

# CAMBUSLANG AND RUTHERGLEN AREA COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held via Confero and in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 5 October 2022

## **Chair:**

Councillor Carol Nugent

## **Councillors Present:**

Councillor John Bradley (Depute), Councillor Walter Brogan, Councillor Robert Brown, Councillor Andrea Cowan, Councillor Margaret Cowie, Councillor Alistair Fulton, Councillor Katy Loudon, Councillor Norman Rae, Councillor Margaret B Walker

## **Councillors' Apologies:**

Councillor Janine Calikes, Councillor Martin Lennon

## **Attending:**

### **Education Resources**

L Mitchell, Quality Improvement Manager

### **Finance and Corporate Resources**

P MacRae, Administration Adviser; K McLeod, Administration Assistant; L O'Hagan, Finance Manager (Strategy)

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## **1 Declaration of Interests**

No interests were declared.

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## **2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee held on 10 August 2022 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

**The Committee decided:** that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

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## **3 Rutherglen Common Good Fund**

A report dated 14 September 2022 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted providing an update on the Rutherglen Common Good Fund.

Common Good comprised a fund of money, assets or both which was administered by a Scottish local authority in respect of each former Burgh within the local authority area. Common Good property was owned by the local authority and administered separately from other local authority assets for accounting purposes.

The Common Good funds held within South Lanarkshire Council were Lanark, Biggar, Hamilton and Rutherglen. Finance Services administered the Common Good Account and accounts were prepared on an annual basis, as part of the Council's year end process.

The position on the Rutherglen Common Good Fund at 31 March 2022 was detailed in Appendix 1 of the report which showed that the fund had cash balances amounting to £0.127 million. The Rutherglen Common Good Account held cash balances only and had no physical assets. As there were no assets to maintain, little expenditure was incurred by the Common Good Account.

Decisions on the Common Good Account were taken by the Finance and Corporate Resources Committee. A report on the management of the Rutherglen Common Good Fund was provided annually to the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee.

**The Committee decided:** that the report be noted.

*[Reference: Minutes of 5 October 2021 (Paragraph 4)]*

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#### **4 Participatory Budgeting Activity within Education Resources 2021/2022**

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A report dated 20 September 2022 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on Participatory Budgeting (PB) in relation to Pupil Equity Funding (PEF).

An update was given on PB activity within Education Resources in 2021/2022 which highlighted that:-

- ◆ a video showing the work of PB within Education Resources in 2021/2022 had been shared locally and nationally
- ◆ lead officers had presented the Council's PB journey at PB Scotland's National Conference on 28 September 2022
- ◆ Education Resources had submitted an award application to the International Observatory on Participatory Democracy for the Best Practice Award for Citizen Participation. The application highlighted the success of PB in schools during 2021/2022. The evaluation phase for the award was currently underway
- ◆ a PB section had been developed within a new Equity Hub, an online site to provide schools with support and resources to assist in tackling the poverty related attainment gap.

PB activity in 2022/2023 was also detailed in the report which highlighted that:-

- ◆ prior to the summer holiday period, Head Teachers had been asked to allocate a minimum of 5% of their 2022/2023 Pupil Equity Fund allocation and identify a staff member to lead/facilitate this activity in their school
- ◆ refreshed PB training had been developed and delivered to Head Teachers and PB Leads
- ◆ Head Teachers had subsequently identified the percentage of their 2022/2023 PEF allocation they wished to allocate to Participatory Budgeting in 2022/2023

Schools within the Cambuslang and Rutherglen area had allocated £109,421.75 of their £1.819,225 million PEF allocation for PB. A breakdown of the allocation for each learning community was provided in Appendix 1 to the report. Appendix 2 of the report summarised the percentage of PEF which schools had allocated for participatory budgeting. A further school-by-school breakdown was outlined in Appendix 3 of the report.

Participatory Budget Stakeholder groups, comprising pupils, parents and staff, were currently leading the PB process in their schools. The outcome for each school would be reported to Education Resources by 7 October 2022. Information on the outcome of the process would be shared at future Area Committee meetings.

Education Resources would provide Area Committees with:-

- ◆ a summary report of each school's participatory budgeting outcome
- ◆ case studies of school activity, which had particular impact/success
- ◆ a detailed financial report of how PEF money allocated for PB had been spent

Education Resources would support schools and monitor and track the impact of this activity. Findings would inform any future participatory budgeting activity within the Resource.

Officers responded to members' questions on the report and undertook to provide further information on the ideas and innovations facilitated through PB within Education Resources.

**The Committee decided:** that the report be noted.

*[Reference: Minutes of 14 December 2021 (Paragraph 4)]*

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## **5 Community Grant Applications**

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A report dated 20 September 2022 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on an application for a community grant.

**The Committee decided:** that a community grant be awarded as follows:-

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|-------------------|---|
| (a) Applicant:    | Enable (Rutherglen and District Branch), Cambuslang (CR/7/22) |
| Purpose of Grant: | Outing and entrance fees                                      |
| Amount Awarded:   | £925  |

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## **6 Urgent Business**

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There were no items of urgent business.