

773 Minutes 773 of the Education and Employment Committee Meeting at the Education Learning Centre held on Wednesday, 16 September 2020 at 0900hrs.

Present:	Hon. Clint Beard	Chairperson
	Hon. Miss Christine Scipio	Deputy Chairperson
	Hon. Dr Corinda Essex	Member
	Hon Lawson Henry	Member
	Mrs Wendy Benjamin	Director of Education & Employment
	Mrs Angela Benjamin	Assistant Director Life Long Learning
	Miss Kerry Lawrence	Assistant Director Schools
	Miss Santana Fowler	Secretary
Invited	Mrs Anita Bradshaw	Primary SEND Lead for Item 73.4
	Ms Peggy Osterman	English Advisory Teacher for Item 73.4
	Mr Kyle Francis	Scholarship Student for Item 73.5
	Mrs Penelope Bowers	Headteacher, PAS for Item 73.6 & 73.7
	Mrs Patricia Williams	Headteacher, St Pauls Primary School for Item 73.6
	Miss Elaine Benjamin	Headteacher. Pilling Primary School for Item 73.6
	Mrs Carlean Crowie	Headteacher, Harford Primary School for Item 73.6
Apologies:	Hon. Brian Isaac	Member

73.1 WELCOME

The Chairperson welcomed all present to the meeting; a special welcome was extended to Mrs Anita Bradshaw and Ms Peggy Osterman for Item 73.4, Mr Kyle Francis for Item 73.5, Mrs Penelope Bowers for Items 73.6 and 73.7 and Mrs Patricia Williams, Miss Elaine Benjamin and Mrs Carlean Crowie for item 73.6.

73.2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Chairperson, Councillor Scipio and Assistant Director Schools all declared personal interest as their children are currently enrolled in the education system. This will be noted for subsequent meetings.

73.3 CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES

There were no actions to be followed up.

73.4 INTRODUCTION TO TC OFFICERS

The Director welcomed both to the meeting and members introduced themselves; it was noted that documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

- **Mrs Anita Bradshaw – Primary SEND Lead**

A brief overview was shared with members by the Primary SEND Lead as to what she did previously and what she currently does. She also shared with members what she is hoping to achieve and that her overall impression of St Helena is how welcoming and receptive the islanders are.

The Primary SEND Lead was asked by members to encourage a multi-agency approach, as this would result in a huge benefit.

The Chairperson thanked the Primary SEND Lead for attending the meeting.

- **Ms Peggy Osterman – Advisory Teacher, English-PAS**

A short-term summary was given to members by the Advisory Teacher explaining her background of teaching and work experience; she also outlined her experience in getting to the island and being on Island. Various initial recommendations were suggested by the Advisory Teacher which the Director and Assistant Director, Schools will follow up with her.

ACTION: Director/ADS

The Chairperson thanked the Advisory Teacher for attending the meeting.

73.5 Feedback from Scholarship Student

- **Mr Kyle Francis**

The Scholarship Student was invited to attend the meeting and was given an introduction from members. He has recently returned from the University of Kent where he studied Bio Medical Science.

The student gave a presentation on what he has studied and on what he has learned. He explained to members what the benefits of his chosen university and what he did in his spare time to have a work/life balance. He spoke of his future aspirations which were to work with the St Helena Government Public Health Laboratory, complete his IBMS profile and to attend his graduation.

It was noted that this was a positive story and members expressed their thanks to him, whilst asking various questions concerning his employment.

The Scholarship Student was thanked for attending the meeting.

73.6 END OF SCHOOL YEAR EXAMINATION REPORT – MRS PENELOPE BOWERS, MRS PATRICIA WILLIAMS, MISS ELAINE BENJAMIN AND MRS CARLEAN CROWIE

The Chairperson welcomed all Headteachers to the meeting.

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting and it was noted that despite Covid-19, all schools have worked really well therefore all Headteachers and staff were thanked for their hard work.

It was noted that St Helena does not have the same resources as the UK and therefore to benchmark St Helena against the UK, is not realistic.

It was reported that for this year comparisons to the UK in relation to attainment in GCSEs is not possible due to the situation regarding examinations as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Overall, members were very pleased with the examination results for this year. Going forward a comparative table was asked for in relation to A Level results. It was noted that this will depend on the subjects that students sit from year to year.

Headteachers were thanked for attending the meeting.

73.7 PAS POLICY

- **Behaviour Policy**

Documents were circulated prior to the meeting and Headteacher, PAS was invited to speak about the Behaviour Policy.

It was noted that the memo gave a background of the Behaviour Guidelines explaining that the simplified version is the guidance whilst the policy is written more in depth.

Members recommended various amendments to the document, which the Head will modify accordingly. Headteacher, PAS will distribute to parents before the Annual General Meeting for consultation and to notify members via email if there are any changes.

Headteacher, PAS was thanked for attending the meeting.

73.13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next extraordinary meeting of the Education and Employment Committee will be held on Monday the 07 October 2020 to discuss the budget.

The next meeting of the Education and Employment Committee will be held on Wednesday the 21 of October 2020 commencing at 0900 hours at the ELC Hall.

There being no further items to discuss the meeting closed.



Hon. Clint Beard

Chairperson

Education and Employment Committee



Date:

21/10/20