CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EDUCATION COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 6th MARCH 2023 AT 10:00AM AT THIE SLIEAU WHALLIAN AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Present: Julie Edge, MHK Minister for Education, Sport and Culture

Graham Kinrade Chief Officer

Education Council Member Alex Downie **Education Council Member** Peter Whiteway **Education Council Member** Joff Whitten **Education Council Member** Leslie Foster **Education Council Member** Malgoratza Simpson **Education Council Member** Barbara Brereton **Education Council Member** Janet Bailey **Education Council Member** Carol Glover

In attendance: Emma Harmer Private Secretary to the Minister

Minute Item Action

At the start of meeting there was a minutes silence in order to honour the long service of the recent Margaret Mansfield, to the Education Council and wider Department as a whole.

[019/22] Declarations of interest or conflict [OFFICER INITIALS]

There were no declarations of interest or conflict noted.

[020/22] Minutes of the meeting of 7th November 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2022 were recorded as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture.

[021/22] Matters arising – Review of action points from the meeting held on 7th November 2022;

The action log was reviewed and updated.

[022/22] Education Policy for Consideration

Number

There were no items of Education Policy for consideration.

[023/22] School Issues to be raised with the Department

OE2 Health and Safety Walk

MS requested an update on the QE2 STEM Block following the governing bodies Health and Safety Walk.

Minister Edge note that there had been a change to the Capital Scheme and this had resulted in delays.

The Chief Officer stated that the QE2 STEM Block was currently at the Design 1 phase.

MS noted that the lack of progress was a concern for the governing body of the school as there were health and safety concerns.

LF stated that if there was any areas of concern maintenance work should be arranged in the meantime.

The Chief Officer requested that MS ask the school to report any Health and Safety concerns to the Departments so that they could be looked into.

Scoill yn Jubilee new school

CG requested an update.

Minister Edge stated that there was an ongoing strategic review of the Department's infrastructure needs being completed and that all buildings would be considered within this review.

The Chief Officer advised that the Park Road site was not large enough for a 2 form entry school such as Scoill yn Jubilee.

It was noted that the Park Road sight would not be released until a replacement site for the Scoill yn Jubille Murrays road site has been agreed and that discussions were ongoing.

Capacity in schools

AD noted that the administration's goal was to increase the population and asked whether any consideration had been given to capacity in schools.

The Chief Officer advised that whilst there was capacity issues in the East there was not the same pressures in the North. It was noted that there would need to be a strategic review done to consider how to alleviate capacity issues across the island.

Laxey School Barriers

CG asked what the insurance liability was for free access to schools following issues with the installation of a barrier to the carpark on the Laxey School Site.

PW noted that a sign on the site would cover liability issues.

The Chief Officer stated that there was no issue with the barriers being in place and that it had been installed following oil being stolen form the school.

[024/22] Department Updates

Update on the Governance Task and Finish Group

The Chief Officer provided an update. It was noted that early findings had been reached and that next steps would be discussed at the next meeting of the Task and Finish Group.

Update on the RSE Advisory Curriculum

The Chief Officer provided an update.

[025/22] Any other business

Training

PW noted that the training pack by CPD has removed governor training. PW noted that three key areas of training that needed to be considered for governors; Roles and Responsibility, Recruitment and safeguarding. It was agreed that training options for governors needed to be considered and that the Chief Officer would look into this.

Induction for Education Council Members and Governors

It was noted that an induction pack or programme would be useful for newly appointed governors and Education Council Members.

It was agreed that this would be considered with training options.

DESC Contact

MS asked who the point of contact was for Education Council Members at the Department.

It was agreed that EH would be the new point of contact for Education Council Member queries going forward.

Budget

AD asked if Education Council Members could have some insight as to how the Department's budget is allocated and spent.

The Chief Officer stated that each school has an allocated budget to which Head Teachers are given autonomy.

AD asked where the budget for pay dispute resolutions would be allocated from. The Chief Officer noted that funds had been allocated to the Department by Treasury for this cost and energy costs in school.

[026/22] Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Education Council will be held on Monday $3^{\rm rd}$ July at 10am.

The meeting closed at 12.00pm

Hon Julio Edge MHK

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Hon. Julie Edge MHK Minister for Education, Sport and Culture

05/07/23