

LEARNING AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Decision Notice – Meeting, 16th September, 2021.

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

The recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor G.C. Kemp (Chair); Councillor R.M. Birch (Vice-Chair); Councillors S.J. Griffiths, N.P. Hodges, T.H. Jarvie, J.M. Norman, A.C. Parker, S.D. Perkes, L.O. Rowlands and N.C. Thomas.

Co-opted Members: Dr. M. Price (Roman Catholic Church) and I. Cramb (Vale Youth Forum)

Also present: Councillors N. Moore (Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources) and L. Burnett (Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration).

AGENDA ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from H. Gapper (Welsh Medium Education).

AGENDA ITEM 2. MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 8th July, 2021 and the Special meeting held on 22nd July, 2021 be approved as a correct record.

AGENDA ITEM 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

AGENDA ITEM 4. PRESENTATION: BIG FRESH CATERING COMPANY –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the contents of the presentation be noted and thanks passed onto the staff.

Reason for recommendation

Having regard to the contents of the presentation and discussions at the meeting and to pass on the Committee's thanks and appreciation for all the hard work of the staff.

AGENDA ITEM 5. ANNUAL CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2020/21
(REF) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Committee's congratulations be passed on to staff for all the work undertaken.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Following consideration of the Corporate Safeguarding report.
- (2) In recognition of the hard work and dedication of the staff.

AGENDA ITEM 6. THE USE AND IMPACT OF THE PUPIL DEVELOPMENT
GRANT IN VALE OF GLAMORGAN SCHOOLS (DLS) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the findings of the report regarding the use and impact of the Pupil Development Grant in Vale of Glamorgan schools, be noted.
- (2) T H A T the support provided by schools to pupils eligible to free school meals and how this continues to be adapted in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, be recognised.
- (3) T H A T all schools in the Vale of Glamorgan be commended for all the support and assistance given to pupils and parents during the period of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) In recognising the universal and targeted support the Local Authority and schools have provided for pupils eligible for free school meals, and how provision has been adapted during the pandemic.
- (3) To commend all schools in the Vale of Glamorgan for the support and assistance provided to pupils and parents during the Covid-19 pandemic.

AGENDA ITEM 7. ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION UPDATE (DLS) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the progress made in the Elective Home Education (EHE) service during the last 12 Months be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee receives a further progress update report in 12 months in relation to the ongoing delivery, and further measures to raise awareness of the use and impact of EHE grants for the support of EHE learners.
- (3) T H A T the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee, in receiving the report referred to in Recommendation (2) above, be updated on the further progress as to the likely impact of any implementation of the proposed amended statutory guidance on Home Education and the proposed draft regulations which incorporate the requirement for Local Authorities to maintain a Children Missing Education (CME) database.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To further update Scrutiny Committee as to the progress made in relation to the ongoing delivery, and further awareness raising of the use and impact of the EHE grants for the support of EHE learners.
- (3) To ensure that Members of the Scrutiny Committee continue to have oversight and awareness of ongoing changes to the expectations and obligations placed on the Local Authority in regard to EHE learners and learners who may be categorised as CME and missing their entitlement to an education.

AGENDA ITEM 8. EDUCATION UPDATE ON THE SYRIAN RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMME (DLS) –

RECOMMENDED –

- (1) T H A T the progress made in the education remit of Syrian Resettlement Programme (SRP) in the last 12 months be noted.
- (2) T H A T Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee receives a further progress update report in 12 months as to ongoing delivery, further raising awareness of the use and impact of Minority Ethnic Achievement and Gypsy, Roma Traveller (MEAGRT) funding grants for the support of SRP learners.

Reasons for recommendations

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

(2) To ensure that Members of the Scrutiny Committee continue to have oversight and awareness of ongoing expectations placed on the Local Authority regarding SRP learners.

AGENDA ITEM 9. ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN MONITORING REPORT:
QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE 2021/22 (DLS) –

RECOMMENDED –

(1) T H A T the performance results and progress towards achieving the Annual Delivery Plan 2021/22 commitments as aligned to the Council's Corporate Plan Wellbeing Objectives within the remit of the Committee be noted.

(2) T H A T the remedial actions to be taken to address areas of underperformance and to tackle the key challenges identified within the remit of the Committee be noted.

(3) T H A T the progress being made through the Council's Recovery Strategy and Directorate Recovery Plans in response to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic be noted.

Reasons for recommendations

(1&2) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.

(3) To ensure Members maintain an oversight of the recovery issues impacting on the work of the Council and their respective Scrutiny Committee.