

Department of Education, Sport and Culture

Rheynn Ynsee, Spoyrt as Cultoor

From the office of the
Interim Chief Executive Officer

Voish Oik yn Ard Sheckter

Graham Kinrade

Date	13 th April 2022	Time	10.00am	Location	Conference Room, Hamilton House
-------------	-----------------------------	-------------	---------	-----------------	------------------------------------

Attendees	
Minister Julie Edge, MHK	Minister for Education, Sport and Culture
Mr Graham Kinrade	Chief Executive Officer
Mrs Joanne Roberts	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mr Alex Downie	Education Council Member
Mrs Margaret Mansfield	Education Council Member
Mrs Malgorzata Simpson	Education Council Member
Mrs Barbara Brereton	Education Council Member
Mr Joff Whitten	Education Council Member
Mr Leslie Foster	Education Council Member
Mrs Janet Bailey	Education Council Member
Mrs Carol Glover	Education Council Member
Mr Andrew Shipley	Head of Legislation and Policy Development
Miss Emma Harmer	Corporate Services Officer
Apologies	
Mr Peter Whiteway	Education Council Member


AGENDA ITEMS

AGENDA

001/22	Apologies Mr Peter Whiteway offered his apologies	
002/22	Conflicts of interest No conflict of interest raised.	
003/22	Confirmation of minute from previous meeting dated 26th May 2021. Minutes of the meeting dated 26 th May 2021 were agreed and will be signed by the Minister.	
004/22	Matters arising from previous meeting dated 26th May 2021 The Education Bill The Education Bill did not proceed.	

006/22	<p>Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarification of the Role of the Education Council and their expectations. There was discussion over the Education Council Members role and Education Council Members have been provided with the information pack for Education Council members. It was discussed that the Council Member's role is to act as a representative for the Department on school governing bodies. The Education Council should act corporately in decision making. The role of Education Council Members in appointment making decisions was also raised. The Head of Legislation and Policy Development said that new members would need training for this with HR. - Signing off the terms of reference and the Education Council Member's job description. - The council members have been provided copies of the terms of reference in the information packs. Members will review the information and the item will be added to the next meeting agenda. - Clarification of Governance process for all meetings and interactions based on relevant legislation: Conflicts of interest and confidentiality policy. - The corporate governance principles and code of conduct alongside the conflicts of interest guidance have been uploaded to the MS Teams channel for members to refer to. - Suggestion for Standard Agenda and Reports and revision to future minutes. Items attached. - Education Council Member's agreed that a standard agenda should be used for a period of a year and then reviewed at this point. The Deputy Chief Executive suggested that the standing agenda should consist of the 3 key priorities on the information pack and any other business. This was agreed. A standing agenda will be put in place for the next Education Council Meeting. - There was discussion over whether the Council should be receiving information on all schools performance in order to be able to find common issues across the board. In response it was suggested by an Education Council Member that after having meetings with their allocated schools and bringing issues back to Education Council meetings, Members can find common issues across schools on island without the use of comparative data. - The Deputy Chief Executive mentioned the Department's strategic plan and the 5 principles that the Department are working towards. The Minister asked that these plans be circulated to the Education Council. The Corporate Services Officer will add these to the MS Teams channel. The Chief Executive said the Department would be happy to deliver a briefing around strategy and delivery. - The Minister discussed the progress of the implementation plan put through Tynwald in June 2021. Tynwald was presented with an update in March 2022. The Minister asked for this to be circulated to the Education Council. The Corporate Services Officer will add this to the MS Teams channel. - At 3.05pm the Minister was excused from the Education Council meeting. - The issue of how the Education Council can look at schools widely was raised again by an Education Council member. The Chief Executive stated that ranking documents would not be the best way forward in order to determine this. The Education Council Member then asked for any suggestions in order to resolve the issue. The Chief Executive said they would come back with a solution for the next Education Council Meeting. - Review of the Education Council Regulations 2016 	Action -AS
		Action EH
		Action EH
		Action EH Action GK/JR
		Action EH
		Action GK/JR

	<p>The Education Council Members have been provided with a copy of the Regulations to review. This will be discussed at the next Education Council meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How can the Education Council best support Learning Requirements of the Island Plan and Key Areas it can support policy development. - This is to be considered at the next meeting of the Council. 	
007/22	<p>School Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School Accessibility – Ballakermeen, Henry Bloom Noble, Specialist Provision Units. - An Education Council Member raised a number of issues within their schools. Specifically, accessibility for a number of students at Ballakermeen who cannot access the whole building. There is also an issue with not enough handrails in place for those requiring them. There are also maintenance issues with the Astro turf at Henry Bloom Noble. - The Chief Executive stated that there are currently discussions underway regarding these issues and the Department are aware of them. - Swimming Lessons - Why have swimming lessons been curtailed at the NSC and made unavailable from Easter for some primary schools? <p>The Chief Executive stated that traditionally swimming lessons have always finished at Easter, the Department had hoped to extend this 3 weeks due to missed sessions due to Covid but unfortunately contractual issues with staffing have meant this cannot go ahead.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other School Issues - A Council Member asked if the council could be briefed with any issues that the Department have discussed directly with Head Teachers. There was discussion of possibly using the Education Council Members MS teams as a channel for this. The Chief Executive and Deputy Executive will look into this. 	Action GK/JR
008/22	<p>Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress of Task and Finish Groups <p>The Chief Executive stated that all 15 task and Finish Groups are making progress and leaders of the groups can be brought in when required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruitment and Retention <p>The Deputy Chief Executive said that there is currently a group looking at staff recruitment and retention. This group provides reports to the Senior Leadership Team within the Department. The Deputy Chief Executive also stated that it is important to consider the age profile when considering staff retention as a number of employees are at retirement age. There is also currently a 'wellbeing' task and finish group underway which may help with staff retention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teacher pay negotiations <p>The Chief Executive stated that they can't currently discuss the matter as negotiations are still underway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Behaviour Management Initiatives <p>An Education Council Member asked for an update following a presentation to some Members by a member of Ballakermeen's Senior Leadership Team. The Chief Executive stated that the Department is currently working on an AEN Code of Practice however in order to implement this funding is required and a business case is currently going to Treasury.</p> <p>An Education Council Member raised the issue of an increase in suspension numbers in schools. The Chief Executive stated that early intervention is important to help address issues. In response an Education Council Member asked if the schools have restrictions to their budgets when looking to employ private parties, such as behavioural psychologists.</p>	Action EH
		Action AS

	The Chief Executive said that the financial regulations will inform schools about what they can do. The Head of Legislation and Policy Development will upload these to the MS Teams channel.	
009/22	<p>Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teams channel created. The Head of Legislation and Policy Development is still working on education council emails. 	Action AS
010/22	<p>Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Department communications There was a discussion regarding issues raised publically and the Department's response. An Education Council Member highlighted that other departments within government respond to press directly via social media. <p>The Deputy Chief Executive stated that the Minister is currently interviewed by the press every Thursday and key points are discussed with multiple media outlets here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UCM Governing body An Education Council Member asked if there is any way there could be an interim period where a Council Member sits in on governor meetings. The Head of Legislation and Policy Development said that discussions are currently taking place with the Governing body. - Informal Council Meeting An Education Council Member proposed an informal meeting between all Council members. This will be arranged via email and a note taker may be required. - HBN gates An Education Council Member asked for an update about the gates at HBN school. The Chief Executive Officer said that the Department are currently looking to resolve the issue. <p>No more items were raised and the Head of Legislation and Policy Development closed the meeting.</p>	Action JW
	<p>Signature</p> <p></p> <p>Dated 13/04/2022</p>	