



MINUTES

A&B - Public

**Special Education and Families Committee
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Monday 17 November 2014 at 10.00am**

Present:

Councillors:

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| P Campbell | G Cleaver |
| B Fox | A Manson |
| F Robertson | G Robinson |
| G Smith | V Wishart |

Religious Representatives:

| | |
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| R MacKay | M Tregonning |
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Apologies:

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| T Macintyre | D Sandison |
| M Stout | |

In Attendance:

H Budge, Director – Children's Services
A Edwards, Executive Manager – Quality Improvement
V Simpson, Executive Manager – Community Planning and Development
S Thompson, Executive Manager – Schools
A Cogle, Team Leader - Administration
L Geddes, Committee Officer

Chairperson

Ms Wishart, Chair of the Committee, presided.

Circular

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interest

None

36/14 **Development Services Directorate Performance Report – 6 Month/Second Quarter 2014/15**

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Development Services (DV046-F) which summarised the activity and performance of the Development Services Directorate for the reporting period above.

The Executive Manager – Community Planning and Development summarised the main terms of the report, highlighting progress in the areas which came under the remit of the Committee. Responding to a query, she advised that the data relating to the Modern Apprentice Scheme targets was not broken down into the various

types of apprenticeships available. However it should be possible to get this information and circulate it to the Committee.

It was commented that community involvement would be a key area for the Council to address when considering how to strengthen communities, and that it would impact across the Shetland Partnership and the local area forums that were linked to the Partnership. It was suggested that this would be an area that would be appropriate to discuss at the Council's Policy Forum, and that it would also help inform the debate around the assessment of the Council's Corporate Plan.

Decision:

The Education and Families Committee noted the contents of the report.

37/14

Children's Services Performance Report – Six Month/Second Quarter 2014/15

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Children's Services (CS-30-14-F) which summarised the activity and performance of the Children's Services Directorate for Quarter 2 of 2014/15.

The Executive Manager – Schools summarised the main terms of the report, highlighting in particular the four action points that were classified as 'amber'. Since the report had been produced, the Council had decided not to proceed with the closure of North Roe Primary School and Urafirth Primary School and Nursery Class, and had also agreed to remove Sandness and Burravoe Primary Schools from the consultation process under the Blueprint for Education 2012/17. With regard to the self evaluation process in respect of the Joint Inspection of Children's Services planned for January to March 2015, it was hoped to hold a joint meeting with the NHS before the first visit of the inspectors on 19 January. The final analysis of the 2014 SQA results had been completed and would be reported in the next quarter, but pupil attainment remained above the national average. A successful bid for funding had been made for the Confucius Classroom project, and work would begin to put arrangements in place.

The Committee congratulated officers and staff on the report, commenting that it was a reflection of the hard work that was being carried out.

Decision:

The Education and Families Committee noted the contents of the report.

38/14

Committee Business Programme 2014/15

The Committee considered a report by the Team Leader – Administration (GL-19-14-E&F-F) which illustrated the planned business to be presented to Committee over the remaining quarters of the current financial year to 31 March 2015.

Decision:

The Education and Families Committee noted its business planned for the remaining quarters of the current financial year to 31 March 2015.

The meeting concluded at 10.15am.

Chair