

# Addendum by the Green Group

## Education, Children & Families Committee

7 December 2021

### Item 7.5 - Update on Gaelic Medium Education Statutory Consultation

Add to recommendations;

1. Welcomes the ongoing engagement between the Council and the Scottish Government regarding the provision of a Gaelic Medium High (GME) school in Edinburgh, to support development of Gaelic education and language, in-line with City of Edinburgh and Scottish Government policy;
2. Notes that the Council has identified two possible sites for a stand-alone GME High School - at Fettes Police Headquarters and the Royal Victoria Hospital site. However that Fettes has been ruled out because the site may not be available for two years;
3. Notes that the Scottish Government has requested further information from the Council about development of a GME high school at the site of the Royal Victoria Hospital - which could be opened by 2026/7;
4. **Requests** that council officers continue to work with the Scottish Government to provide the information required to inform government decision making about their support for a stand-alone school at the Royal Victoria Hospital site, and consequently the options that can be included in the Council's forthcoming statutory consultation;
5. Notes that a letter from the Council to the Scottish Government (Appendix 2) acknowledges that any overcapacity at James Gillespie's High School in the year 2026/7 would have to be managed for a year to allow a standalone GME High School to be opened in 2027;
6. However, recognises that successful management of a limited overcapacity at JGHS for one year would allow sufficient time to develop options and consult fully on those options for a GME high school in Edinburgh, whilst not impacting on the education of pupils at JGHS;
7. **Requests** that the capacity at James Gillespie's high school in each year up to 2029/30 is reassessed to inform the forthcoming committee decision - particularly given anecdotal reports that the roll at the Gaelic primary school, Taobh na Pairce, has recently been declining;
8. Believes that an informal consultation on the Royal Victoria site and other options as described in this report could be useful, however recognises that, at present, limited information on this option is available for parents and other stakeholders and that information may need to be worked up before a consultation can become meaningful;

9. Notes that an informal consultation over the Christmas holidays and a 30-day statutory consultation starting in January, may not accord with the Council's consultation policy and therefore **requests** that the proposed consultation time-frame be reviewed and conclusions reported to the next committee meeting;
10. Notes that this report states that a Statutory consultation started in June 2022 (rather than January 2022 as proposed) and completed by July 2022 would still be able to deliver a GME co-located high school by 2025 and a stand-alone school by 2027;
11. Notes that the location at Castlebrae in Craigmillar as suggested in the report as a possible second choice to Liberton, is a similar distance, over 4miles, from the existing Gaelic primary school in Leith, and is on the periphery of the City and therefore recognises the concern of parents and stakeholders that such location may discourage families from joining GME education and could undermine the future of Gaelic in the City;
12. **Requests** that the options of the site at Fettes Police station and the council depot at Russell Road and any other feasible sites continue to be investigated by officers as a possible location for the GME high school and findings included in the report to committee in January;
13. Confirms that the provision of a new English-medium high school at Liberton will not be delayed as a result of ongoing consultation about the future of GME;
14. Recognises that committee may decide not to proceed with a Statutory Consultation in January 2022 if there is insufficient information to provide definite options and particularly if negotiations are ongoing with the Scottish Government about the Royal Victoria or other sites.

**Moved by Councillor Mary Campbell**

**Seconded by**

# Motion by the Coalition

## Education, Children and Families Committee

7 December 2021

### Item 7.7 - School Sports and Extracurricular Activities - Progress Update

Following a discussion in the CCwP the Committee ask the Director to provide the following information to the next Education, Children and Families Committee:

1. List all the schools that have not managed to re-start any Active Schools Activity.
2. To identify the barriers to schools returning to pre-COVID level of activities and suggest ways these barriers can be removed.
3. To determine if parents in any school have been asked to make a larger financial contribution than pre covid in order to restart activities
4. To update the table in appendix 1 to include all schools.

**Moved by Councillor Ian Perry**

**Seconded by Councillor Alison Dickie**

# Amendment by the Conservative Group

## Education, Children and Families Committee

7 December 2021

### Item 7.7 – School Sports and Extracurricular Activities – Progress Update

Committee accepts Recommendation 1.1.1

Committee deletes Recommendation 1.1.2 and replaces with:

1.1.2. Notes the over 50% reduction in the number of clubs operating between November 2019 and November 2021 and reduction of 4,150 participants.

1.1.3. Notes that substantial elements of the motion agreed by Committee on 12 October have not been delivered as requested and instructs officers to prioritise the following:

- To issue the communication referred to in Item 4.1 before the return of pupils after the Christmas break.
- To include in this communication the offer referred to in item 4.3, and agreed by Committee on 12 October, that one evening, per school, per week, will offer the period 6-9pm for volunteer delivered sport free-of-charge in three one-hour slots, and to set this up in the school-lets booking platform accordingly.
- To deliver the ask of item 4.6, as agreed by Committee on 12 October – through liaison with CEC school staff and PTAs, and using the information already included in Appendix 1 – to feedback on what sports previously offered under Active Schools are now organised independently to include: - *What is being offered and provider* - *Costs to pupils* - *Costs being met by PTAs and other parental donations* - *If ParentPay is being used*.
- To provide evidence to quantify the assertion in 4.7 that “Many coaches and organisations that used to provide sport and physical activity sessions are no longer available for a range of reasons e.g., they have found different employment or have left Edinburgh, due to the pandemic”.
- To clarify what percentage of clubs are being delivered by ‘volunteers’.
- To revisit the decision not to conduct an Equalities Impact Assessment given there has been a significant change in the programme of work in terms of how it is organised, administered, governed, delivered.

1.1.4. To agree to receive a further progress update in one committee cycle, including delivery of the specific items in Recommendation 1.1.3.

**Moved by: Councillor Callum Laidlaw**

**Seconded by: Councillor Jason Rust**

# Addendum by the Conservative Group

## Education, Children and Families Committee

7 December 2021

### Item 7.11 - Learning Estate Update

Committee

Adds 1.1.5

Reaffirms the essential goals set out in the Council's Sustainable Capital Budget Strategy 2022-2032, that future developments in the Educational Estate must include strategic briefs outlining the teaching, learning and wider community requirements from the outset to ensure that the buildings constructed are fit for purpose, and that this should include options for wider service delivery and active listening to / engagement with all the potentially impacted local communities.

**Moved by: Councillor Callum Laidlaw**

**Seconded by: Councillor Scott Douglas**



# Amendment by the Coalition

## Education, Children and Families Committee

7 December 2021

### Item 7.12 – School Excursions – Equity (Update)

At Recommendations,

Delete 1.1.1 through to 1.1.4 and replace with,

- 1.1.1 Notes, the value of school residential excursions for pupils but also the pressures, often hidden, felt by many families around the costs.
- 1.1.2 Commends, the workload taken forward by schools and parent councils to mitigate the costs to ensure every child is able to attend, as per our equity for all learners and poverty proofing the school day agendas.
- 1.1.3 Agrees, to forward the costs at Appendix 9.1 for creating a city-wide fund to the next Finance and Resources Committee for future budget consideration, along with any other identified funding information.
- 1.1.4 Agrees, that the Conveners write to the Scottish Government to ask that a residential school excursion be considered for national funding.
- 1.1.5 Asks, officers to report back to Committee in one cycle on the full scope of possible alternative and equitable options, including EPIC days – and on all of the above.

**Moved by: Councillor Ian Perry**

**Seconded by: Councillor Alison Dickie**