

Review of MCR Pathways programme – Funding and option 4 approved, after division.

2 With reference to the minutes of the Council of 15th February 2024 (Print 7, page 2) approving a review of the delivery and funding of the MCR Pathways programme, Councillor Cannon, City Convener for Education and Early Years, presented a report on the outcome of the review, advising

- (1) that the review proposed a revised operating model which involved MCR Pathways moving under the umbrella of Glasgow's Virtual School and the move ensured closer articulation with work to support care experienced children and young people;
- (2) of engagement with staff and stakeholders;
- (3) that a review of the role of MCR co-ordinators had been carried out and presented to the Service Redesign and Future Income Generation Political Oversight Group, who had been unable to agree which of the 4 options, as detailed in the report, was its preferred option, resulting in the Administration of the Council presenting option 4, as the preferred option;
- (4) that option 4 combined a number of the previous options and had arisen following consultation with schools and would provide a baseline of 0.5fte (or less depending on need) Pathway Co-ordinator posts to all schools, which schools could increase further through their Pupil Equity Fund;
- (5) that schools who were unable to fund extra would have their Pathways Co-ordinator shared between 2 schools, with some schools having a dual role Pathways Co-ordinator;
- (6) that there would be continued engagement and review throughout the process and as the new model was implemented; and
- (7) that funding of £311,300 for 2024/25 MCR Pathways would be met from the budget support fund and that building future years funding would be built into next year's budget.

Councillor Cannon, seconded by Councillor Aitken, moved that the committee

- (a) approves
 - (i) the preferred option of delivery for MCR Pathways which was option 4, noting the need for further and meaningful engagement with MCR Pathways to consider practical implementation and believes further work ought to be done to ensure a comprehensive, integrated no-wrong-door approach to service provision for children in groups who are served by MCR Pathways and in the skills, employability and post-school transitions sphere;
 - (ii) funding of £311,300 for 2024/25 for MCR Pathways; and

- (iii) building future years funding into next year's budget; and
- (b) notes
 - (i) that MCR Pathways had expressed a desire to work closely with Councillors and officers of the Council in the immediate future to consider joint working to identify sources of additional external funding to resource additional staffing to support with the transformation process; and
 - (ii) an assurance from officers that they foresee no reduction in the number of children receiving one-to-one mentoring, and believes that this point specifically, and the new service delivery model in general, should be subject to regular monitoring and evaluation with reports to go to the Service Redesign and Future Income Generation Political Oversight Group.

Councillor Pidgeon, seconded by Councillor Redmond, moved as an amendment that the committee

- (a) agrees
 - (i) that funding for MCR pathways continues for 2024/25; and
 - (ii) not to accept any of the 4 options of delivery for MCR Pathways; and
- (b) approves funding of £311,300 for 2024/25 for MCR Pathways, with a view to a full-service review of all programmes running in the city and ensure that no child is receiving less support because of these changes.

On a vote being taken by calling the roll, 9 voted for the amendment and 13 for the motion, with 2 abstentions. The motion was accordingly declared to be carried.