

The background of the slide features a large, light blue watermark of the City of Vancouver's coat of arms. The crest is a shield divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant shows a city skyline with a diagonal beam of light. The top-right quadrant depicts a stag's head with antlers. The bottom-left quadrant shows a three-masted sailing ship on wavy water. The bottom-right quadrant features a grizzly bear standing on a rock. Above the shield is a crown with four maple leaves. A banner at the bottom contains the motto "A NE FOR A'".

Agenda Item 3

Minute

Draft

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Minute of meeting of the EDUCATION, CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE EXECUTIVE held in the Municipal Buildings, Falkirk on Tuesday 19 November 2019 at 9.30 am.

COUNCILLORS:

David Alexander
Robert Bissett
Fiona Collie
Joan Coombes
Nigel Harris
Cecil Meiklejohn (Convener)
Lynn Munro
Laura Murtagh
Malcolm Nicol
Alan Nimmo
Pat Reid

**REPRESENTATIVES
OF RELIGIOUS
BODIES:**

Evelyn Crosbie
Maureen Harkins
Rev. Michael Rollo

CO-OPTEES:

John Chalmers, Teacher Representative
Fiona Craig, Teacher Representative
Ryan Farmer, Pupil Representative
Siobhan O'Neill, Care Experienced Young Person
Karen Procek, Parent Representative
Beth Wallace, Pupil Representative

OFFICERS:

Karen Chambers, Committee Services Officer
Gary Greenhorn, Head of Planning and Resources
Rhona Jay, Service Manager
Kenneth Lawrie, Chief Executive
Colin Moodie, Chief Governance Officer
Robert Naylor, Director of Children's Services

ECYE25. Apologies

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Councillor McCue and Merle Stevenson, Parent Representative.

ECYE26. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

ECYE27. Minute

Decision

The minute of the meeting of the Education, Children and Young People Executive held on 17 September 2019 was approved.

ECYE28. Rolling Action Log

A rolling action log detailing decisions not yet implemented following the previous meeting on 17 September 2019 was provided.

Decision

The Education, Children & Young People Executive noted the rolling action log.

ECYE29. Presentation re “I Pay System”

The Education, Children and Young People Executive received a presentation from Stuart Lennie, ICT Programme Manager on the “I Pay System”.

Decision

The Education, Children & Young People Executive noted the presentation.

ECYE30. National Improvement Framework – Standards and Quality Report 2018 – 2019

The Education, Children & Young People Executive considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which provided details of Children's Services first Standards and Quality Report. This report was an evaluation summary of the impact of the Education Division National Improvement Framework (NIF) Plan, approved in September 2018 under the National Improvement Framework (NIF). The Director sought approval from the Education, Children and Young People Executive to submit this to Education Scotland.

The service had undertaken a self –evaluation exercise which helped inform the draft report and outline the next steps which featured in the Improvement Plan. The draft report was appended to the report and set out the very good practice in early learning centres, schools and services. Evidence was drawn from various sources including:

- attainment data;
- Standards and Quality reports and visits to nurseries, schools and establishments by officers across the year;
- reports on schools and early learning centres, from Education Scotland and the Service and School Improvement Team.

This information had been analysed and used to identify the priorities for the current academic year namely to:

- raise attainment for every child and young person and enable them to make excellent progress through their learning journey 3-18yrs;
- improve processes to support attainment and positive destinations for Falkirk's vulnerable children and young people; and
- improve attainment and positive destinations for Falkirk's young people.

Decision

The Education, Children and Young People Executive:-

- (1) noted the report;**
- (2) agreed that the Director of Children's Services can submit the Standards and Quality Report to Education Scotland; and**
- (3) requested that the Director of Children's Services publish the report on the Falkirk Council website.**

ECYE31. National Improvement Framework (NIF) – Education Plan

The Education, Children & Young People Executive considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which set out new arrangements regarding the National Improvement Framework (NIF) and sought approval of the NIF Plan 2019-2020.

Children's Services was required to submit an annual plan to the Scottish Government by 31 August each year. The draft plan for 2019 - 2020 had been submitted on the 31 August 2019 with a covering note informing Scottish Government that it would be updated following the Education, Children and Young People Executive's consideration of our NIF Plan.

The NIF plan was designed to give an indication of Children's Services key areas for improvement and was updated annually to take account of changing priorities locally and nationally. Appendix 1 to the report was Falkirk Council's third plan under these new legislative duties.

The plan sustained the focus on tackling inequalities of outcomes that exist for different equity groups and aligned with the priorities associated with the NIF.

Three high level areas for improvement were outlined and gave an indication of the priorities for development which would be undertaken to make the necessary improvements in the quality of provision. These were:

- Raising Attainment and Achievement
- Wellbeing, Inclusion and Equality
- Skills and Attributes Development

Decision

The Education, Children and Young People Executive:-

- (1) approved the National Improvement Framework Plan 2019 – 2020, and**
- (2) requested that the Director of Children's Services bring back a report evaluating its impact to the Education, Children and Young People Executive in November 2020.**

ECYE32. Proposal to Consult on Amending School Term Dates

The Education, Children & Young People Executive considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which provided details of a proposal to consult parents and school staff on amending the existing agreement for setting school term dates to provide for a 2 week October break rather than 1 as at present.

The present agreement dated back to Central Regional Council and was endorsed by Falkirk Council's Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) on 23 May 1998. The same arrangement was also used by Clackmannanshire and Stirling Councils.

The current agreement for school term dates was:

Autumn term - Starts on the Monday of the third full week in August.

October holiday - Week starts on the Monday of the second full week in October.

Christmas holiday - Two full weeks to include two public holidays on 1st and 2nd January.

Easter holiday - The first Monday in April, for two weeks, regardless of when Easter weekend falls.

It was proposed that Clackmannanshire, Falkirk and Stirling undertake this consultation at the same time with the conjoined results being presented to the respective Committees/Executives in 2020.

Decision

The Education, Children and Young People Executive:-

- (1) noted the overall content of the report;**
- (2) agreed that the Director of Children's Services progresses with the consultation on the proposal as detailed in Section 4 and 5 of the report and with the form shown in Appendix 1 to the report, and**
- (3) asked the Director of Children's Services to prepare a further report with a summary of the consultation responses and recommendations for the Education, Children and Young People Executive early in 2020.**

ECYE33. Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) – 2020 Expansion Plan Update

The Education, Children & Young People Executive considered a report by the Director of Children's Services providing:-

- an update on Children's Services progress with the Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Expansion Plans;
- additional information on some of the new and individual projects and other workstream proposals that support the overall ELC Expansion and Implementation Plans; and
- an update on the current financial position of the expansion programme.
- proposals regarding the naming of those ELC Centres where the consultation exercise has been completed.

Information was provided on the work undertaken on the 10 major projects. Flood damage and damage to the electrical and heating system at Callendar Park Nursery had caused further work there to be put on hold until next year.

Consultation had taken place in respect of naming the Early Learning and Childcare Centres. Voting in respect of Bonnybridge ELC had been completed and the preferred option was Bonnypark ELC.

Voting in respect of Kinnaird and Hallglen closed on 8 and 15 November 2019 respectively and a verbal update was provided on the preferred options, these being:

- Kinnaird Waters ELC.
- Glenburn ELC.

A number of larger projects were at the tender stage and the estimated financial costs were not yet known. It was planned that a fuller update on the overall 2019/20 position would be provided to the next meeting. Once the overall financial position was clearer Officers would re-appraise the situation regarding the Callender Park Nursery.

It is currently projected that the Year End position would be:

	£
Projected Underspend at Year End 31/3/20	(2.5m)
Proposed Adjustment to Capital via (CFCR)	1.0m
Estimated Funds Carried Forward to 2020/21	(1.5m)

Decision

The Education, Children and Young People Executive:-

- (1) noted the overall content of this current progress report;**
- (2) noted the updates provided on the projects outlined in Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of the report;**

- (3) agreed Officers proposals regarding Callendar Park Nursery as outlined in Section 4.1 (iii) of the report;**
- (4) agreed the proposed new names for the current Early Years Centres as detailed in Sections 4.10 of the report and as outlined verbally to the committee by officers in respect of Kinnaird and Hallglen ELC's;**
- (5) requested that the Director of Children's Services brings a report on the possible options for community use of Early Years establishments (as detailed in Section 4.12 of the report) to a future Education, Children and Young People Executive; and**
- (6) agreed to the movement of revenue funds as detailed in Section 6.2 of the report.**

ECYE34. Community Halls – Update on Transfer/Disposals

The Education, Children & Young People Executive considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which provided an updated progress report on the position regarding the transfer and disposal of community halls.

In order to support management committees and local groups who take over the running of community halls, a 'parachute payment' would be made to them over a 3 year period. The payments over the 3 year period would be £2,500 for small halls and £3,250 for large halls.

Councillor Bissett requested a short adjournment. The Children and Young People Executive adjourned at 11.44 am and reconvened at 11.56 am with all members present as per the sederunt.

Decision

The Education, Children and Young People Executive noted the current position and progress made regarding the transfer and disposal of community halls.