

Policy and Resources Executive Sub-Committee**Thursday 23 December 2021 at 2pm****Present:** Councillors Ahlfeld, Clocherty, McCabe, J McEleny, Robertson and Wilson**Chair:** Councillor McCabe presided.**In attendance:** Chief Executive, Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance, Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications, Mr C MacDonald and Ms D Sweeney (Legal Services), ICT Services Manager, and Mr P Coulter (for Service Manager Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety).

The meeting was held by video-conference.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Executive Sub-Committee.**538 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 538**

No apologies or declarations of interest were intimated.

539 DEC Appeal – Crisis in Afghanistan 539

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance seeking approval to make a donation of £20,000 to the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) Crisis in Afghanistan Appeal.

Decided: that it be agreed to make a payment of £20,000 towards the DEC/Oxfam Crisis in Afghanistan Appeal.**540 Committee/Board Meeting Delivery – Omicron Variant Impact 540**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services seeking decisions on the delivery of Council, Committee and Board meetings in the immediate term in light of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and new Omicron variant.

Following discussion, Councillor Wilson moved that it be agreed to maintain the status quo whereby hybrid meetings shall continue unless the Convenor / Vice-Convenor are unavailable, in which case the meeting shall revert to a remote meeting and the Remote Meeting Protocol shall apply.

As an amendment, Councillor McCabe moved that it be agreed to revert to remote meetings whilst the indoor seating 2m physical distancing guidance is in place in light of the new variant and fears expressed by the Scottish Government that the situation will worsen in January 2022.

Following a roll-call vote 1 Member, Councillor Wilson, voted for the motion and 5 Members, Councillors Ahlfeld, Clocherty, McCabe, J McEleny and Robertson voted for the amendment which was declared carried.

Decided:

(1) that it be agreed that Council, Committee and Quasi-Judicial Boards revert to remote meetings whilst the indoor seating 2m physical distancing guidance is in place in light of the new variant and fears expressed by the Scottish Government that the

situation will worsen in January 2022;

(2) that it be agreed to live stream meetings of the Council, Committees and Quasi-Judicial Boards to facilitate public access;

(3) that it be noted that the Remote Meeting Protocol and Hybrid Meeting Protocol will be amended in light of the changes agreed by Members; and

(4) that it be agreed to consider the continued delivery of Council, Committee and Quasi-Judicial Board meetings at the meeting of the Inverclyde Council on 17 February 2022.

541 Education Interactive Whiteboards Replacement

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There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on activity related to capital programme slippage mitigation and seeking delegated authority to accept tenders for accelerated projects.

Decided: that (a) the issue of a mini-competition for the replacement of interactive whiteboards in a number of properties across the education estate be noted; and (b) delegated authority be granted to the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration to accept the most economically advantageous tender provided the cost is within the budget allocation for the project.