approve the minute of the Education, Children and Families Committee of 6 March 2018 as a correct record.
- 2) To approve the minute of the Additional Meeting of the Education, Children and Families Committee of 29 March 2018 as a correct record.

10. 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)

11. Rolling Actions Log

The Education, Children and Families Committee Rolling Actions Log for May 2018 was presented.

Decision

- 1) To update the rolling actions log to reflect decisions taken at this meeting.
- 2) To otherwise note the remaining outstanding actions.

(Reference – Rolling Actions Log 22 May 2018, submitted)

12. Update on Wave 4 Education Infrastructure Investment

The Committee had requested the Executive Director for Communities and Families to prepare a report setting out the next steps for developing a Business Case and detailed design work for three investment options relating to Trinity Academy.

Details were provided of the information requested within the context of the wider infrastructure investment requirements throughout the secondary school estate in Edinburgh.

Motion

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.
- 2) To note the motion of the last Education, Children and Families Committee agreed “To recognise the unacceptable suitability of the built facilities at Trinity Academy and the adverse building condition reports for Trinity Academy and Trinity Primary. Accordingly asked officers for a report in one cycle setting out the next steps in terms of a Business Case and detailed design work.
- 3) To note paragraph 3.6 which stated “had already determined the best approach to investment would be development of new sports facilities (including a swimming pool) for a 1200 capacity school on the current site of the Bangholm Recreation Centre in order to create the opportunity for further investment on the main site. The level of investment on the main site would ultimately depend on the budget available. However, as a minimum the Victorian school building and the more modern home economics and science building, which were situated at opposite ends of the site, are likely to be retained.”
- 4) To agree to move forward with detailed design process to consider the best overall investment option for Trinity Academy, recognising that the status quo could not be maintained and that the motion of the previous Committee agreed to recognise Trinity Academy as a particular case, separate of the broader prioritisation programme.
 - moved by Councillor Laidlaw, seconded by Councillor Perry

Amendment

- 1) To note the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.
- 2) To recognise that irrespective of the final conclusion, all options for Trinity involved developing the facilities at Bangholm, and therefore Committee agreed to progress the planning and financial work required to allow work on Bangholm sports facilities to support a secondary school with a roll of approximately 1200.
 - moved by Councillor Mary Campbell, seconded by Councillor Corbett

In terms of 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.
- 2) To note the motion of the last Education, Children and Families Committee agreed “To recognise the unacceptable suitability of the built facilities at Trinity Academy and the adverse building condition reports for Trinity Academy and Trinity Primary. Accordingly asked officers for a report in one cycle setting out the next steps in terms of a Business Case and detailed design work.
- 3) To note paragraph 3.6 which stated “had already determined the best approach to investment would be development of new sports facilities (including a swimming pool) for a 1200 capacity school on the current site of the Bangholm

Recreation Centre in order to create the opportunity for further investment on the main site. The level of investment on the main site would ultimately depend on the budget available. However, as a minimum the Victorian school building and the more modern home economics and science building, which were situated at opposite ends of the site, are likely to be retained.”

- 4) To agree to move forward with detailed design process to consider the best overall investment option for Trinity Academy, recognising that the status quo could not be maintained and that the motion of the previous Committee agreed to recognise Trinity Academy as a particular case, separate of the broader prioritisation programme.
- 5) To recognise that irrespective of the final conclusion, all options for Trinity involved developing the facilities at Bangholm, and therefore Committee agreed to progress the planning and financial work required to allow work on Bangholm sports facilities to support a secondary school with a roll of approximately 1200.

(References – Minute of the Education, Children and Families Committee 6 March 2018 (item 4); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

13. Teacher Recruitment Update

An update was provided on the progress being made in general recruitment approaches since the last meeting of the Committee.

Information was also given on the successful opt-in Supply Teacher talent pool for longer-term vacancies allowing the Council the opportunity to make sure that all qualified participants were being made aware of vacancies.

Decision

To note the report and specifically the progress on the medium to longer-term strategic approaches being taken to tackling teacher recruitment issues.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee 12 December 2017 (item 15); Education, Children and Families Committee 6 March 2018 (item 15); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

14. Edinburgh Catering Services – Update on School Meals and the Use of Plastic in Schools

An update was given on the school meals service; progress on Food for Life Silver; transporting school meals; reducing plastics and packaging throughout the school estate together with information on menu feedback opportunities.

Motion

- 1) To note the report.
 - 2) To note the continued successful retention of Food for Life (FFL) Bronze catering mark across the school estate, Silver catering mark in two school and the intention to increase the Silver accreditation to a further two schools.
 - 3) To note the current challenges with regards to school meal transport and the intention to incrementally open more production kitchens.
 - 4) To note the current actions being taken to reduce the use of plastics across the catering service.
 - 5) To note the options available for feedback on school menu design.
- moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie

Amendment

- 1) To amend recommendation 1.1.5 to read - "To recommend that both a parent survey and pupil comment cards were rolled out across the school estate, to encourage wider feedback on school meals. To request that the annual update on school meals provided to Committee included the results of these feedback mechanisms."
 - 2) To add an additional recommendation "To note that there had been significant feedback in regards to the quality of school meals, and to recommend that work continued to improve satisfaction with the service for those schools remaining at Bronze level."
 - 3) To refer the report to the Transport and Environment Committee.
- moved by Councillor Mary Campbell, seconded by Councillor Corbett.

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

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To note the continued successful retention of Food for Life (FFL) Bronze catering mark across the school estate, Silver catering mark in two school and the intention to increase the Silver accreditation to a further two schools;
- 3) To note the current challenges with regards to school meal transport and the intention to incrementally open more production kitchens;
- 4) To note the current actions being taken to reduce the use of plastics across the catering service.
- 5) To recommend that both a parent survey and pupil comment cards were rolled out across the school estate, to encourage wider feedback on school meals. To request that the annual update on school meals provided to Committee included the results of these feedback mechanisms.

- 6) To note that there has been significant feedback in regards to the quality of school meals, and recommended that work continued to improve satisfaction with the service for those schools remaining at Bronze level.
- 7) To refer the report to the Transport and Environment Committee.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee 12 December 2017 (item 5); report by the Executive Director of Resources, submitted)

15. Additional Support for Learning and Special Schools – Inclusion and Engagement of Children, Young People and Families

Details were provided of progress in relation to development of an inclusive practice policy for City of Edinburgh schools. This included the recent contract award to a consortium providing additional support for learning services; plans for engaging children and young people in its implementation; and other steps in place to increase the participation and engagement of children, young people and families in the development of inclusive practice in Edinburgh.

Decision

- 1) To note the contents of this report and the key areas of challenge for schools.
- 2) To welcome progress towards developing an inclusive practice policy for Edinburgh Schools.
- 3) To note the award by the Finance and Resources Committee on 27 March 2018 of a contract to the ASL Consortium to enhance support for children, young people and families and note the proposals for engaging children and young people as active partners in its implementation.
- 4) To welcome proposals to engage children and young people in targeted Improvement activity addressing Council's priorities for Additional Support for Learning and Special Schools.
- 5) To commend the work of the CIRCLE Collaboration and congratulate all who had contributed to its success.
- 6) To welcome proposals for the dissemination of Edinburgh's CIRCLE inclusive practice framework to support professional learning throughout Scotland.
- 7) To note that a further update on progress would be provided in December 2018.

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

16. Educational Attainment in Primary and Secondary Schools 2017

A summary was provided of the analysis of attainment in City of Edinburgh's schools for the year 2016-17.

Details were provided of measures undertaken for the Broad General Education (ages 3-15), levels from early to fourth and for the Senior Phase (S4-S6).

Decision

- 1) To note the progress and areas for improvement in educational attainment in Edinburgh schools.
- 2) To note the attainment gap and ongoing actions to address this.
- 3) To agree to receive further annual reports on attainment/improvements in Performance.
- 4) To note the continued hard work of pupils, staff and parents to support the successful delivery of national qualifications, in particular in the light of the changes made by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) to assessments at National 5 level.

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

17. Child Protection Performance

Details were provided of progress made by the Council's children's social work services in relation to key performance indicators; quality assurance work conducted in 2013-2017 and management of risk in child protection work.

Decision

To note the report.

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

18. Choose Youth Work – Participatory Budgeting

In year 2 of the Choose Youth Work (CYW) programme, £166k of funding for youth work had been distributed via participatory budgeting (PB).

The Committee had previously requested the Executive Director for Communities and Families to evaluate year 2 and report the outcomes of that evaluation to Committee prior to any decision being made about year 3 funding.

Details were provided of the outcome of this process.

Motion

- 1) To reverse the decision (from the Education, Children and Families Committee in December 2016) to distribute the entire universal youth work budget (£590k) in year 3 (2019/20) via Participatory Budgeting.

- 2) To approve that grant funding of £424k should be rolled over from year 2 (2018/19) into year 3 (2019/20) at the same levels for the same organisations as in year 2 (see Appendix 2 of the report by the Executive Director of Communities and Families). This was consistent with the recommendation made in the main revenue grants report.
- 3) To approve that the remaining £166k (as in year 2) be available as a grant fund distributed via a participatory mechanism based on close engagement with young people (for example Youth Talk, a Youth Panel or PB) for work with children and young people.
- 4) To approve that Schools and Lifelong Learning worked with Procurement, Localities, young people and the Third Sector to co-produce a more strategic and sustainable model of funding for open-access, universal youth work to come into effect in 2020/2021. This work would be incorporated within the overall planned review of grants and reported back to the October meeting of the Committee.
- 5) To note the awards for 2018/19 in Appendix 1 of the report.
 - moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie.

Amendment

- 1) To replace paragraph 1) of the motion by Councillor Perry with the following:

“To recognise the existing council commitment to become a leading Council in Scotland for community engagement, with 1% of the Council's discretionary budget to be allocated through participatory budgeting.”
- 2) To replace paragraph 2) and 3) of the motion by Councillor Perry with the following:

“To bring a report to the August Committee that recommended an increased level of funding in excess of £166k to be distributed through participatory budgeting, that reflected the ambitions of the December 2016 Committee, and also recommended a level of funding to be distributed through a participatory mechanism based on close engagement with young people (for example Youth Talk, a Youth Panel or PB) for work with children and young people.”

 - moved by Councillor Mary Campbell, seconded by Councillor Corbett

Voting

For the motion: 8 votes

For the amendment: 2 votes

(For the motion - Councillors Bird, Dickie, Griffiths, Howie, Perry, Rust, Smith and Young.

For the amendment - Councillors Mary Campbell and Corbett.)

Decision

- 1) To reverse the decision by the Education, Children and Families Committee in December 2016 to distribute the entire universal youth work budget (£590k) in year 3 (2019/20) via Participatory Budgeting.
- 2) To approve that grant funding of £424k should be rolled over from year 2 (2018/19) into year 3 (2019/20) at the same levels for the same organisations as in year 2 (see Appendix 2 of the report by the Executive Director of Communities and Families). This was consistent with the recommendation made in the main revenue grants report.
- 3) To approve that the remaining £166k (as in year 2) be available as a grant fund distributed via a participatory mechanism based on close engagement with young people (for example Youth Talk, a Youth Panel or PB) for work with children and young people.
- 4) To approve that Schools and Lifelong Learning worked with Procurement, Localities, young people and the Third Sector to co-produce a more strategic and sustainable model of funding for open-access, universal youth work to come into effect in 2020/2021. This work would be incorporated within the overall planned review of grants and reported back to the October meeting of the Committee.
- 5) To note the awards for 2018/19 in Appendix 1 of the report.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee, 13 December 2016 (item 9); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

19. City of Edinburgh Education Improvement Plan

The Scottish Government had embedded the four outcomes contained within the National Improvement Framework within the guidance for the Education Scotland Act 2016, focussing the work of local authorities and schools on raising attainment, improving health and wellbeing, improving employability skills and closing the poverty related attainment gap.

The City of Edinburgh Education Improvement Plan was submitted.

Decision

To approve the Education Improvement Plan contained in Appendix 1 of the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.

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

20. Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare from 600 hours by 2020. Current Progress and Next Steps

An update was provided on 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 the authority worked with the Scottish Government in terms of funding allocations

Decision

- 1) To note the progress made towards 1140 hours.
- 2) To approve the increase in the hourly rate paid to partner providers from £3.70 to £3.80 from August 2018 to enable them to continue to sustain the delivery of early learning and childcare to approximately 40% of Edinburgh's children.
- 3) To approve the increase in the hourly rate from £3.70 to £5.31 for a small number of partner providers (up to 100 children) to allow them to pilot the 1140 provision.
- 4) To note that the proposed capital investment plan as outlined in this report was subject to the availability of funding from the Scottish Government.
- 5) To note the intention to progress design and investigation work for new ELC Facilities.
- 6) To note intention to progress informal consultation with affected communities.
- 7) To refer the report to the Finance and Resources Committee for information.
- 8) To note the risks as outlined in Section 6 of the report by the Executive Director of Communities and Families, in particular the significant challenges in the Council's ability to deliver the expansion from 2020.
- 9) To note the intention to return a report on the finalised plan to Education, Children and Families Committee in August 2018 following the recent announcement of the multi-year revenue and capital funding by the Scottish Government.

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

21. Family Support Volunteer Service to Safe Families for Children

Approval was sought to award a contract for the provision of a Family Support Volunteer Service to Safe Families for Children.

Details were provided of the contract duration, options for extension, the start date and the estimated value to the Council.

Decision

- 1) To approve the award of a contracts to: Safe Families for Children Scotland for the provision of Lot 2 Family Support Volunteer Service from 1 May 2018 for a period of 36 months, with options to extend for a maximum of two 12-month periods at an estimated value of £744,000.
- 2) To refer the report to the Finance and Resources Committee for approval of the award of contract.

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

22. Communities and Families Grants to Third Parties 2019-22

Approval was sought for a one year extension of award to all Communities and Families Main Grant award holders which would enable redesign work to be completed on a new grants programme for 2020-21 onwards.

Decision

- 1) To approve the extension of all Main Grant awards by one year (to March 2020).
- 2) To note that this extension period would be used to review the current programme and set priorities for a new programme.
- 3) To note that a report would be prepared for Committee in March 2019 outlining arrangements for 2020-21 onwards.

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

23. One Year Awards 2018-19

Details were provided of one year awards agreed by the Executive Director of Communities and Families, in consultation with the Convenor and Vice-Convenor and the Committee was requested to note these and the work that the organisations would undertake to develop plans for financial sustainability.

Decision

To note the awards to organisations outlined in Appendix 1 of the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.

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

24. Daylight Impact Assessment Central Library

An independent daylight impact assessment had been carried out at the Central Library to provide information on the potential daylight levels impact on the Library of the Cowgate development.

Decision

To continue consideration of the report to the next meeting of the Committee on 14 August 2018.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee 6 March 2018 (item 5); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

25. Framework for Excellence in Health and Wellbeing

The City of Edinburgh strategy for Raising Attainment contained six Frameworks for Learning. The Framework for Excellence in Health and Wellbeing contained the strategic guidance Head Teachers needed to ensure they had considered all necessary aspects to provide appropriate, high quality provision for learners.

Decision

To approve the Raising Attainment Strategy Framework for Excellence in Health and Wellbeing.

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

26. Implementing the Programme for the Capital: Coalition Commitments

Details were provided of progress made in the performance framework development, with the definition of measurable actions and performance indicators.

The refined set of indicators had been submitted to the Corporate, Policy and Strategy Committee on 27 February 2018 for further scrutiny. The set was agreed on the understanding that the final set of indicators would be submitted to the relevant Executive Committee.

Motion

To note the set of indicators in Appendix 1 of the report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families.

- moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie

Amendment

Following approval of the indicators to ask officers to report within one cycle on the performance of the Council against these indicators over the course of the first year of the Coalition Administration

- moved by Councillor Rust, seconded by Councillor Smith.

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

Decision

- 1) To note the set of indicators in Appendix 1 of the report by the Executive Director of Communities and Families.
- 2) Following approval of the indicators to ask officers to report within one cycle on the performance of the Council against these indicators over the course of the first year of the Coalition Administration.

(References – Act of Council No 7 of 23 November 2017; Corporate, Policy and Strategy Committee on 27 February 2018 (item 9); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)

27. Child Poverty – School Uniform Grant

The Committee had previously agreed to streamline the criteria for entitlement to a clothing grant by aligning it with eligibility for free school meals, ensuring that primary school pupil entitlement was the same as the secondary school entitlement and increased the school clothing grant for an estimated 6400 pupils to at least £70.

Details were provided of the financial options and costs for increasing the School Clothing Grant and information on the range of costs of school uniforms from outlets within the City of Edinburgh area.

Motion

- 1) To note the financial options and costs for increasing the School Clothing Grant to meet the higher figure recently recommended by the Scottish Government of £100.
 - 2) To note the financial options and costs for increasing the School Clothing Grant to meet the higher figure recently recommended Child Poverty Action Group of £129.50.
 - 3) To note the information on the range of costs of school uniforms from outlets within the City of Edinburgh area.
- moved by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Dickie

Amendment

- 1) To approve paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the motion by Councillor Perry.
- 2) To agree that the cost of school uniform was an increasing concern for pupils and families, and therefore recommended that Option 4 was progressed for the budget framework proposals for 2019/20.

- moved by Councillor Mary Campbell, seconded by Councillor Corbett

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

Decision

- 1) To note the financial options and costs for increasing the School Clothing Grant to meet the higher figure recently recommended by the Scottish Government of £100.
- 2) To note the financial options and costs for increasing the School Clothing Grant to meet the higher figure recently recommended Child Poverty Action Group of £129.50.
- 3) To note the information on the range of costs of school uniforms from outlets within the City of Edinburgh area.
- 4) To agree that the cost of school uniform was an increasing concern for pupils and families, and therefore recommended that Option 4 was progressed for the budget framework proposals for 2019/20.

(References – Education, Children and Families Committee 6 March 2018 (item 6); report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families, submitted)