

Motions and Amendments

Education, Children and Families Committee (Special Meeting)

10.00 am Tuesday, 3rd May, 2022

Virtual Meeting - via Microsoft Teams

Motions and Amendments

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Nick Smith

Service Director, Legal and Assurance

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Motion by the Conservative Group

Education Children and Families Committee (Special Meeting)

3 May 2022

Item 1.1 - Order of Business

Committee notes the original rationale for requesting this Special Meeting below.

“The following members request an urgent meeting of Education Children and Families Committee under Standing Order 4.3 to discuss the implications of the report in the Sunday Post allegedly detailing leaked elements of reporting into Edinburgh Secure Services (ESS) and a case where a vulnerable young person was placed in the care of a social worker who was already under investigation over an inappropriate relationship with a minor placed in their care.

Specifically, this meeting of the Committee should receive a report from the Chief Executive detailing why this placement was allowed to happen.

It should address the allegation that an investigation ordered under the authority of the Chief Executive didn't take place, how this relates to the latest ESS report and how this relates to the earlier Gordon Collins investigation which was not implemented by senior management despite the awareness of the Chief Executive, Director and other senior managers of the report and its recommendations.

The report should detail whether any issues raised at any stage in these matters remain to be investigated and whether the young people involved in the ESS cases have been interviewed, as recommended in the Whistleblowing report, to determine whether any further action should be taken against any employee through disciplinary or Police investigation.

The report should also address whether the ‘Physical Contact and Physical Intervention - Special Schools Special Classes and Additional Support for Learning’ procedures agreed by the Education Children and Families Committee in October 2015 have been fully implemented in ESS and all other appropriate settings, and if that is not the case, provide a full explanation of the failure to do so including detail of the settings involved and who determined that the instructions of Committee should not be followed.

The report should detail all senior management interaction with the outcomes of the reports identified and the Chief Executive should explain why he has not personally ensured that recommendations were implemented through being aware of the work of the Council's children's services and through management and appraisal of the work of successive directors.”

Committee agrees that effective scrutiny of this must take place in public as far as is possible and will therefore debate these concerns in public.

Any additional confidential matters under the terms of the relevant Acts that Officers wish to introduce can, of course, be held back for a 'B' agenda at this meeting.

If disciplinary matters are to be referenced, Committee would expect to hear from the Service Director of Human Resources.

Moved by: Councillor Callum Laidlaw

Seconded by: Councillor Iain Whyte