

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Minute of special meeting of the EDUCATION EXECUTIVE held within the Municipal Buildings, Falkirk on Tuesday 10 January 2017 at 9.30 a.m.

COUNCILLORS:

David Alexander
Tom Coleman
Dennis Goldie
Linda Gow
Adrian Mahoney
Craig Martin
Dr Craig R Martin
Robert Spears

**REPRESENTATIVES
OF RELIGIOUS
BODIES:**

Margaret Coutts
Rev Michael Rollo

CO-OPTES:

Mike Ablett (Parent Representative)
Jonathan Barclay (Pupil Representative)
Martin Craigen (Parent Representative)
Margaret Smith (Teacher Representative)

OFFICERS:

Arlene Fraser, Committee Services Officer
Gary Greenhorn, Head of Planning & Resources
David Mackay, Head of Education
Colin Moodie, Depute Chief Governance Officer
Robert Naylor, Director of Children's Services
Karen Thomson, Childcare Provision Co-ordinator

EE26. Apologies

Apologies were intimated on behalf Councillor Nimmo and Fiona Craig.

EE27. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

EE28. Empowering teachers, parents and communities to Achieve Excellence and Equity in Education – A Governance Review

The Education Executive considered a report by the Director of Children's Services presenting the proposed response to the Scottish Government's Consultation – Empowering teachers, parents and communities to Achieve Excellence and Equity in Education – A Governance Review.

The report set out the background to the consultation document which sought views on 17 questions relating to the governance of Scottish education.

The proposed response had been prepared following consideration of the Council's current governance arrangements and operational practices for the governance of its schools. It was agreed that the response would be adjusted in relation to questions 1 and 6, to reflect that the Education Executive included teacher representatives rather than trade union representatives, to clarify that not all members of the committee were decision makers and to refer to the involvement of parents and pupils in head teacher and deputy head teacher appointments.

In the course of discussion on the membership of the Education Executive, it was noted that the legal obligation for the Council is to appoint three religious representatives to the Education Executive with full voting rights. However, the Council has extended the membership to include teacher, parent and pupil representatives, with no voting rights. It was further noted that it would be open to the Council to review the membership of the committee.

Decision

The Education Executive agreed the response to the Scottish Government Consultation - Empowering teachers, parents and communities to Achieve Excellence and Equity in Education – A Governance Review, for submission to the Scottish Government.

EE29. Response to Scottish Government Consultation – A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland

The Education Executive considered a report by the Director of Children's Services presenting the proposed response to the Scottish Government's Consultation – The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland for immediate submission to the Scottish Government.

The report set out the background to the Scottish Government's high level visions for the expansion in Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland.

The consultation document sought stakeholders' opinions and views on the key policy choices for delivering the vision which aims to increase core entitlement from 600 hours to 1140 hours of early learning and childcare by 2020.

The proposed response, which was attached as an appendix to the report, had been prepared based on the Scottish Government's expansion plans for early learning and childcare and Falkirk's current early years delivery model.

Decision

The Education Executive agreed the response to the Scottish Government Consultation – A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland, for immediate submission.