

MINUTE

‘A’ & ‘B’

Services Committee
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Thursday 5 May 2011 at 10.00am

Present:

E L Fullerton	L F Baisley
J Budge	A J Cluness
A T J Cooper	A G L Duncan
I J Hawkins	R S Henderson
A J Hughson	W H Manson
C H J Miller	R C Nickerson
J G Simpson	C L Smith
A S Wishart	

Apologies:

L Angus	A T Doull
F B Grains	J H Henry
F A Robertson	G Robinson
J W G Wills	

In Attendance:

H Sutherland, Executive Director of Education and Social Care
H Budge, Head of Schools
A Edwards, Quality Improvement Manager
C Ferguson, Head of Community Care
M Moss, Quality Improvement Manager
A Williamson, Chief Social Work Officer
L Geddes, Committee Officer

Chairperson

Mrs E L Fullerton, Chairperson of the Committee, presided.

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

The minute of the meeting held on 10 March 2011 having been circulated, was confirmed.

Members Attendance at External Meetings

There was nothing to report.

36/11

Advocacy Development Plan 2011-2014

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Community Care (Appendix 1).

The Head of Community Care summarised the main terms of the report, advising that Advocacy Shetland had been involved in developing the Plan, and that it had already been approved by the CHP Committee.

On the motion of Mr C L Smith, seconded by Mr A T J Cooper, the Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

Decision:

The Committee **RESOLVED** to:

1. approve the Advocacy Development Plan 2011-2014
2. note that an update report will be presented to the CHP Committee before the end of financial year 2011/12.

37/11

Reshaping Care for Older People – Change Fund

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Community Care (Appendix 2).

The Head of Community Care summarised the main terms of the report, advising that the Services Committee had earlier approved the proposals, and that the detail had now been worked on in consultation with stakeholders. The proposals had been approved by the CHP Committee subject to a small amendment to the membership of the Project Board, as referred to in paragraph 5.2, whereby it had been agreed that it would be sufficient for one representative from the NHS to be included in the membership.

In response to queries, she confirmed that the £328,000 referred to in paragraph 4.4 was the funding that was currently confirmed, but that there was an indication in the guidance that this would continue. It was additional revenue and did not substitute any revenue budgets. She also confirmed that the decrease in overall spend on institutional care settings by £500,000 in 2011/12 related to the shift in balance of care from institutional settings - such as Montfield locally - to community based health and care services, and potentially the development of more services in the independent sector.

Decision:

The Committee **RESOLVED** to:

1. note the information presented in the report and its appendices
2. consider and approve the proposals presented in Section 5
3. agree the Change Plan attached at Appendix 1 for submitting to the Scottish Government by the deadline of June 2011
4. note that the Change Plan is an integral part of the CHCP Agreement 2011 – 2014
5. agree that the implementation of the Change Plan will be taken forward by the CHCP Management Team and monitored by the CHP Committee and that monitoring reports will be presented to the Community Planning Delivery Group

Community Health Partnership (CHP) Committee Membership

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Community Care (Appendix 3).

The Head of Community Care summarised the main terms of the report, advising that a key priority for this year was to better integrate children's services. Changes to the membership were required to reflect both this, and the changes to the Council structure. The report had earlier been approved by the CHP.

On the motion of Mr A J Cluness, seconded by Mr A T J Cooper, the Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

Decision:

The Committee **RESOLVED** to:

1. recommend that Shetland Islands Council approve changes to the membership of the CHP Committee as set out in paragraphs 5.1 and 5.3, namely:
 - that representation from the Council by elected members on the CHP Committee is amended to reflect the changes in the Council's Committee Structure and that the SIC elected members on the CHP Committee from 1 June 2011 is as follows:

Chair, Children, Families and Learning:
Councillor Betty Fullerton
Vice-Chair, Children, Families and Learning:
Councillor Caroline Miller

Chair, Communities, Health and Well Being:
Councillor Cecil Smith
Vice-Chair Communities, Health and Well Being:
Councillor Allison Duncan
 - that in order to develop the CHP Committee's role with regard to Children's Services and enable the Committee to ensure progress with the better integration of Children's Services in the work of the CHP that the Head of Children's Services for the Council is also invited to join the CHP Committee.

Review of Corporate Parenting Role and Monitoring Process

The Committee considered a report by the Chief Social Work Officer (Appendix 4).

The Chief Social Work Officer summarised the main terms of the report, advising that it was suggested that the best way to hear about outcomes was from young people themselves, and that there was a need to strengthen the system in place by establishing a strategic group alongside the operational group. There would be a need for a further report to consider terms of reference and governance, as it was

not possible to complete all the detail until children's services had been integrated into the CHP and proposals, at a national level, regarding extending and developing the role of the Chief Officers' Group had been agreed.

In commenting that she welcomed these proposals to strengthen and prioritise Members' roles as corporate parents, Mrs L F Baisley moved that the recommendation in the report be approved, and Mrs C H J Miller seconded.

It was questioned if the proposals in the report would actually be sufficient to strengthen Members' roles, and the Chief Social Work Officer explained that with the annual training event and the planned meeting with young people, this would come to Members' attention at least every six months.

The Executive Director added that looked-after children would be a key priority of the new Children, Families and Learning Committee.

It was requested that a further report outlining the detailed proposals be presented within two cycles.

Decision:

The Committee **RESOLVED** to:

1. remit the proposals set out in section 8, as referred to below, to Head of Children's Services for action
 - The redesignated Children Families and Learning Committee becomes the main forum to report on issues relating to Corporate Parenting.
 - A framework for developing Corporate Parenting responsibilities throughout the Council and with partner agencies is drafted. This could involve the implementation of a two-tier model of accountability namely an operational group and a strategic group.
 - A strategic group is necessary to ensure that the responsibility for Looked After Children is met by all concerned, as well as the development of a Corporate Parenting Strategy not only for the Council but also across all partner agencies. The membership of the group should be Senior Managers who can make decisions to ensure that any barriers to a Looked After Child achieving their full potential are overcome.
 - The remit for membership of the established Inter Agency Looked After Children Working Group is revisited with a view to becoming the main operational group which would monitor and manage the effectiveness of services for Looked After Children across all agencies.
 - The Head of Children's Services continues to present information on each Child and Young Person, in an anonymised form but in a pen picture format, subject to Data Protection considerations, which allows Members to hear about outcomes for the Young Person.
 - Members should hear from Young People firsthand how services and

resources can be used to improve and enhance their lives. A system to be developed to increase the participation of and dialogue with young people, perhaps involving the Children's Rights Officer. This could take the form of a seminar on an annual basis, whereby young people who are Looked After, come together with members of the Children and Families and Learning Committee to present issues which are current for them.

- On an annual basis, a Corporate Parenting Event, involving Members, Chief Officials and Partners is organised.

40/11

Shetland Carers' Information Strategy

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Community Care (Appendix 5).

The Head of Community Care summarised the main terms of the report, and advised that there was a separate Young Carer's Strategy that focused on the specific needs of young carers. She went on to say that a lot of work focused on identifying carers and raising their profile. Much of this work locally was led by the VAS Carers' Link Group.

In response to queries, she confirmed that there was more emphasis on the role of schools in identifying carers in the Young Carers' Strategy. With regard to access to transport links for young people in rural areas, work was ongoing to look at this issue. However people were currently supported on an individual needs basis where this had been identified as an issue.

On the motion of Mr C L Smith, seconded by Mrs C H J Miller, the Committee approved the recommendation in the report.

Decision:

The Committee **RESOLVED** to:

1. approve the new joint Carers' Information Strategy and priorities for 2011/12

41/11

Report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education: Urafirth Primary School and Nursery Class and Hamnavoe Primary School

The Committee noted a report by the Head of Schools (Appendix 6).

42/11

Shetland College/Train Shetland Board of Management – 20 April 2011

The Committee noted the above (Appendix 7).

11/11 – Director's Update

Mr A J Hughson drew attention to the “Phase 3 Update”, and said that he had concerns regarding how the Capital Programme Team was handling the new build for Shetland College, particularly as he now understood costs for specialist equipment, furniture and fittings had been included in the initial budgets.

The Chairperson advised that she would arrange for this matter to be looked into.

Mrs L F Baisley referred to the “Skills for Work” programme delivered by the College, as referred to on page three. She expressed concern that the Schools Services had indicated that they did not have money to pay for this programme, as she considered it an important part of delivering the Curriculum for Excellence. She felt that it was important that the College and Schools Service should be working together to improve learning opportunities.

It was noted that the problem largely related to the fact that no additional funding was available from the Schools Service or Shetland College budgets, so this was the issue that would have to be looked at. As the NAFC Marine Centre was not a department of the Council, it was able to insist on payment for services delivered. However Shetland College, as a department of the Council, had to rely on SUMS funding.

The Head of Schools advised that the Schools Service had provided funding to the NAFC Centre in the past for the delivery of this programme. However if Shetland College was unable to claim SUMS funding for the programme, discussions would have to take place as to how best resolve this issue, as both the Schools Service and Shetland College had budget constraints. She went on to say that the Skills for Work programme was a valued programme, and that both the Schools Service and Shetland College had the best interests of the pupils at the forefront.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairperson expressed thanks to Mr Hughson for the work he had carried out on behalf of Shetland College during his time as Chairperson of the Board.

Members of the Committee concurred and expressed their thanks to the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Board.

The meeting concluded at 10.40am

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E L Fullerton
Chairperson