

**Open Minutes of the Social and Community Development Committee Meeting held on  
Wednesday, 10 February 2021 at 9 am in the Council Chamber**

|                        |                                |   |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| <b><u>Present:</u></b> | <b>Chairman:</b>               | Hon Anthony Green, Chairman (Hon TG)  |
|                        | <b>Deputy Chairman:</b>        | Hon Cyril Leo (Hon CL)  |
|                        | <b>Members:</b>                | Hon Derek Thomas (Hon DT)<br>Hon Jeffrey Ellick (Hon JE)  |
|                        | <b>Non-Voting<br/>Members:</b> | Mrs Tracy Poole-Nandy, Director of Children & Adults<br>Social Care (TPN)<br>Mrs Gillian Francis, Deputy Chief Secretary (GF)   |
|                        | <b>Secretary:</b>              | Mrs Nicole Plato, Executive Assistant, Corporate<br>Services (NP)   |
|                        | <b>Apologies:</b>              | Hon Gavin Ellick (Hon GE)   |
|                        | <b>Invited:</b>                | Ms June Barney, Senior Social Worker (Childrens<br>services) (JB) – <i>for item 2 only</i><br>Ms Amy Martin, Senior Social Worker (Childrens<br>services) (AM) - <i>for item 2 only</i><br>Miss Karen Henry, Custodian of Records (KH) – <i>for item<br/>4 only</i> |

**Open Session**

Hon TG welcomed all to the meeting.

**1. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made. Members were reminded to declare their interest when necessary throughout the meeting.

**2. Introduction to two new Social Workers**

TPN advised that JB and AM brings the service up to speed and will support in relation to further fostering campaigns across the island and support all social care around children.

JB advised that she qualified as a Social Worker in 2011 and is experienced in child protection and learning disabilities; her last role was a Mental Health lead. She advised that she is happy to be here with the team having a community facing role.

AM advised that she qualified as a Social Worker in 2016 and also have a law degree and work in Childrens social care; she has experience in child sexual exploitation and dealing with cyber-crimes and therefore she will also join up work with the Police on Island to help with this work on Island.

JB said that they will strive to work with parents and children so as to protect them because we live in a small community. AM said that in a small community it is about building relationships and having a good working relationship with families and always building on this foundation which is important and whilst it is a challenge it can offer a really comprehensive service.

The Committee was happy to welcome these two new additions to the Social Care team which will only add value to the directorate.

AM and JB thanked the Committee for the invite.

### **3. Safeguarding Board & Endorsement of their Terms of Reference (TORs)**

TPN advised that the Safeguarding Board had requested the merge of the Children and Adults boards to form one Safeguarding board made up of multi-agencies where all safeguarding matters are escalated is agreed by SCDC, although it is currently happening in practice following which this agreement should be sent to the AG's Chambers to reflect in law and by extension the board also felt that their TORs should be agreed by SCDC. TPN advised that the combined board is working very well and it is a very well represented forum with a rep from the EHRC, Red Cross and New Horizons etc. This multi-agency approach is very good to have and ensures that we work together otherwise there is a lot of duplication.

TPN clarified that multi-agency work never stopped on Island but it is working even better now.

Hon DT said that he would like to see issues taken forward in relation to the youth and the underage drinking and smoking that happens in the Castle gardens on the weekends. NP advised that this issue had also been raised at the last Safeguarding board meeting and the multi-agency forum will be taking this issue forward. Hon DT felt that New Horizons could also help with this issue by perhaps having a film night for children to attend at the community centre because not all youths are into sports.

Hon CL said that the board also has to strike a balance in not being too restrictive.

SCDC agreed the Safeguarding Board TORs, subject to deleting reference to the 'Children & Adults Safeguarding Board' under the 'overall purpose' of the board in the TORs (to be consistent with the combined board name) and replaced with the 'St Helena Safeguarding Board'.

**(Action: NP)**

NP to amend and finalise TORs to be sent back to the Safeguarding Board.

**(Action: NP)**

### **4. Archives Lending Policy**

GF and KH was welcomed to the meeting.

Hon TG advised that the policy had been submitted to ExCo for endorsement but they referred it back to SCDC for further consultation due to the objections received from the public etc. Four objections were received with one support letter for the lending policy. There was also a suggestion from the Attorney General that you could have a lending policy that refer certain lending requests to ExCo for a decision. Confirmation had also been received from Solomon's to provide insurance and it would be on the basis of the detail in the policy and there is a possibility for non-contentious items.

The Committee discussed this item at length in line with the representations received and agreed that the policy was a very good one but needed to be strengthened as follows:

- To ensure that archive records will only be loaned for on island exhibitions with the express permission of the owner.
- No off island lending of archive records.
- No lending of archival records that does not belong to SHG e.g. Church records.
- To identify/stipulate venues suitable for the display of archive records on island which the Custodian has to be satisfied that the venue meets all conditions.

- To change the length of time in the policy for the display of archive items at on island exhibitions as Members agreed that three months is too long.
- To include the possibility of a double key policy.

**(Action: KH)**

When the policy has been updated/strengthened, KH to resubmit it to the Committee and targeted consultation will also need to be undertaken on the policy. NP to KIV.

**(Action: KH/NP)**

## **5. Confirmation of open minutes from the meeting held on 13 January 2021**

The minutes from the meeting held on 13 January was confirmed subject to amending 'was' to 'were' under the confirmation of minutes item.

**(Action: NP)**

## **6. Matters Arising**

### **6.1 World Café**

NP to KIV from Sam Dunn a copy of the graphic recording from the world café event on 6 February to see what young people think.

**(Action: NP)**

### **6.2 Review of Fees & Charges**

NP to place the review of the Immigration fees & charges on an upcoming special meeting agenda as March SCDC will be too late if these fees has to come in to place from 1 April.

**(Action: NP/Hon TG)**

### **6.3 Equality Legislation request from EHRC**

Hon TG advised that he will need to send a letter to the EHRC, seeking clarification of the details of legislation required as well as highlighting the gaps in current legislation to enable the Committee to respond appropriately.

**(Action: Hon TG/NP)**

### **6.4 Elections Ordinance Review**

NP to KIV the updated Elections Ordinance Review report which could be discussed at an upcoming special SCDC meeting.

**(Action: NP)**

### **6.5 Draft Domestic Violence Policy**

NP to send a decision document to the AG's Chambers to inform them of the Committees agreement on the policy so that there is a proper audit trail in place. To likewise draft a decision document for the Adults legislation policy and send to AG's Chambers.

**(Action: NP)**