

MINUTE of MEETING of the EDUCATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL held within WEBEX VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 2 MARCH 2021.

Present – Councillors David Dodds (Chair), Lawrence Fitzpatrick, Stuart Borrowman, Peter Heggie, Tom Kerr, John McGinty and Andrew Miller; Appointed Members Elsie Aitken, Lynne McEwen, Myra MacPherson and Margaret Russell

Apologies – Appointed Member Heather Hughes; Jackie Galbraith (West Lothian College); Pippa Plevin (Joint Forum of Community Councils)

In attendance – Sarah-Jane Linton (West Lothian College – substituting for Jackie Galbraith) and Leona Mullarky (Joint Forum of Community Councils – substituting for Pippa Plevin)

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2 MINUTES

The Panel confirmed the minutes of its meeting held on 2 February 2021 as a correct record.

Following the confirmation of minutes, the Chair asked the Depute Chief Executive to provide an update regarding the upcoming First Minister's briefing, which was expected to include education matters. The panel noted that the council would ensure appropriate preparations for school return were in place following the briefing and parents would be contacted with updated information as soon as possible.

3 NEW INCLUSION AND SUPPORT SERVICE

The panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Social Policy and the Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources) providing an update on a new Inclusion and Support Service, which brings together teams from within Education Services and Social Policy to enable a holistic approach to early intervention and support for young people and their families.

It was recommended that the panel:

1. Note that the new management structure was now operational; and
2. Note that the new service was due to become operational from 19 April 2021.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

4 INTRODUCTION OF S3 AND SUBSEQUENT ROLL OUT UP TO S6 OF SECONDARY STAGE EDUCATION WITHIN OGILVIE SCHOOL CAMPUS

The panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources) informing members of a proposal to commence public consultation on the introduction of S3 and subsequent roll out up to S6 stages of education at Ogilvie School Campus and presenting the draft Consultation Document prepared by council officers.

It was recommended that the panel review the proposal which was intended for submission to Education Executive for consideration.

Decision

1. To note the terms of the report.
2. To agree to submit the proposal to a future meeting of the Education Executive for consideration.

5 WORKPLAN

A workplan had been circulated for information.

Decision

To note the workplan.