

Minute of Special Meeting Council

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 08 February 2018	12:30	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Present: Councillor Jennifer Marion Adam-McGregor, Councillor Tom Begg, Councillor Derek Bibby, Councillor Bill Binks, Councillor Bill Brown, Councillor Stephen Burns, Councillor Jacqueline Cameron, Provost Lorraine Cameron, Councillor Michelle Campbell, Councillor Carolann Davidson, Councillor Eddie Devine, Councillor Andy Doig, Councillor Audrey Doig, Councillor Natalie Don, Councillor Alison Jean Dowling, Councillor Edward Grady, Councillor Jim Harte, Councillor John Hood, Councillor Karen Kennedy, Councillor Scott Kerr, Councillor James MacLaren, Councillor Kenny MacLaren, Councillor Mags MacLaren, Councillor Eileen McCartin, Councillor Colin McCulloch, Councillor Cathy McEwan, Councillor Marie McGurk, Councillor John McIntyre, Councillor John McNaughtan, Councillor Kevin Montgomery, Councillor Will Mylet, Councillor Iain Nicolson, Councillor Jim Paterson, Councillor Emma Rodden, Councillor Jim Sharkey, Councillor John Shaw, Councillor James Sheridan, Councillor Andy Steel, Councillor Jane Strang

Chair

Provost L Cameron presided.

In Attendance

S Black, Chief Executive; P MacLeod, Director of Children's Services; S MacDougall, Director of Environment & Communities; M Crearie, Strategic Director for Paisley 2021; L McIntyre, Head of Policy & Commissioning (Chief Executive's); K Graham, Head of Corporate Governance, A MacArthur, Head of Finance, M Conaghan, Legal & Democratic Services Manager; L Belshaw, Democratic Services Manager, and P Shiach, Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources); D Leese, Chief Officer, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership; and M MacPherson, Head of Cultural Services (Renfrewshire Leisure).

Apologies

Councillors Graham, Hughes and Mackay.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Nicolson declared an interest in respect of Item 1 as he was a non-executive director of the Greater Glasgow & Clyde Health Board. He indicated that it was his intention to take part in the discussion relating to the item as the general dispensation from the Standards Commission allowed him to take part in and to vote in relation to this matter.

Councillors Davidson, Kennedy and Sharkey declared an interest in respect of item 1 as they were members of KNOW (Kids Need Our Ward) campaign. They indicated that they would remain in the meeting and participate in the discussion and voting on the item.

Councillor Campbell declared an interest in respect of item 1 as she was an employee of Greater Glasgow & Clyde Health Board. She indicated that she would remain in the meeting and participate in the discussion and voting on the item.

1 Motion

There was submitted a motion in the following terms:

"Council is deeply disappointed at the decision made by the Health Secretary to close the Children's Ward at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

Council believes that the excellent and much loved children's services at the hospital should be retained within Renfrewshire and therefore calls on the Health Secretary to reverse the decision.

Council further instructs its Chief Executive to write to the Cabinet Secretary setting out the Council's view that the Ward remains open."

Councillor Kennedy, seconded by Councillor Strang, moved the motion.

Councillor Nicolson, seconded by Councillor Cameron, moved as an amendment that Renfrewshire Council acknowledges the changes proposed for three of the current paediatric services currently delivered at the RAH, the raised concerns about the provision of services locally and the anxiety that change creates for current service users.

Council notes and accepts that the decision was taken based on professional assessment of clinical needs and with the support and opinion of qualified paediatricians as being the best option for children and families requiring wrap around medical support.

Council also notes that the NHSGCC Consultation Report Paper No 17/03 clearly explains the clinical basis for the decision and that paediatric services will continue to be delivered from Paisley RAH.

"Future Services at the RAH and in Renfrewshire

3.1 Our proposal is to move inpatient and day case care from the Royal Alexandra Hospital (RAH) to the Royal Hospital for Children (RHC), this will allow effective use of our clinical teams to maintain strong clinical presence in outpatient services at the RAH and compliance with Royal College standards at both sites.

3.2 Children's services will continue to be provided at the Royal Alexandra Hospital (RAH) as follows:

- A&E will continue to receive paediatric patients who self-present;
- Outpatient clinics will continue to be provided;
- Specialist Community Paediatric services (PANDA Centre).

3.3 Services that will transfer to the Royal Hospital for Children (RHC) will be:

- emergency inpatient admissions, including short stay medical assessment;
- elective inpatient admissions;
- day case activity including day surgery and planned investigations."

On the roll being called, the following members voted for the amendment: Councillors Adam-McGregor; Burns, J Cameron, Provost L Cameron, Councillors Campbell, Audrey Doig, Don, K MacLaren, M MacLaren, McEwan, McGurk, McNaughan, Mylet, Nicolson, Paterson, Rodden, Shaw and Steel.

The following members voted for the motion: Councillors Begg, Bibby, Binks, Brown, Davidson, Devine, Andy Doig, Dowling, Grady, Harte, Hood, Kennedy, Kerr, J MacLaren, McCartin, McCulloch, McIntyre, Montgomery, Sharkey, Sheridan and Strang.

18 members having voted for the amendment and 21 members having voted for the motion, the motion was accordingly declared carried.

DECIDED: Council is deeply disappointed at the decision made by the Health Secretary to close the Children's Ward at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

Council believes that the excellent and much loved children's services at the hospital should be retained within Renfrewshire and therefore calls on the Health Secretary to reverse the decision.

Council further instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Cabinet Secretary setting out the Council's view that the Ward remains open.