

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL

**Minutes of Meetings of the Inverclyde Council,
Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels and Boards to be
submitted
to the Meeting of The Inverclyde Council on**

Thursday 15 February 2024

**APPOINTMENT PANEL
HEAD OF REGENERATION, PLANNING & PUBLIC PROTECTION
6 NOVEMBER 2023**

Appointment Panel – Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection

6 November 2023 at 12pm

Present: Councillors Clocherty, Curley and Wilson.

Chair: Chief Executive presided.

In attendance:

Louise Long	Chief Executive
Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Kate Rocks	Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership

In attendance also: Kelly Shaw, Solace in Business (as Adviser to the Panel)

The meeting was held by video-conference.

619 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

619

No apologies for absence or declarations of interest were intimated.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Panel.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

620 Shortlisting and Arrangements for Interview of Applicant – Post of Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection

620

There were submitted copies of applications received from 24 candidates for the post of Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection.

Decided: that a shortlist of six candidates be called for interview, all as detailed in the Private Appendix.

**APPOINTMENT PANEL
HEAD OF REGENERATION, PLANNING & PUBLIC PROTECTION
30 NOVEMBER 2023**

Appointment Panel – Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection

Thursday 30 November 2023 at 9am

Present: Councillors Clocherty, Curley and Quinn.

Chair: Stuart Jamieson presided.

In attendance:

Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development
Morna Rae	Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications (as Adviser to the Panel)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock.

621 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

621

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Wilson, with Councillor Quinn substituting.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Panel.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

622 Interview of Applicants – Post of Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection

622

The Panel interviewed five candidates and agreed to appoint Neale McIlvanney to the post of Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection, all as detailed in the Private Appendix.

HUMAN RESOURCES APPEALS BOARD – 5 DECEMBER 2023

Human Resources Appeals Board**Tuesday 5 December 2023 at 10am****Present:** Councillors Brennan, Clocherty, Daisley, Law and Quinn**Chair:** Councillor Brennan presided.**In attendance:**

Mr J Hamilton	Principal Solicitor, Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Service (Legal Adviser)
Ms B McQuarrie	Human Resources & Organisational Development Manager, Organisational Development, Policy & Communications
Ms L Carrick	Senior Committee Officer

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Board.

623 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 623

No apologies for absence or declarations of interest were intimated.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

624 Appeal Against Summary Dismissal - Employee 624

The Board considered an appeal against summary dismissal on behalf of an employee and, following a vote, agreed the grounds of the appeal had been substantiated in part and that the appeal be upheld to the extent as detailed in the private appendix.

PLANNING BOARD – 6 DECEMBER 2023

Planning Board

Wednesday 6 December 2023 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Brooks, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Jackson, Law, McCabe, McGuire and McVey.

Chair: Councillor McVey presided.

In attendance:

Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Daniel Henderson	Planning and Building Standards Service Manager
Gordon Leitch	Team Leader – Consultancy
Elaine Provan	Supervisory Engineer – Traffic & Transportation
Jim Kerr	Solicitor (for Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services)
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Alison Ramsey	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Curley, Daisley, Jackson, Law, McCabe and McGuire attending remotely.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Board.

625 APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

625

No apologies for absence were intimated.

Councillor Brooks declared an interest in Agenda Item 2(a) (erection of new build residential development comprising of 64no. units in a mix of four storey flats and family houses, together with new parking, landscaping and servicing infrastructure at site bounded by Duncan Street, Holmscroft Avenue and Roxburgh Street, Greenock (23/0013/IC)).

626 CONTINUED PLANNING APPLICATION

626

- (a) Erection of new build residential development comprising of 64no. units in a mix of four storey flats and family houses, together with new parking, landscaping and servicing infrastructure:
Site bounded by Duncan Street, Holmscroft Avenue and Roxburgh Street, Greenock (23/0013/IC)**

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration for the erection of a new build residential development comprising of 64no. units in a mix of four storey flats and family houses, together with new parking, landscaping and servicing infrastructure at site bounded by Duncan Street, Holmscroft Avenue and Roxburgh Street, Greenock (23/0013/IC), consideration of which had been continued from the meeting of 1 November 2023.

Councillor Brooks declared an interest in this matter having submitted a representation in relation to the application and left the meeting during consideration of this item.

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Not having participated in consideration of this item of business at the meeting on 1 November 2023, Councillor Curley was not entitled to take part in consideration of this item and left the meeting.

Decided: that subject to the conclusion of a legal agreement relating to a commuted sum towards off-site play provision, planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions:-

- (1) that the development to which this permission relates must be begun no later than 3 years from the date of this permission, to comply with Section 58 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended);
- (2) that prior to the start of development, details of a survey for the presence of Japanese Knotweed shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority and that, for the avoidance of doubt; this shall contain a methodology and treatment statement where any is found, to help arrest the spread of Japanese Knotweed in the interests of environmental protection. Development shall not proceed until appropriate control measures are implemented. Any significant variation to the treatment methodology shall be submitted for approval, in writing by the Planning Authority prior to implementation;
- (3) that the development shall not commence until an Environmental Investigation and Risk Assessment, including any necessary Remediation Scheme with timescale for implementation, of all pollutant linkages has been submitted to and approved, in writing by the Planning Authority, to satisfactorily address potential contamination issues in the interests of human health and environmental safety. The investigations and assessment shall be site-specific and completed in accordance with current codes of practice. The submission shall also include a Verification Plan. Any subsequent modifications to the Remediation Scheme and Verification Plan must be approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to implementation;
- (4) that before the development hereby permitted is occupied the applicant shall submit a report for approval, in writing by the Planning Authority, confirming that the works have been completed in accordance with the agreed Remediation Scheme and supply information as agreed in the Verification Plan. This report shall demonstrate that no pollutant linkages remain or are likely to occur and include (but not limited to) a collation of verification/validation certificates, analysis information, remediation lifespan, maintenance/aftercare information and details of all materials imported onto the site as fill or landscaping material. The details of such materials shall include information of the material source, volume, intended use and chemical quality with plans delineating placement and thickness, to ensure contamination is not imported to the site and confirm successful completion of remediation measures in the interest of human health and environmental safety;
- (5) that the presence of any previously unrecorded contamination or variation to anticipated ground conditions that becomes evident during site works shall be brought to the attention of the Planning Authority and a Remediation Scheme shall not be implemented unless it has been submitted to and approved, in writing by the Planning Authority, ensure that all contamination issues are recorded and dealt with appropriately;
- (6) that the residential buildings hereby approved shall incorporate flood resistant and resilient materials and design. Details of how this is to be achieved shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. The approved materials and design shall subsequently be implemented prior to the development being occupied, to reduce vulnerability to flooding by creating a more resilient building;
- (7) that prior to their use on site, full details of all external materials (inclusive of all walls, paving, hard surfacing) shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the external materials are appropriate in the interests of visual amenity. Development thereafter shall proceed utilising the approved materials unless an alternative is agreed in writing by the Planning Authority;

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- (8) that unless agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, all footways provided within the site shall be a minimum of 2.0m wide, to ensure safe pedestrian access throughout the site;
- (9) that all residential units hereby approved shall be designed to ensure that at least 20% of the carbon dioxide emissions reduction standard set by Scottish Building Standards is met through the installation and operation of low and zero carbon generating technologies (rising to at least 25% by the end of 2025). Details showing how this shall be achieved shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to the construction of the residential units, to comply with the requirements of Section 72 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009;
- (10) that all houses hereby approved shall be designed to include at least one trickle charging point made accessible for the charging of electric vehicles, details of which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to the erection of the houses, to ensure adequate provision is made to encourage the use of electric vehicles;
- (11) that the car parking hereby approved for the flats and visitor parking shall contain a minimum of ten electric vehicle charging points to be made accessible for the charging of electric vehicles. Details demonstrating how this is to be achieved shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to the construction of the flatted buildings being commenced, to ensure adequate provision is made to encourage the use of electric vehicles;
- (12) that the houses hereby approved shall not be occupied until the associated off-street parking spaces shown on approved drawing 3376-MST-S1-00-D-A-PM_40_40_15-1500, Rev C1 have been provided within each respective plot, to ensure suitable parking provision for the new development in the interests of road safety;
- (13) that the flatted residences hereby approved shall not be occupied until the associated off-street parking spaces shown on approved drawing 3376-MST-S1-00-D-A-PM_40_40_15-1500, Rev C1 have been provided. The 45 parking spaces shall be retained on site at all times thereafter unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure suitable parking provision for the new development in the interests of road safety;
- (14) that unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Planning Authority, the disabled car parking spaces shown on approved drawing 3376-MST-S1-00-D-A-PM_40_40_15-1500, Rev C1 shall be provided within the site prior to the occupation of any residential building. For the avoidance of doubt each disabled car parking space shall be a minimum of 6 metres long by 2.5 metres wide with a 1 metre clearance, to ensure the provision and usability of the disabled car parking spaces in the interests of road safety;
- (15) that for the avoidance of doubt, the parking spaces within driveways shall be a minimum of 6.0 metres long by 3.0 metres wide, all parking spaces within driveways which form part of the pedestrian access shall be a minimum of 3.4 metres wide, and all remaining car parking spaces shall be a minimum of 5.0 metres long by 2.5 metres wide with an aisle spacing of a minimum of 6.0 metres, to ensure the usability of the car parking spaces in the interests of road safety;
- (16) that all roads within the site shall be a minimum of 5.5 metres in width and shall have a gradient of 8% or less, to ensure the provision of adequate roads;
- (17) that all parking spaces within the site (driveway and visitor) shall be fully paved and have a gradient of 10% or less, to ensure the provision of usable parking spaces and to prevent any loose material from being carried onto the adjoining public footway;
- (18) that for the avoidance of doubt, the visibility splay of 2.4m x 43.0m x 1.05m at the existing access onto Holmscroft Avenue shall be kept free of obstruction at all times, in the interests of road safety;
- (19) that all surface water shall be managed in accordance with the surface water management design detailed in the Drainage Impact Assessment (DIA) authored by EnviroCentre in May 2023. Any modifications to the approved design must be submitted

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to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to being implemented on site, to ensure the development does not increase the risk of flooding to adjoining sites or the adjoining public road network;

(20) that full details of all boundary treatments proposed within the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Development shall proceed utilising the approved materials, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, in order to provide an appropriate finish throughout the site in the interests of visual amenity;

(21) that notwithstanding the details set out on drawing L01 prior to the commencement of development, the final details of a landscaping scheme and programme for completion shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. For the avoidance of doubt, this shall include details of any trees currently on site which are to be retained and details of any trees, shrubs and hedges which are to be planted as part of the development. All soft landscaping hereby approved shall be planted during the first growing season following the first residential property hereby permitted being occupied, to ensure the provision of a suitable landscaping scheme in the interests of visual amenity and to ensure the provision of a visually acceptable environment;

(22) that for the avoidance of doubt, the 16 trees fronting Duncan Street and Holmscroft Avenue which are identified for retention in drawing number L01 shall be retained as part of the development. Details of protection measures for these trees shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. The approved protection measures shall be erected prior to the commencement of any works. All trees must be protected by barriers and/or ground protection to form a Construction Exclusion Zone in accordance with British Standards Recommendations for trees in Relation to Construction, currently BS5837:2012 and shall not be removed during the course of construction work, to ensure the retention of and avoidance of damage to trees during development;

(23) that no movement of machinery, stockpiling of materials, or changes in existing ground levels shall take place within the Construction Exclusion Zone throughout the duration of the construction works, to ensure the retention of and avoidance of damage to trees during development;

(24) that where new surfacing is to be installed within the Construction Exclusion Zone of trees which are to be retained, precautions shall be taken to minimise disturbance to tree root systems, in accordance with BS5837:2012, Section 7.4, to ensure the retention of and avoidance of damage to trees during development;

(25) that details of maintenance and management for the landscaping shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to the occupation of any residential unit. Management and maintenance shall commence upon completion of the landscaping, to ensure the maintenance and management of the approved landscaping scheme in the interests of visual amenity;

(26) that any trees, shrubs, hedges or areas of grass which die, are removed, damaged or become diseased within five years of completion of the soft landscaping shall be replaced within the following year with others of a similar size and shape, to ensure the maintenance of the approved landscaping scheme in the interests of visual amenity; and

(27) that for the avoidance of doubt a minimum of 5% of the residential units to be constructed on site shall be fully wheelchair accessible, to ensure provision of wheelchair accessible housing in accordance with Policy 21 of the proposed 2021 Inverclyde Local Development Plan.

Councillors Brooks and Curley re-joined the meeting at this juncture.

PLANNING BOARD – 6 DECEMBER 2023

- (a) **Erection of detached dwellinghouse (change to the design and position of the house at the west side of the site approved under previous planning permission IC/91/157):**
Land adjacent to 31A Cowal View, Gourock (23/0038/IC)

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration for erection of a detached dwellinghouse (change to the design and position of the house at the west side of the site approved under previous planning permission IC/91/157) at land adjacent to 31A Cowal View, Gourock (23/0038/IC).

Decided: that planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions:-

- (1) that the development to which this permission relates must be begun within 3 years from the date of this permission, to comply with Section 58 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended);
- (2) that development shall not commence on site until samples of all facing materials to be used in the construction of the dwellinghouse hereby permitted have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the development is acceptable in appearance. Development shall proceed thereafter using the approved materials unless a variation is agreed in advance in writing with the Planning Authority;
- (3) that development shall not commence on site until all hard surfacing materials on the roads, paths and parking areas have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the development is acceptable in appearance. The approved materials shall thereafter be used unless any alternative is agreed in advance in writing with the Planning Authority;
- (4) that development shall not commence until details and the locations of all walls (including retaining walls) and fences to be erected have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the development is acceptable in appearance. The approved walls and fences shall thereafter be erected unless any alternative is agreed in advance in writing with the Planning Authority;
- (5) that development shall not commence until confirmation of connection to Scottish Water's Network has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure that the development has a public water connection;
- (6) that for the avoidance of doubt visibility splays of 2m x 20m x 1.05m shall be maintained at all times at the vehicular entrance to the site with Cowal View, in the interests of road safety;
- (7) that prior to the commencement of development confirmation of SEPA's acceptance and proof of CAR licence shall be submitted for approval, to ensure SEPA's acceptance of the drainage regime and its discharge;
- (8) that the existing trees both within the development site and in the vicinity of the boundary of the site which are not to be felled or lopped as part of the proposals are to be protected in accordance with British Standards Recommendations for trees in Relation to Construction, currently BS 5837:2012, to protect the existing trees so that they continue to contribute to the environmental quality of the area;
- (9) that no tree felling, lopping or scrub clearance shall take place within the main bird breeding season, March to June inclusive, and all such works will be preceded by a check for nesting birds in accordance with the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2014 and the protection of wildlife. No development shall take place until details of protection measures have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure protection of the environment of breeding birds;
- (10) that for the avoidance of doubt the dwellinghouse shall have an Electric Vehicle Charging Point. Development shall not commence until the details have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, in the interests of sustainable development and to accord with the Inverclyde Council Supplementary Guidance on Energy. Thereafter the approved Electric Vehicle Charging Point shall be installed in their

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approved form at the dwellinghouse before the first occupation of the dwellinghouse approved under this planning permission;

(11) that for the avoidance of doubt the dwellinghouse shall be designed to ensure that at least 25% of the carbon dioxide emissions reduction standard set by Scottish Building Standards is met through the installation and operation of low and zero carbon generating technologies. Development shall not commence until details have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority relating to the proposed low and zero carbon generating technologies to be installed in the dwellinghouse, in the interests of sustainable development and to accord with the Inverclyde Council Supplementary Guidance on Energy. Thereafter the approved low and zero carbon generating technologies shall be implemented in their approved form before the occupation of the dwellinghouse;

(12) that for the avoidance of doubt: the driveway shall have a gradient of 10% or less and the footpaths within the site shall be a minimum of 2.0m wide, in the interests of roads safety;

(13) that development shall not commence until details of a forward visibility splay of 43m when turning right into the proposed driveway has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, in the interests of roads safety;

(14) that following approval under Condition 13 above the off-street parking spaces and driveway as shown on drawings A1280-BP01 Rev A and A1280-BP02 Rev A shall be constructed and available for use prior to the first occupation of the dwellinghouse, in the interests of roads safety;

(15) that development shall not commence until details/plans of the bin stores/containers to be used to store waste materials and recyclable materials at the dwellinghouse as well as details of the areas where such containers are to be located have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Following approval the bin stores/containers shall be implemented on site by first occupation of the dwellinghouse; in the interests of residential amenity; and

(16) that in the event of any suspected contamination or Japanese Knotweed being discovered, site works shall cease with immediate effect and the matter brought to the attention of the Planning Authority: thereafter, site works may not recommence until a Remediation Scheme (to be submitted for the prior written approval of the Planning Authority) has been completed to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority in writing, to ensure that any contamination and Japanese Knotweed concerns are managed appropriately.

**(b) Proposed residential development comprising 6 detached dwellings with associated roads, parking and landscaping:
Land adjacent to 24 Rosemount Place, Gourock (23/0036/IC)**

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration for a proposed residential development comprising 6 detached dwellings with associated roads, parking and landscaping at land adjacent to 24 Rosemount Place, Gourock (23/0036/IC).

Decided: that planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions:-

(1) that the development to which this permission relates must be begun within 3 years from the date of this permission, to comply with Section 58 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended);

(2) that development shall not commence on site until samples of all facing materials to be used in the construction of the dwellinghouses hereby permitted have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the development is acceptable in appearance. Development shall proceed thereafter using the approved materials unless a variation is agreed in advance in writing with the Planning Authority;

(3) that development shall not commence on site until all hard surfacing materials on the roads, paths and parking areas have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the development is acceptable in appearance. The approved

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materials shall thereafter be used unless any alternative is agreed in advance in writing with the Planning Authority;

(4) that development shall not commence until details and the locations of all walls (including retaining walls) and fences to be erected have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the development is acceptable in appearance. The approved walls and fences shall thereafter be erected unless any alternative is agreed in advance in writing with the Planning Authority;

(5) that development shall not commence until full details of all soft landscaping within the site, including a phasing plan and details of management and maintenance arrangements, have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the provision of an adequate landscaping scheme in the interests of visual amenity;

(6) that the landscaping scheme approved in terms of Condition 5 above shall be implemented in full in accordance with the agreed phasing plan. Any of the planting which is damaged, is removed, becomes diseased or dies within the first 5 years of planting shall be replaced within the following planting season with plants of a similar size and species, to ensure retention of the approved landscaping scheme;

(7) that development shall not commence until details of a survey for the presence of Japanese Knotweed shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority and that, for the avoidance of doubt this shall contain a methodology and treatment statement where any is found, to help arrest the spread of Japanese Knotweed in the interests of environmental protection. Development shall not proceed until appropriate control measures are implemented. Any significant variation to the treatment methodology shall be submitted for approval in writing by the Planning Authority prior to implementation;

(8) that development shall not commence until an Environmental Investigation and Risk Assessment, including any necessary Remediation Scheme with timescale for implementation, of all pollutant linkages has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure potential risk arising from previous site uses have been fully assessed and any contamination appropriately dealt with. The investigations and assessment shall be site-specific and completed in accordance with current codes of practice. The submission shall also include a Verification Plan. Any subsequent modifications to the Remediation Scheme and Verification Plan must be approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to implementation;

(9) that before the development hereby permitted is occupied the applicant/developer shall submit a report for approval in writing by the Planning Authority confirming that the works have been completed in accordance with the agreed Remediation Scheme and supply information as agreed in the Verification Plan, to introduce measures to reduce potential site contamination. This report shall demonstrate that no pollutant linkages remain or are likely to occur and include (but not limited to) a collation of verification/validation certificates, analysis information, remediation lifespan, maintenance/aftercare information and details of all materials imported onto the site as fill or landscaping material. The details of such materials shall include information of the material source, volume, intended use and chemical quality with plans delineating placement and thickness;

(10) that the presence of any previously unrecorded contamination or variation to anticipated ground conditions that becomes evident during site works shall be brought to the attention of the Planning Authority and a Remediation Scheme shall not be implemented unless it has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to satisfactorily address potential contamination issues in the interests of human health and environmental safety;

(11) that development shall not commence until confirmation of connection to Scottish Water's Network has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure that the development has a public water connection;

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- (12) that for the avoidance of doubt visibility splays of 2.4m x 43.0m x 1.05m shall be maintained at all times at the new vehicular access with Carnoustie Avenue as shown on drawing 22111-100-100 Rev C, in the interests of road safety;
- (13) that prior to the commencement of development confirmation of SEPA's acceptance and proof of CAR licence shall be submitted for approval, to ensure SEPA's acceptance of the drainage regime and its discharge;
- (14) that the existing trees both within the development site and in the vicinity of the boundary of the site which are not to be felled or lopped as part of the proposals are to be protected in accordance with British Standards Recommendations for trees in relation to Construction, currently BS 5837:2012, to protect the existing trees so that they continue to contribute to the environmental quality of the area;
- (15) that no tree felling, lopping or scrub clearance shall take place within the main bird breeding season, March to June inclusive, and all such works will be preceded by a check for nesting birds in accordance with the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2014 and the protection of wildlife, to ensure protection of the environment of breeding birds. No development shall take place until details of protection measures have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority;
- (16) that for the avoidance of doubt each dwellinghouse shall have an Electric Vehicle Charging Point. Development shall not commence until the details have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, in the interests of sustainable development and to accord with the Inverclyde Council Supplementary Guidance on Energy. Thereafter the approved Electric Vehicle Charging Point shall be installed in their approved form at each dwellinghouse before the first occupation of any dwellinghouse approved under this planning permission;
- (17) that for the avoidance of doubt each dwellinghouse shall be designed to ensure that at least 25% of the carbon dioxide emissions reduction standard set by Scottish Building Standards is met through the installation and operation of low and zero carbon generating technologies. Development shall not commence until details have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority relating to the proposed low and zero carbon generating technologies to be installed in each dwellinghouse. Thereafter the approved low and zero carbon generating technologies shall be implemented in their approved form before the occupation of any dwellinghouse, in the interests of sustainable development and to accord with the Inverclyde Council Supplementary Guidance on Energy;
- (18) that development shall not commence until details of a plan to connect the internal path network of the development to the existing stairs between Rosemount Place and Carnoustie Avenue have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. The approved path connection shall be fully implemented prior to the occupation of any of the dwellinghouses hereby approved; in order to ensure the footpath links are provided;
- (19) that for the avoidance of doubt: all driveways shall be paved for a minimum distance of 2m; parking spaces shall be a minimum of 2.5m by 5.0m for the parking bays as shown on drawing 22111-100-100 Rev C; the construction phase of the development must comply with details provided on Traffic Management Plan drawing dated 16 February 2023, in relation to the secondary access (Rosemount Place), which shall be restricted in use to two specific incidences namely; i) crane access for the delivery of timber kits and ii) use of small plant for tarring of the road surface, to prevent loose driveway material being spilled onto the road, in the interests of residential amenity and road safety, and to ensure national parking standards are met; and
- (20) that notwithstanding what is shown on drawing 22111-100-100 Rev C a visitor parking space shall be provided and positioned parallel to each access road into the lower and upper parts of the site. Development shall not commence until details of each visitor parking space has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Following approval the visitor parking spaces shall be constructed and available for use

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before the first occupation of any dwellinghouse in the respective parts of the site and thereafter shall be retained in position, to maintain appropriate levels of visitor parking.

LOCAL REVIEW BODY – 6 DECEMBER 2023

Local Review Body

Wednesday 6 December 2023 at 4pm

Present: Councillors Brooks, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, McCabe, McGuire and McVey.

Chair: Councillor McVey presided.

In attendance:

Margaret Pickett	Senior Planner (Planning Adviser)
Daniel Henderson	Planning and Building Standards Manager
Jim Kerr	Solicitor, Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services (Legal Adviser)
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Alison Ramsey	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Curley, McCabe and McGuire attending remotely.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Local Review Body.

628 APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 628

No apologies for absence or declarations of interest were intimated.

629 PLANNING APPLICATION FOR REVIEW 629

**(a) Continued use of outdoor seating/dining area at rear of hotel at:
Inverkip Hotel, Main Street, Inverkip (23/0108/IC)**

There were submitted papers relative to the application for review for the continued use of an outdoor seating/dining area at the rear of the hotel at Inverkip Hotel, Main Street, Inverkip (23/0108/IC) to enable the Local Review Body to consider the matter afresh.

Ms Pickett acted as Planning Adviser relative to this case.

Following discussions, Councillor Brooks moved that (1) sufficient information had been submitted to allow the Local Review Body to decide the matter without further procedure, and (2) condition No.2 as detailed on the Decision Notice of 14 August 2023 be deleted and replaced with revised text so that the application for review be upheld and that planning permission be granted subject to the following condition:

2. that acoustic/amplified music from the outdoor seating/dining area shall not be at a level that can be heard, when measured subjectively by authorised officers, within any dwelling or noise sensitive building with windows closed, to protect the occupiers of dwellings or noise sensitive buildings from excessive noise.

As an amendment, Councillor Clocherty moved that (1) sufficient information had been submitted to allow the Local Review Body to decide the matter without further procedure, and (2) the application for review be dismissed and that planning permission be granted subject to the following condition (upholding the Appointed Officer's determination):

2. that for the avoidance of doubt no music shall be played at any time in the outdoor seating/dining area, to protect the amenities of occupiers of premises from unreasonable noise and vibration levels.

LOCAL REVIEW BODY – 6 DECEMBER 2023

Following a roll call vote, 3 Members, Councillors Clocherty, Curley and McVey voted in favour of the amendment and 4 Members, Councillors Brooks, Crowther, McCabe and McGuire voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

Decided:

- (1) that sufficient information had been submitted to allow the Local Review Body to decide the matter without further procedure; and
- (2) that condition No.2 as detailed on the Decision Notice of 14 August 2023 be deleted and replaced with revised text so that the application for review be upheld and that planning permission be granted subject to the following condition:

Condition

2. that acoustic/amplified music from the outdoor seating/dining area shall not be at a level that can be heard, when measured subjectively by authorised officers, within any dwelling or noise sensitive building with windows closed.

Reason

2. to protect the occupiers of dwellings or noise sensitive buildings from excessive noise.

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 7 DECEMBER 2023

The Inverclyde Council

Thursday 7 December 2023 at 4pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Brooks, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Jackson, Law, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Nelson, Quinn, Reynolds, Robertson and Wilson.

Chair: Provost McKenzie presided.

In attendance:

Louise Long	Chief Executive
Alan Puckrin	Chief Financial Officer
Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Kate Rocks	Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Iain Strachan	Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services
Jonathan Hinds	Chief Social Work Officer
Hugh Scott	Service Manager, Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport
Peter MacDonald	Principal Solicitor
Sarah Christie	Cultural Services Manager
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader
PJ Coulter	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Brennan, Law and McCormick attending remotely.

630 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

630

No apologies for absence were intimated.

Councillor McCluskey declared an interest in Agenda Item 16 (Response to Consultation on GP Out of Hours Provision in Inverclyde – Notice of Motion by Councillor Clocherty).

Certain connections were intimated for the purposes of transparency as follows:

Agenda Item 10 (Future Delivery of Internal Audit Shared Services) – Councillor Brooks and Curley

Agenda Item 13 (Greenock Morton Football Club 150th Anniversary – Request by Councillor Crowther) - Councillors Crowther and Curley

Agenda Item 14 (Royal National Lifeboat Institution – Request by Councillor Crowther) – Councillor Crowther

Agenda Item 17 (Better Buses for Strathclyde – Notice of Motion by Councillor Cassidy) – Councillors Brooks and Wilson

Before the first item of business was considered, the Provost intimated their intention to amend the agenda to take Items 15 and 18 consecutively, after Item 17. All Elected Members were in agreement with this proposal.

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 7 DECEMBER 2023

**Minutes of Meetings of
The Inverclyde Council, Committees, Sub-Committees and Boards**

631	Inverclyde Council – 28 September 2023	631
	Approved on the motion of Provost McKenzie.	
632	Inverclyde Council (Special) – 28 September 2023	632
	Approved on the motion of Provost McKenzie.	
633	Appointment Panel – Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications (Shortlisting) - 9 October 2023	633
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.	
634	General Purposes Board – 11 October 2023	634
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Moran.	
635	Audit Committee – 24 October 2023	635
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Nelson.	
636	Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel – 31 October 2023	636
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Brennan.	
637	Planning Board – 1 November 2023	637
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McVey	
638	Local Review Body – 1 November 2023	638
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McVey.	
639	Environment & Regeneration Committee (Special) – 2 November 2023	639
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.	
640	Environment & Regeneration Committee – 2 November 2023	640
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.	
641	Education & Communities Committee – 7 November 2023	641
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
642	General Purposes Board – 8 November 2023	642
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Moran.	

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 7 DECEMBER 2023

643	Environment & Regeneration Committee – 9 November 2023	643
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.	
644	Appointment Panel – Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications (Interviews) – 13 November 2023	644
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Brennan.	
645	Inverclyde Council (Special) – 16 November 2023	645
	Approved on the motion of Provost McKenzie.	
646	Policy & Resources Committee – 21 November 2023	646
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.	
647	Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel – 23 November 2023	647
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Wilson.	
648	Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report 2022-23	648
	There was submitted a report by the Chief Social Work Officer (1) appending the Annual Report 2022-2023 for noting, and (2) seeking approval for its submission to the Office of the Chief Social Work Advisor to the Scottish Government.	
	Decided: that (a) the content of the Annual Report be noted, and (b) approval be given for its submission to the Office of the Chief Social Work Advisor to the Scottish Government.	
649	Finance Strategy 2023/33 – 6 Month Update	649
	There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer presenting the updated Financial Strategy for review and approval.	
	Decided:	
	(1) that (a) the latest update to the Council's Financial Strategy be approved, including the updated funding models as detailed in the appendices to the report, and (b) the continued significant challenges arising from the UK economic position and reflected in the Scottish Government's Medium Term Financial Strategy be noted;	
	(2) that the remaining mid-range estimated 2024/27 funding gap of £15.4million, as detailed at table 4a of the Financial Strategy, be noted;	
	(3) that (a) the estimated further £3.5million increase in Internal Resources Interest over 2023/27 be noted, and (b) the use of £3.0million of this sum to generate a recurring loans charges saving of £500,000 per year from 2025/26 be approved; and	
	(4) that the transfer of the Energy Efficiency element of the Repairs & Renewal Fund to the Net Zero earmarked reserve be agreed.	
650	2024/26 Budget Update	650
	There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer providing an update on the latest position of the planned 2024/26 Revenue Budget and the imminent Scottish Government Draft Budget for 2024/25.	

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 7 DECEMBER 2023

Decided:

- (1) that the latest update in relation to the 2024/26 Budget be noted and it be agreed that a Special Council meeting will take place no later than 8 February 2024, the date to be agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Provost, to consider the implications of the Scottish Government Draft Budget and take further decisions including the Council Budget setting date;
- (2) that (a) the update from the CMT in relation to Savings Workstreams, as detailed in appendix 1 to the report, be noted, and (b) the proposal to increase fees and charges by 5% in 2024/25 and 2025/26 plus the addition of the CLD review to the 2024/26 Savings Workstream programme be agreed;
- (3) that the adjustment/savings as detailed in appendix 2 to the report be agreed, including the Loans Charge funding model saving reported as part of the Financial Strategy update earlier in the agenda;
- (4) that it be agreed that the £2.5million income previously planned to be raised from increased Council Tax in 2024/25 be factored into the 2024/26 Budget as a minimum figure via the use of Scottish Government Council Tax Freeze grant and, if required, the use of further reserves; and
- (5) that the latest estimated 2024/26 funding gap based on all the proposals contained in this report be noted.

651 Budget Consultation**651**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy and Communications seeking agreement on the approach to the public consultation on the Council Budget 2024/26 savings proposals.

Decided: that the following public engagement actions be agreed (a) an online Smart Survey, (b) targeted engagement in relation to equality groups with support from an external partner, and (c) targeted engagement appropriate to individual proposals.

652 SNP Group – Proposed Changes to Committee Membership**652**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services requesting that the Council consider changes proposed by the SNP Group to its membership of the Audit Committee and Planning Board.

Decided: that agreement be given to the following changes to the SNP Group representation on the Audit Committee and Planning Board:

Audit Committee: Councillor Curley to be replaced by Councillor Robertson
 Planning Board: Councillor Daisley to be replaced by Councillor Armstrong

653 Review of the Standing Orders and Scheme of Administration**653**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services requesting that the Council consider proposed amendments to the Standing Orders and Scheme of Administration following a recent review which included Elected Members, Extended Corporate Management team and relevant officers. The proposed changes were detailed in the revised Standing Orders and Scheme of Administration document appended to the report.

Decided:

- (1) that the proposed amendments, all as detailed at paragraphs 3.3 to 3.18 of the report and shown in the tracked changes at appendix 1, be approved; and
- (2) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services to make amendments to the Council's Standing Orders and Scheme

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of Administration, including taking account of any other decisions taken by the Council at this meeting.

654 Amendments to the Scheme of Delegation (Officers)

654

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services requesting that the Council (a) note amendments made to the Scheme of Delegation (Officers) in the implementation of recent Council decisions, and (b) approve a small number of other amendments to the Scheme of Delegation (Officers). The proposed changes were detailed in the revised Scheme of Delegation (Officers) document appended to the report.

Decided:

- (1) that the amendments made to the Scheme of Delegation (Officers) by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services under authority delegated from several recent Council decisions, as detailed in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.4 of the report and shown in the tracked changes at appendix 1, be noted; and
- (2) that the other amendments, as detailed at paragraphs 3.5 to 3.13 of the report and shown in the tracked changes at appendix 1, be approved; and
- (3) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services to make amendments to the Scheme of Delegation (Officers), including taking account of any other decisions taken by the Council at this meeting.

655 Future Delivery of Internal Audit Shared Services

655

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive seeking a decision in respect of the future delivery of Internal Audit within the Council.

Councillors Brooks and Curley declared a connection as members of the Shared Services Joint Committee. They also formed the view that the nature of their connection and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process and were declaring for transparency.

Decided:

- (1) that the continued sharing of Internal Audit services with West Dunbartonshire Council in the short term to medium term, subject to a service level agreement being put in place between the two authorities to regularise this arrangement, be agreed;
- (2) that the Council agree to the winding up of the Shared Services Joint Committee, the associated Minute of Agreement and the cancellation of the Inverclyde Council Elected Member appointments to the same, all with immediate effect;
- (3) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services to take all necessary actions to (a) finalise the terms of the service level agreement referred to above, and enter into the same on behalf of the Council, and (b) update the Council's governance documents, including the Standing Orders and Scheme of Administration, to give effect to the winding up of the Shared Services Joint Committee; and
- (4) that it be noted that wider discussions will continue with other local authorities on possible options for a more sustainable delivery model for Internal Audit/Fraud shared services over the longer term.

656 Treasury Management – Mid-Year Report 2023/24 – Remit from the Policy & Resources Committee

656

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services requesting that the Council consider a remit from the Policy & Resources

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 7 DECEMBER 2023

Committee of 21 November 2023 regarding the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2023/24.

Decided: that the Mid-Year Report on Treasury Management for 2023/24 as required under the terms of the Treasury Management Practice 6 (TMP6) on 'Reporting Requirements and Management Information Arrangements' be approved.

657 Greenock Wanderers Rugby Football Club 150th Anniversary – Request by Councillor Crowther 657

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services advising of a request received from Councillor Crowther in the following terms: "Council notes that Greenock Wanderers Rugby Football Club (GWRFC), founded in 1873, celebrate their 150th anniversary this year, commends officers for engaging with GWRFC in recognition of this magnificent milestone in the club's history and notes further that a civic reception for GWRFC will take place next year to mark this historical achievement.

GWRFC is an asset to the community, and Council acknowledges the sterling work of the GWRFC management committee plus players whose engagement with the community within Inverclyde and beyond is recognised herewith and Council wishes GWRFC continued success in future years."

Decided: that the Council supports Councillor Crowther's request.

658 Greenock Morton Football Club 150th Anniversary – Request by Councillor Crowther 658

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services advising of the receipt of a request received from Councillor Crowther in the following terms:

"On 4th October 1874 Morton Football Club was formed making it one of the oldest senior football clubs in Scotland.

In 1994 Morton Football Club officially changed its name to Greenock Morton Football Club (GMFC).

Council notes that GMFC celebrate their 150th anniversary next year, commends officers for engaging with GMFC in recognition of this magnificent milestone in the club's history and notes further that a civic reception for GMFC will take place next year to mark this historical achievement.

GMFC is an asset to the community, and Council acknowledges the sterling work of the GMFC management committee plus players whose engagement with the community within Inverclyde and beyond is recognised herewith and Council wishes GMFC continued success in future years."

Councillor Crowther declared a connection as a Greenock Morton Football Club supporter and previous holder of a season ticket and Councillor Curley declared a connection as a shareholder in Greenock Morton Football Club and member of Morton Club Together. They also formed the view that the nature of their connection and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process and were declaring for transparency.

Decided: that the Council supports Councillor Crowther's request.

659 Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) 200th Anniversary - Request by Councillor Crowther 659

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There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services advising of the receipt of a request received from Councillor Crowther in the following terms:

“As we countdown to 2024, Council is requested to celebrate the RNLI who will shortly be celebrating their 200th Anniversary of saving lives at sea.

Council recognises and applauds the RNLI staff and heroic volunteers who put to sea around the coasts of the UK, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in all sea conditions whenever there is a call for assistance, whether it be a Pan-Pan call or a Mayday shout. The estuarial and inshore coastal waters around Inverclyde are the home to many sailors who moor their vessels in the sheltered waters or berth them at the local harbours or marinas and whilst Inverclyde has no RNLI station, we are amply served by RNLI stations at Largs or Rhu (Helensburgh).

The Council wishes the RNLI continued success for many years to come.

The history of the RNLI can be read at <https://rnli.org/about-us/our-history>”

Councillor Crowther declared a connection as a classified supporter of RNLI due to donations made to the organisation. He also formed the view that the nature of his connection and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the meeting or his participation in the decision-making process and was declaring for transparency.

Decided: that the Council supports Councillor Crowther’s request.

660

Response to Consultation on GP Out of Hours Provision in Inverclyde – Notice of Motion by Councillor Clocherty

660

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services advising of the receipt of a Notice of Motion received from Councillor Clocherty, countersigned by Councillor McVey, in the following terms:

“Council notes:

1. That on 16th February, council adopted a motion expressing its opposition to Health Board plans not to return a full GP Out of Hours service to Inverclyde.
2. That the motion called on a full consultation to be conducted on any future plans on the GP out of hours service.
3. That following guidance from Health Improvement Scotland, Greater Glasgow and Clyde launched a public consultation in October on changes to GP Out of Hours.
4. The Health Board’s plans would centralise out of hours centres at RAH in Paisley and Stobhill and the New Victoria in Glasgow. Face to face appointments would only be available in Inverclyde on Saturdays from 10-1 and public holidays, meaning that at all other times there would be no dedicated out of hours centre in Inverclyde.
5. 6000 people have signed a petition opposing these changes.

Council believes:

1. The consultation is a welcome opportunity for people across Inverclyde to express their views on this issue.
2. It is unacceptable that services should be consolidated away from Inverclyde and that our area will be left without an out of hours centre for most of each week.

Council resolves:

1. To submit the following response to the public consultation on behalf of Inverclyde Council before the end of the consultation period on 11th December:

We welcome the opportunity to respond to the consultation on the future of GP out of hours services in the Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board areas.

At meetings of the council on 16th February and 7th December, the Council expressed its opposition to health board plans to permanently reduce the GP out of hours provision in Inverclyde.

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We do not believe that NHSGGC's proposal to make the current arrangement permanent meets the needs of patients in Inverclyde. It is unacceptable that services are to be consolidated on three sites that are very close to each other, while patients in Inverclyde face round trips of up to fifty miles in order to access out of hours treatment.

In proposing this new arrangement, we do not believe that Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board have adequately addressed the inequalities of access. Permanently reducing the GP out of hours centre in Inverclyde – one of the most deprived areas in the Health Board region – is not in line with the Health Board's aim of reducing health inequalities.

Opposition to the Board's proposals are widespread in the community with over 6,000 people signing a petition opposing them.

We ask that the Board reinstates a GP out of hours centre seven days a week in Inverclyde to ensure equality of access across the Board area."

Councillor McCluskey declared an interest in this item as a Board Member of NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board and left the meeting for the consideration of this Item.

Decided:

- (1) that the Notice of Motion by Councillor Clocherty as set out above be agreed, and
- (2) that it be remitted to officers to submit the response detailed in the motion by way of a letter to the Chair and Chief Executive of NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Health Board and via the consultation website so far as practicable.

Councillor McCluskey returned to the meeting following the conclusion of this Item.

661

Better Buses for Strathclyde – Notice of Motion by Councillor Cassidy

661

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services advising of the receipt of a Notice of Motion received from Councillor Cassidy, countersigned by Councillor McCluskey, in the following terms:

"This Council notes:-

- The 'Strathclyde Regional Bus Strategy and Delivery Plan: Case for Change' report presented to Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Board on 29 September 2023.
- That the evidence-based report has found that bus use is in 'sustained, long-term decline' in Strathclyde, with bus patronage, the size of bus networks, bus service frequency and network coverage all falling.
- That despite decline in bus networks, bus fares continue to rise in Strathclyde at a higher rate than inflation and at a higher rate than the cost of travelling by other modes of transport.
- That the current model of bus service has failed to deliver integrated London-style ticketing or an integrated approach to public transport planning.
- That in 2021/22 public sector support represented 56 per cent of bus operator revenues in Scotland.
- The new powers available to transport authorities under the 2019 Transport Act.
- The calls from the 'Better Buses for Strathclyde' campaign for the SPT Board to ensure its Bus strategy sets out clear plans to use these new powers to improve bus services in Strathclyde.
- The recently published Centre for Cities report 'Miles Better: Improving public transport in the Glasgow City Region', which calls for the franchising of the bus network supported by a 10-year funding deal from the Scottish Government.

This Council believes: -

- The current deregulated model of bus provision is inadequate and that there is now a compelling case for changing the model of bus provision across Strathclyde.

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•A new model of bus provision will enable bus services and public transport across Strathclyde to contribute more towards a healthier environment, inclusive economic growth and an improved quality of life for the people and communities of Strathclyde.

This Council agrees to write to SPT and the Scottish Government to communicate its view that: -

•A new model of bus provision for Strathclyde must be developed that is integrated and democratically accountable.

•A new model of bus provision must contribute towards Regional Transport Strategy objectives and policies set out by SPT.

•The Scottish Government must support local authorities and transport authorities seeking to replace deregulated bus models with models of regulation or common ownership, with fair funding and regulation that respects the autonomy and democratic wishes of Scotland’s communities and regions.”

Councillor Wilson declared a connection as Vice Chair of Strathclyde Passenger Transport (SPT) and Chair of their Operating Committee, and Councillor Brooks declared a connection as Councillor Wilson’s named substitute for SPT. They also formed the view that the nature of their connection and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process and were declaring for transparency.

Following discussion, Councillor Cassidy seconded by Councillor McCluskey moved that the terms of the Motion be approved.

As an amendment, Councillor Wilson seconded by Councillor Brooks moved that the Council does not write to SPT and the Scottish Government to communicate the views expressed in the motion.

Following a roll call vote, 2 Members, Councillor Brooks and Wilson voted in favour of their amendment, and 20 Members, Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Jackson, Law, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Nelson, Quinn, Reynolds and Robertson voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

Decided:

- (1) that the Notice of Motion by Councillor Cassidy as set out above be agreed;
- (2) that it be remitted to officers to write to SPT and the Scottish Government to communicate the terms of the motion; and
- (3) it be remitted to officers to provide a report on the strategic issues raised in this motion to a future meeting of the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

It was agreed that discussion on the following two Notices of Motion be combined.

662

Gaza - Israel Conflict – Notice of Motion by Councillor Reynolds

662

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services advising of the receipt of a Notice of Motion received from Councillor Reynolds, countersigned by Councillor Armstrong, in the following terms:

Council is asked to follow the lead of the Scottish Government, the Irish Teoiseach, organisations of all faiths and none in:

unequivocally condemning the horrific killings by Hamas and the taking of hostages; reaffirming that there must be an end to the collective punishment of the Palestinian people;

calling for the urgent release of all hostages and an end to the siege of Gaza to allow vital supplies of food, fuel, medicine and water to reach the civilian people;

noting the growing calls for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire from the United Nations

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and its aid agencies;

and therefore calling on the UK Government to uphold international law and protect all civilians in Israel and Palestine and to join with the international community in urgently pressing all parties to agree to an immediate ceasefire.

Following discussion, Councillor Reynolds seconded by Councillor Armstrong moved that the terms of the Motion be approved.

As an amendment, Councillor Wilson seconded by Councillor Brooks moved that the Council does not support the call for an immediate ceasefire.

Following a roll call vote, 2 Members, Councillor Brooks and Wilson voted in favour of their amendment, and 20 Members, Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Jackson, Law, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Nelson, Quinn, Reynolds and Robertson voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

Decided: that the notice of motion by Councillor Reynolds be agreed.

663

Palestine/Israel – Notice of Motion by Councillor McCabe

663

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services advising of the receipt of a Notice of Motion received from Councillor McCabe, countersigned by Councillor McGuire, in the following terms:

“This Council:

- unequivocally condemns in the strongest possible terms Hamas’s barbaric and unjustifiable terrorist attacks against Israeli citizens on 7 October 2023, and demands the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages;
- while recognising Israel’s right to defend itself, believes that civilians must never be targeted and innocent lives must be protected, and deplores actions that have led to the death of thousands of innocent Palestinian men, women and children;
- agrees that all human life is equal, abhors the loss of innocent lives, and affirms the right of all Israelis and Palestinians to live in peace and security; and further agrees that the killing of innocent civilians in Gaza must stop;
- expresses its solidarity with Scotland’s Jewish, Muslim, Israeli and Palestinian communities and condemns antisemitism, Islamophobia or any other form of hatred;
- believes that a credible, lasting and sustainable peace can only be based on the two-state solution through reinvigorated diplomatic and political efforts in a Middle East peace process;
- recognises the agreement of a humanitarian ceasefire between Israel and Hamas to enable the release of some hostages, the release of prisoners and the admission of significantly more humanitarian aid;
- recognises that, in order for any permanent ceasefire to be achieved, it requires all sides to comply;
- is horrified by the Hamas statement that it would repeat the 7 October attacks and continue rocket fire;
- is appalled that the Israeli Prime Minister has stated that he will not even consider a permanent ceasefire;
- calls, therefore, on the international community to use every form of diplomacy to try and create the conditions on the ground to make a full and permanent ceasefire a reality;
- further calls on the International Criminal Court to investigate the conduct of all parties in this conflict, and affirms the commitment to a lasting peace with the end of illegal occupation, siege and settlements, and a two-state solution where a sovereign, independent and viable Palestinian state exists alongside a safe and secure Israel.”

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Following discussion, Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor McGuire moved that the terms of the Motion be approved.

As an amendment, Councillor Wilson seconded by Councillor Brooks moved that the Council does not support the call for an immediate ceasefire.

Following a roll call vote, 2 Members, Councillor Brooks and Wilson voted in favour of their amendment, and 20 Members, Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Jackson, Law, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Nelson, Quinn, Reynolds and Robertson voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

Decided: that the notice of motion by Councillor McCabe be agreed.

664 Trust Funds Annual Accounts 2022-23

664

There was submitted a report by the Honorary Treasurer requesting the Council as sole trustee to adopt the examined Annual Accounts of the Birkmyre Trust and the Watt Institution Trust Fund for 2022/23.

The Chief Financial Officer provided a verbal update on the report and requested that Members consider approving the use of up to £40,000 from the Birkmyre Trust revenue Reserves to undertake work to the pavilion and shelter including the provision of CCTV within Birkmyre Park.

Decided: that the Council as sole trustee-

(1) approve the Annual Accounts for the Birkmyre Trust and Watt Institution Trust Fund for the year ended 31 March 2023 included in the attached appendices; and

(2) approve the use of up to £40,000 from the Birkmyre Trust revenue Reserves to undertake work to the pavilion and shelter including the provision of CCTV within Birkmyre Park.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Act as detailed in the relevant minute.

Private Appendices to Minutes

Inverclyde Council – 28 September 2023

Approved on the motion of Provost McKenzie.

665 Appointment Panel – Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications (Shortlisting) – 9 October 2023

665

Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.

666 General Purposes Board – 11 October 2023

666

Approved on the motion of Councillor Moran.

667 Environment & Regeneration Committee– 2 November 2023

667

Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.

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| 668 | Education & Communities Committee – 7 November 2023 | 668 |
| | Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty. | |
| 669 | General Purposes Board – 8 November 2023 | 669 |
| | Approved on the motion of Councillor Moran. | |
| 670 | Environment & Regeneration Committee – 9 November 2023 | 670 |
| | Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick. | |
| 671 | Appointment Panel – Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications (Interviews) – 13 November 2023 | 671 |
| | Approved on the motion of Councillor Brennan. | |
| 672 | Policy & Resources Committee – 21 November 2023 | 672 |
| | Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe. | |

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 7 DECEMBER 2023

The Inverclyde Council

Thursday 7 December 2023 at 6.30pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Brooks, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Jackson, Law, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Nelson, Quinn, Reynolds, Robertson and Wilson.

Chair: Provost McKenzie presided.

In attendance:

Louise Long	Chief Executive
Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Iain Strachan	Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services
Jonathan Hinds	Chief Social Work Officer
Hugh Scott	Service Manager, Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport
Peter MacDonald	Principal Solicitor
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader
PJ Coulter	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Brennan, Law and McCormick attending remotely.

673 Apologies and Declarations of Interest 673

No apologies for absence or declarations of interest were intimated.

674 Review of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Inverclyde 674

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) advising the Council of the outcome of the third round of consultation (Stage 3 Consultation) in the present review, (2) seeking a formal resolution to amend the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Inverclyde, having regard to any responses to the said consultation, by the approval of the Amended Scheme as detailed at appendix 1 to the report, and (3) seeking approval (a) for a provisional timetable for the 2024 Inverclyde Community Council Elections, and (b) to appoint of the Chief Executive as returning Officer for those elections.

Mr MacDonald provided a verbal update to the report and advised that after consultation with Community Councils the Provisional Election Timetable, as appended at appendix 3 to the report, had been revised and the following dates would now be applied:

Start date – 17 January 2024

Last date for nominations – 7 February 2024

Ballots (over 2 week period) – 14 and 28 February 2024

Decided:

(1) that the outcome of the Stage 3 Consultation and the recommendations of officers, all as contained in the report and appendices, be noted;

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 7 DECEMBER 2023

(2) that, having regard to the said responses, the Council resolved to amend the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Inverclyde (the Scheme) and approved and adopted the Amended Scheme as detailed in appendix 1 to the report;

(3) that the updated Inverclyde Council – Scheme of Funding for Community Councils (the Funding Scheme) as detailed in appendix 2 to the report be approved;

(4) that the Chief Executive be appointed to act as Returning Officer for the 2024 Inverclyde Community Council Elections and that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive to administer those elections, including, but not limited to, all necessary decisions in relation to the timing, form and process of elections and related polls and counts, on the Council's behalf; and

(5) that the Provisional Election Timetable, which formed appendix 3 to the report, be noted and approved subject to the following changes, namely:

Start date – 17 January 2024

Last date for nominations – 7 February 2024

Ballots (over 2 week period) – 14 and 28 February 2024

(6) that delegated authority be granted to the Returning Officer for the said elections to make such changes to the Provisional Election Timetable as are considered appropriate for the effective administration of the elections.

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 13 DECEMBER 2023

General Purposes Board

Wednesday 13 December 2023 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Cassidy, Crowther, McCluskey, Moran, Quinn and Reynolds.

Chair: Councillor Moran presided.

In attendance:

David Keenan	Solicitor (for Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services)
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Brennan, McCluskey and Reynolds attending remotely.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Board.

675 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 675

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Curley and Wilson.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

676 Installation of Dashcams in Taxis/Private Hire Vehicles 676

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services seeking the views of the Board on the responses received to the consultation on the proposed amendments to the existing policy regarding the installation of CCTV in taxis/private hire vehicles in order to include outward facing Dash Cam systems in taxis/private hire vehicles.

Decided:

- (1) that the Board notes (a) the terms of the report, and (b) the responses received to the consultation regarding the proposed amendments to the existing CCTV policy in order to include within the policy regulation of outward facing Dash Cam systems in taxis/private hire vehicles;
- (2) that the CCTV/Dash Cam policy, as detailed at appendix 2 of the report, be approved and adopted with effect from the date of this meeting;
- (3) that the proposed amendment to the corresponding licensing condition, as detailed at section 6.1 of the report, be approved;
- (4) that the proposed amendment to the current CCTV policy in relation to contact details of operators, as detailed at paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of this report, be approved;
- (5) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services in consultation with the Chair of the Board to make further such changes as are deemed necessary further to the Board's decision today, and thereafter finalise and publish the CCTV/Dash Cam Policy; and
- (6) that it be remitted to officers to submit a further report to the Board providing an update on this matter in 6 months time.

677 Taxi Licensing – Policy Regarding Allocation of Taxi Plates**677**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services seeking authorisation to commence a consultation with the taxi trade and other relevant stakeholders regarding the appropriate methodology for reallocation of any existing taxi/wheelchair accessible vehicle licences which become available or any new licences/plates which may become available for distribution in future.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted; and
- (2) that the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services be authorised to commence a consultation with the members of the taxi trade, including taxi drivers and operators, with regard to a possible policy in connection with the reallocation of existing taxi plates should they become available or new taxi plates should the Board at a future meeting determine to increase the number of plates.

AUDIT COMMITTEE – 9 JANUARY 2024

Audit Committee

Tuesday 9 January 2024 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Crowther, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Nelson, Reynolds, Robertson and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor Nelson presided.

In attendance:

Lousie Long	Chief Executive
Iain Strachan	Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services
Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Morna Rae	Head of Organisational Development, Policy and Communications
Andi Priestman	Chief Internal Auditor
Matt Thomson	Finance Manager (Environment & Technical)
Peter MacDonald	Solicitor, Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Karen McVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, Reynolds and Wilson attending remotely.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.

- | | | |
|----------|---|----------|
| 1 | Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest | 1 |
| | No apologies for absence or declarations of interest were intimated. | |
| 2 | Internal Audit Progress Report – 2 October to 1 December 2023 | 2 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services appending the monitoring report in respect of Internal Audit activity for the period 2 October to 1 December 2023. | |
| | Decided: that the progress made by Internal Audit in the period from 2 October to 1 December 2023 be noted. | |
| 3 | External Audit Action Plans – Current Actions | 3 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services on the status of current actions from External Audit Action Plans as at 31 October 2023. | |
| | Decided: that the progress made in the implementation of External Audit actions be noted. | |

4 Corporate Risk Register

4

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services (a) presenting the Corporate Risk Register for consideration and (b) following review of the Register recommending that it be referred to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration.

Following discussion, it was noted that Officers would update the Corporate Risk Register with information on the methodology used to compile the Register.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the position on the most significant corporate risks facing the Council, and the key actions being taken in response to them all, all as detailed in the Corporate Risk Register appended to the report;
- (2) that it be noted that training will shortly be arranged for Elected Members on risk management, together with a risk management workshop with the Corporate Management Team; and
- (3) that it be noted that the Corporate Risk Register will be reported to the February 2024 meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee.

LOCAL REVIEW BODY – 10 JANUARY 2024

Local Review Body

Wednesday 10 January 2024 at 4pm

Present: Councillors Brooks, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, McCabe, McGuire and McVey.

Chair: Councillor McVey presided.

In attendance:

Margaret Pickett	Senior Planner (Planning Adviser)
Daniel Henderson	Planning and Building Standards Manager
Jim Kerr	Solicitor, Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services (Legal Adviser)
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors McCabe and McGuire attending remotely.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Local Review Body.

5 APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 5

No apologies for absence were intimated.

No declarations of interest were intimated, but certain connections were intimated as follows:

Agenda Item 2(a) (Proposed excavation and building works within front curtilage to form a driveway: 60 Bawhirley Road, Greenock (23/0086/IC)) – Councillor Curley.

6 PLANNING APPLICATION FOR REVIEW 6

(a) Proposed excavation and building works within front curtilage to form a driveway: 60 Bawhirley Road, Greenock (23/0086/IC)

There were submitted papers relative to the application for review for the proposed excavation and building works within front curtilage to form a driveway at 60 Bawhirley Road, Greenock (23/0086/IC) to enable the Local Review Body to consider the matter afresh.

Councillor Curley declared a connection as an acquaintance of people who live on Bawhirley Road, Greenock. He also formed the view that the nature of his connection and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the meeting or his participation in the decision making process and he was declaring for transparency.

Ms Pickett acted as Planning Adviser relative to this case.

Decided:

- (1) that sufficient information had been submitted to allow the Local Review Body to decide the matter without further procedure; and
- (2) that the application for review be dismissed and that planning permission be refused (upholding the Appointed Officer's determination) for the following reasons:

LOCAL REVIEW BODY – 10 JANUARY 2024

1. the proposal fails to have regard to the six qualities of successful places as required by Policy 1 of both the adopted 2019 Inverclyde Local Development Plan and the proposed 2021 Inverclyde Local Development Plan, specifically as due to the proposed design, it fails to reflect the urban form of the area, contrary to the "Distinctive" quality;
2. the proposal fails to have regard to the six qualities of successful places as required by Policy 1 of both the adopted 2019 Inverclyde Local Development Plan and the proposed 2021 Inverclyde Local Development Plan, specifically as the proposal would result in a reduction in available parking space available along Bawhirley Road, it fails to minimise the impact of traffic and parking on the street scene, contrary to the "Safe and Pleasant" quality;
3. the proposal would adversely affect the efficient operation of the transport and active travel network, contrary to Policy 11 of the adopted 2019 Inverclyde Local Development Plan and Policy 12 of the proposed 2021 Inverclyde Local Development Plan; and
4. the proposed design would harm the character and appearance of the street frontage, contrary to Policy 20 of the proposed 2021 Inverclyde Local Development Plan.

SOCIAL WORK & SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL – 16 JANUARY 2024

Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Tuesday 16 January 2024 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Brooks, Cassidy, Crowther (for Daisley), Jackson, McCluskey, Quinn, Reynolds and Robertson.

Chair: Councillor Brennan presided.

In attendance:

Kate Rocks	Chief Officer (Inverclyde HSCP)
Craig Given	Head of Finance, Planning & Resources (Inverclyde HSCP)
Vicky Pollock	Legal Services Manager (for Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services)
Jonathan Hinds	Chief Social Work Officer and Head of Children & Families and Criminal Justice Services (Inverclyde HSCP)
Alan Best	Interim Head of Health & Community Care (Inverclyde HSCP)
Audrey Howard	Interim Head of Public Protection (People) (Inverclyde HSCP)
Marie Keirs	Senior Finance Manager (Inverclyde HSCP)
Arlene Mailey	Service Manager, Quality & Development Service (Inverclyde HSCP)
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader
Alison Ramsey	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillor Quinn attending remotely.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Panel.

7 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 7

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Daisley, with Councillor Crowther substituting.

No declarations of interest were intimated, but certain connections were intimated for the purposes of transparency as follows:

Agenda item 6 (Care at Home Inspection) – Councillor Crowther

Agenda item 7 (Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned External Organisations) – Councillor Cassidy

8 Revenue & Capital Budget Report – 2023/24 Revenue Outturn Position as at 31 October 2023 8

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership and the Head of Finance, Planning & Resources, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership, on the projected outturn on revenue and capital for 2023/24 as at 31 October 2023.

Decided:

(1) that the projected current year revenue outturn of £0.451million overspend at 31

SOCIAL WORK & SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL – 16 JANUARY 2024

October 2023 be noted;

(2) that the current projected capital position be noted; and

(3) that the current reserves position be noted.

- 9 National Care Service Update 9**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership advising the Panel of the latest communications regarding the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill and providing an update on national developments.
- Decided:** that the correspondence received on 6 December 2023 from the Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport, as appended to the report, and the update on the Children’s Services Reform Research be noted.
- 10 Children & Families Service Specification 10**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership outlining the intent to develop a service specification to guide a redesign of Children and Families Services in Inverclyde to meet changing needs and promote early help and family support.
- Decided:** that the contents of the report be noted.
- 11 Independent Review of Adult Respite and Carers Provision 11**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership advising the Panel of the commissioning of an independent review of adult respite and carers provision in Inverclyde, which will include a consultation on the closure of Hillend Respite Unit and the development of a respite/short break strategy.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Panel notes the commissioning of an independent review of adult respite and carers provision;
- (2) that it be noted that the completed consultation and strategy will be presented to the Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel in early summer 2024; and
- (3) that it be noted that all service users of respite will be reviewed, and alternative respite option provision put in place in the event of the decommissioning of the internal service after consultation with users of the service and carers.
- 12 Care at Home Inspection 12**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on the positive outcome of the recent unannounced 6 day inspection of the Care at Home Service by the Care Inspectorate.
- Councillor Crowther declared a connection in this item as a family member is a service user. He also formed the view that the nature of his connection and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the meeting or his participation in the decision-making process and was declaring for transparency.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the contents of the report be noted; and
- (2) that the thanks and appreciation of the Panel be extended to all staff connected with the provision of this service.
- It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during**

SOCIAL WORK & SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL – 16 JANUARY 2024

consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as are set opposite each item.

Item	Paragraph(s)
Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned External Organisations	6 & 9
Update on External Service Provider	6
13 Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned External Organisations	13
<p>There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on matters relating to the Health & Social Care Partnership governance processes for Externally Commissioned Social Care Services. Councillor Cassidy declared a connection in this item as a family member is on the Board of an organisation mentioned within the report. He also formed the view that the nature of his connection and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the meeting or his participation in the decision-making process and was declaring for transparency.</p> <p>Decided:</p> <p>(1) that the governance report for the period 30 September to 1 December 2023 be noted; and</p> <p>(2) that Members acknowledge that officers regard the control mechanisms in place through the governance meetings and managing poorly performing services guidance within the Contract Management Framework is sufficiently robust to ensure ongoing quality and safety and the fostering of a commissioning culture of continuous improvement.</p>	
14 Update on External Service Provider	14
<p>There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on an external service provider.</p> <p>Decided: that the contents of the report be noted, all as detailed in the Private Appendix.</p>	

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 18 JANUARY 2024

Environment & Regeneration Committee

Thursday 18 January 2024 at 2pm

Present: Councillors Brooks, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Jackson, McCabe, McCormick, Quinn and Robertson.

Chair: Councillor McCormick presided.

In attendance:

Gordon Leitch	Team Leader (Consultancy) – Roads & Transportation
Elaine Provan	Supervisory Engineer – Traffic & Transportation
Peter MacDonald	Principal Solicitor
Emma Peacock	Solicitor
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' and Committee Services Team Leader

This meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillor Jackson attending remotely.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.

15 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 15

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Nelson.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

16 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No.4 2023 16
The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services further to the statutory consultation process undertaken in terms of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended (the Act) and the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (the Regulations) on The Inverclyde Council Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No.4 2023 (the Proposed TRO) (1) requesting that the Committee adopt the Rules of Procedure for the purposes of the special meeting, (2) advising, in relation to the Proposed TRO, of the discussion between Council Officers and the person who has, as part of the public consultation, objected to the Proposed TRO (the Objector), and (3) making proposals to facilitate the effective, fair and proper hearing by the Committee of the Objector who has not withdrawn their objection in order that the Committee can consider their objection and come to a formal recommendation on the Proposed TRO.

Decided:

- (1) that the Rules of Procedure as detailed in appendix 1 of the report be approved;
- (2) that the terms of appendix 2 of the report in relation to the objection be considered and noted;
- (3) that it be agreed to allow the Objector an opportunity to be heard at the special meeting in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 18 JANUARY 2024

In this regard, the Committee noted that the Objector was not present in relation to the Objection.

G Leitch, Team Leader – Consultancy and Ms E Provan, Supervisory Engineer – Traffic & Transportation were present and the Committee heard Mr Leitch in support of the Proposed TRO.

The Committee, having considered and having had regard to the Objection and the oral representation made by Mr Leitch at the meeting, further decided:

(4) that the Objection be dismissed and that the Proposed TRO as detailed in Appendix 3 be approved and that it be remitted to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services to formally make the TRO and carry out the associated actions in connection with the same.

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 18 JANUARY 2024

Environment & Regeneration Committee

Thursday 18 January 2024 at 3pm

Present: Councillors Brooks, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Jackson, McCabe, McCormick, Quinn and Robertson.

Chair: Councillor McCormick presided.

In attendance:

Eddie Montgomery	Head of Physical Assets
Iain Strachan	Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services
Matt Thomson	Finance Manager (Environment & Technical)
Julie Ann Wilson	Principal Accountant
Gerard Smith	Capital Assets Principal Accountant
Martin McNab	Public Protection Manager
Jennifer Horn	Regeneration Manager
Daniel Henderson	Planning and Building Standards Service Manager
Gordon Leitch	Team Leader (Consultancy) – Roads & Transportation
Kenny Lang	Service Manager, Grounds, Fleet & Waste Services
Peter MacDonald	Principal Solicitor
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' and Committee Services Team Leader

This meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillor Jackson attending remotely.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.

17 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

17

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Nelson.

No declarations of interest were intimated, but certain connections were intimated as follows:

Agenda Item 5 (Inverclyde Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2024-29) – Councillors Brooks and Curley.

Agenda Item 6 (Riverside Inverclyde/ RIPH Update) – Councillors Clocherty and Curley.

Agenda Item 7 (Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement – Local Development Plan) – Councillor Curley.

Agenda Item 10 (Public Energy and Climate Change Update) – Councillor Curley.

Agenda Item 12 (Real Time Passenger Information – Nicholson Street Bus Stances) – Councillor Brooks.

18 2023/24 Environment & Regeneration Revenue Budget at 31 October 2023

18

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Director Environment & Regeneration advising the Committee of the 2023/24 Environment & Regeneration Committee Revenue Budget projected position at 31 October 2023.

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 18 JANUARY 2024

Mr M Thomson advised the Committee of an error in the report and accordingly the recommendation as detailed at paragraph 2.3 of the report should be disregarded as a report on the parking income shortfall is expected at the next cycle of the Committee.

Decided:

- (1) that (a) it be noted that the Committee's Revenue Budget is currently projected to overspend in 2023/24 by £177,000 based on figures at 31 October 2023, and (b) the actions being taken by the Director to reduce the projected overspend be noted;
- (2) that the virement as detailed in appendix 5 of the report be approved; and
- (3) that an uplift in trade waste charges of 5% in 2024/25, in addition to the general uplift approved by the Council, resulting in a total uplift of 10% in 2024/25 and 5% in 2025/26 be approved.

19 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme 2023/26 – Progress

19

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration and the Chief Financial Officer providing an update on the status of the projects within the 2023/26 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme.

Decided:

- (1) that the current position and progress on the specific projects of the 2023/26 Capital Programme and externally funded projects, as detailed in the report and appendices, be noted;
- (2) that the on-going work in respect of the further identification of priority projects relating to core asset condition and allocation of funds from the 2023/25 Core Property budget be noted; and
- (3) that it be remitted to officers to submit a report to a future meeting of the Committee on the impact of cycle lanes on the transportation network.

20 Levelling Up Fund – Update

20

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration and Chief Financial Officer providing an update in respect of the status of the Greenock Central Levelling Up Fund Project.

Decided: that the current position and the progress on the Greenock Central Levelling Up Fund Project be noted.

21 Inverclyde Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2024-29

21

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration seeking approval for the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2024-29.

Councillors Brooks and Curley declared connections as Members of the Board of River Clyde Homes. They also formed the view that the nature of their connections and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision making process and they were declaring for transparency.

Decided:

- (1) that the Strategic Housing Investment Plan for the five-year period from 2024-2029 for submission to the Scottish Government by Inverclyde Council be approved; and
- (2) that the content and projects included in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2024-2029, as detailed in appendix 1 of the report, be noted.

22 Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement – Local Development Plan

22

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 18 JANUARY 2024

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration seeking approval for the draft Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement for the new Local Development Plan.

Councillor Curley declared a connection as a Member of the Joint Committee of Clydeplan. He also formed the view that the nature of his connection and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the meeting or his participation in the decision making process and he was declaring for transparency.

Decided: that (a) the contents of the report be noted; and (b) the draft Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement be approved.

23 Remembering Together

23

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration seeking approval to support the Scottish Government's Community Arts led project Remembering Together through the installation of five labyrinths in park settings throughout Inverclyde.

Decided:

(1) that (a) it be agreed to support the installation of proposed labyrinths at five locations within Inverclyde, and (b) it be remitted to officers to bring a report to a future meeting of the Committee on the consultation carried out with community councils and ward members prior to the consideration of final site approval of the various sites proposed in the report; and

(2) that it be remitted to the Director, Environment & Regeneration to engage with the Ardgowan Estate to seek approval within the terms of the lease of the land at Lunderston Bay for the installation of the proposed labyrinth at Lunderston Bay and present a report to the Trustees of Birkmyre Park, Kilmacolm, similarly seeking their approval for installation of the labyrinth at Birkmyre Park, Kilmacolm.

24 Surface Water Management & Coastal Change Adaptation

24

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on the progress of the Council's flood risk management programme in Cycle 1 and identifying the resources and actions required to address progression of Cycle 2 improvements.

Decided:

(1) that the current progress on the Central Greenock and other Flood Prevention Schemes be noted;

(2) that the limited remaining funding from the original approved Flood Action Plan be noted;

(3) that the use of a proportion of the remaining Flood Action Plan and/or the Coastal Change Adaption allocation to address the appointment of a temporary dedicated Flooding Engineer as detailed in section 4.2 of the report be approved; and

(4) that it be noted that additional resources will be required to address the progression of high priority projects that will be identified as part of Cycle 2 Flood Risk Management activity.

25 Energy & Climate Change Update

25

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on Energy and Climate Change related activity and strategy documentation/action plans.

Councillor Curley declared a connection as a Member of the Board of River Clyde Homes. He also formed the view that the nature of his connection and of the item of business did

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 18 JANUARY 2024

not preclude his continued presence in the meeting or his participation in the decision making process and he was declaring for transparency.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress and update on Net Zero Action Plan items as detailed in appendix 1 of the report be noted;
- (2) that the progress and programme for the development of the Inverclyde Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy and the next stage for public consultation with the draft strategy and delivery plan included as appendices 2.1 and 2.2 of the report, be noted;
- (3) that it be agreed to seek Scottish Government funding of up to £150,000, with a 10% council funding contribution from the Net Zero capital allocation, for strategic heat network support studies;
- (4) that (a) the progress of the Greenock Waterfront District Heating study be noted, and (b) it be agreed to seek Scottish Government funding of up to £50,000 to develop the feasibility work to date through to Outline Business Case stage; and
- (5) that the Public Bodies Climate Change Report 2022/23 position, the re-baselining requirement for future years, and the summary Inverclyde emissions data as included as appendix 3 of the report be noted.

26 Proposed Traffic Calming Measures – Union Street and Newark Street, Greenock 26

It was noted that this item had been withdrawn.

27 Real Time Passenger Information – Nicholson Street Bus Stances 27

There was submitted a report by the Head of Physical Assets seeking approval for the introduction of Real Time Passenger Information at the Nicholson Street bus stances, Greenock.

Councillor Brooks declared a connection as the Council's substitute representative on Strathclyde Partnership for Transport. He also formed the view that the nature of his connection and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the meeting or his participation in the decision making process and he was declaring for transparency.

Decided: that the introduction of Real Time Passenger Information at the Nicholson Street bus stances, Greenock be agreed.

28 Port Glasgow and Kilmacolm Waiting and Loading Traffic Regulation Orders (Variation Nos 8 and 9 of 2022) – Reporter's Recommendations 28

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration informing the Committee of the recommendations of the independent Reporter concerning the Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) relating to proposed waiting and loading restrictions in Port Glasgow and Kilmacolm.

Following discussion Councillor McCabe moved that recommendations (2) and (3) as detailed in the report be amended to read: "(2) that it be agreed to accept the Reporter's recommendations in full in relation to TRO (Variation No. 8 of 2022) only; and (3) that (a) approval be given to the making of 'The Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Port Glasgow, Kilmacolm & Quarriers Village) (Waiting Restrictions) (Variation No. 8) Order 2022', and (b) it be remitted to the Head of Physical Assets and the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services to arrange for its implementation."

As an amendment, Councillor Clocherty moved the recommendations contained in the report.

Following a roll call vote, 4 Members, Councillors Clocherty, Crowther, McCormick and Quinn voted in favour of the amendment and 6 Members, Councillors Brooks, Cassidy,

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Curley, Jackson, McCabe and Robertson voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

Decided:

- (1) that the recommendations of the independent Reporter in relation to the proposed TROs (Variation Nos. 8 and 9 of 2022) be noted;
- (2) that it be agreed to accept the Reporter's recommendations in full in relation to TRO (Variation No. 8 of 2022) only; and
- (3) that (a) approval be given to the making of "The Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Port Glasgow, Kilmacolm & Quarriers Village) (Waiting Restrictions) (Variation No. 8) Order 2022", and (b) it be remitted to the Head of Physical Assets and the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services to arrange for its implementation.

29 UK Government Long Term Plans for Towns Fund: Greenock

29

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration providing information on the recently published guidance from the UK Government on the Long Term Plans for Towns.

Ms J Horn advised of a verbal update to paragraph 4.10 of the report, noting that following further clarification from the UK Government, two elected members can sit on the board and that the decision for the appointment to the board would require Council approval.

Decided:

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted;
- (2) that it be agreed to hold a recruitment process to appoint a Town Fund Chair;
- (3) that delegated authority be granted to the Director Environment & Regeneration to support the Town Fund Chair in (a) the creation and membership of the Town Board, (b) creation of an engagement plan and scheme of development of the Long Term Plan for Greenock, and (c) designation of the geographical area in scope;
- (4) that the membership of the Town Fund Chair letting group be agreed;
- (5) that it be agreed to support the need for an appropriate project resource; and
- (6) that the decision on Elected Member representation on the Town Board be remitted to the full Council for consideration.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as are set opposite each item.

Item	Paragraph(s)
Riverside Inverclyde/ RIPH Ltd Update	6
Unit 8 Larkfield Industrial Estate, Greenock Lease Renewal	6 & 9
Property Asset Management Private – Former Office 5 Kempock Place / Former Garvel School for the Deaf	6 & 9

30 Unit 8 Larkfield Industrial Estate, Greenock Lease Renewal

30

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration seeking approval to grant a lease at the Larkfield Industrial Estate.

Decided: following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended, all as detailed in the private appendix.

31 Property Asset Management Private – Former Office 5 Kempock Place / Former Garvel School for the Deaf 31

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration making recommendations in respect of a number of property assets.

Decided: following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended, all as detailed in the private appendix.

32 Riverside Inverclyde/ RIPH Ltd Update 32

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update in respect of the activities of Riverside Inverclyde and Riverside Property Holdings Ltd (RIPH).

Councillors Clocherty and Curley declared connections as Members of the Board of Riverside Inverclyde. They also formed the view that the nature of their connections and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision making process and they were declaring for transparency.

Decided: following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended, all as detailed in the private appendix.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 23 JANUARY 2024

Education and Communities Committee

Tuesday 23 January 2024 at 2pm

Present: Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Cassidy (for Moran), Clocherty, Daisley (for Education business only), Law, McGuire, McVey, Quinn and Robertson, and Rev D Burt and Rev F Donaldson, Church Representatives, Ms P McEwan, Teacher Representative, and Ms F MacDonald, Parent Representative.

Chair: Councillor Clocherty presided.

In attendance:

Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Tony McEwan	Head of Culture, Communities & Educational Resources
Michael Roach	Head of Education
Anne Sinclair	Managing Solicitor (for Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services)
Hugh Scott	Service Manager, Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport
Eddie Montgomery	Head of Physical Assets
Iain Cameron	Principal Accountant (Education & Communities)
Mary McCabe	Finance Manager (Education & Communities)
Emma Peacock	Solicitor
Yvonne Gallacher	Quality Improvement Manager – Early Years, Education Services
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Peter MacDonald	Solicitor
PJ Coulter	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Daisley and McGuire, Rev Burt, Ms McEwan and Ms MacDonald attending remotely.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.

33 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

33

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Moran, with Councillor Cassidy substituting, Councillor Wilson, and Mr J Docherty, Church Representative. Councillor Daisley intimated an apology for Communities business only.

No declarations of interest were intimated, but certain connections were intimated for the purposes of transparency as follows:

Agenda Item 2 (Communities Revenue Budget Report – 2023/24 Projected Outturn at 31 October 2023) – Councillors Clocherty and Quinn.

Agenda Item 3 (Communities Capital Programme Progress and Asset Related Items) – Councillors Clocherty and Quinn.

Agenda Item 5 (Management Rules for Museums and Libraries in Inverclyde) – Councillor Law.

Agenda Item 6 (Outstanding Remits Report – Communities) – Councillors Clocherty and Quinn.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 23 JANUARY 2024

Agenda Item 12 (Service Level Agreement for Inverclyde Leisure) – Councillors Clocherty and Quinn

34 Communities Revenue Budget Report – 2023/24 Projected Outturn at 31 October 2023 34

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising Committee of the 2023/24 Revenue Budget position at 31 October 2023.

Councillors Clocherty and Quinn declared connections as members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. They also formed the view that the nature of their connection and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process and were declaring for transparency.

Decided:

- (1) that the current projected underspend for 2023/24 of £210,000 as at 31 October 2023 be noted;
- (2) that it be noted that £157,000 of the projected underspend relates to Inverclyde Leisure utility costs and that this budget over provision will be returned to the non-pay inflation contingency from 2024/25, in line with the treatment of windfall savings; and
- (3) that the virement of £31,000, as detailed in paragraph 3.5 and appendix 5 of the report, be approved.

35 Communities Capital Programme Progress and Asset Related Items 35

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer (1) providing performance information for the Communities part of the Education & Communities Committee, and (2) providing an update in respect of the status of the projects which form the Communities Capital Programme and Asset related items.

Councillors Clocherty and Quinn declared connections as members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure, and Councillor Clocherty also declared a connection as an allotment holder at Wellington Allotments. They also formed the view that the nature of their connection and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process and were declaring for transparency.

Decided:

- (1) that the current position of the 2023/26 Capital Programme be noted; and
- (2) that the progress on the following projects be noted (a) Leisure Pitches Asset Management Plan/Lifecycle Fund, (b) Waterfront Leisure Centre Training Pool Moveable Floor, (c) Community Hub King George VI, (d) Bank Street Community Hub (32nd Scouts), (e) Parklea Branching Out, and (f) the Asset Transfer Working Group updates on (i) The Coppermine, (ii) land at Wateryetts Drive, Kilmacolm, (iii) Walled Garden, Gourrock, (iv) Crawfordsburn Centre, (v) Wellington Allotments, (vi) Gourrock YAC, and the future/potential community asset transfers as detailed at paragraph 3.10 of the report.

36 Communities Update Report – Overview of Local and National Initiatives 36

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the Communities aspects of the service.

Decided: that the updates on the following be noted (a) Fire Skills Course, (b) Battery Park lighting, (c) 16 days of activism, (d) Inverpride Network, (e) Period Poverty

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products, (f) Scottish Government announced Independent Review of Community Learning and Development (CLD) in Scotland, (g) Inverclyde Libraries Highly Commended at SLIC Awards 2023, (h) Museums Galleries Scotland successful funding bid, (i) Connecting Scotland successful funding bid, (j) National Lottery Heritage Fund successful funding bid, (k) Watt Institution Museum Accreditation, (l) Inverclyde music Services Christmas Concert, (m) the Early Adopter Community for Affordable Childcare, and (n) Warm Hand of Friendship.

37 Management Rules for Museums and Libraries in Inverclyde

37

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services appending the final Libraries Management Rules and Museum Management Rules for approval following a statutory consultation process.

Councillor Law declared a connection as a regular volunteer at the Watt Museum. She also formed the view that the nature of her connection and of the item of business did not preclude her continued presence in the meeting or her participation in the decision-making process and was declaring for transparency.

Decided:

- (1) that the Libraries Management Rules and Museum Management Rules as appended to the report be approved; and
- (2) that the Libraries Management Rules and Museum Management Rules be referred to the next meeting of the Inverclyde Council with the recommendation that they be formally approved and that officers be authorised to formally make the rules in accordance with the statutory procedure.

38 Outstanding Remits Report - Communities

38

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on several outstanding remits.

Councillors Clocherty and Quinn declared connections as members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. They also formed the view that the nature of their connection and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process and were declaring for transparency.

Decided: that the updates on the following be noted (a) U16s gym access, (b) Broomhill Pitch, and (c) Boglestone Activity Centre – Spend to Save.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

39 Service Level Agreement for Inverclyde Leisure

39

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising the Committee on the Service Level Agreement between Inverclyde Council and Inverclyde Leisure which forms part of the regular governance arrangements, a copy of which was appended to the report.

Councillors Clocherty and Quinn declared connections as members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. They also formed the view that the nature of their connection and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process and were declaring for transparency.

Decided: following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended in

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the report, all as detailed in the private appendix.

The Communities business concluded at 2.50pm. The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4pm with Rev Burt, Ms McEwan and Ms MacDonald joining the meeting remotely.

40 Update on Parental Representative for Education Part of the Education & Communities Committee 40

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the election of a parent representative on the Education part of the Education & Communities Committee.

Decided: that the appointment of Fiona MacDonald as Parent Representative to serve on the Education part of the Education & Communities Committee in accordance with the Scheme of Arrangements be approved.

41 Education Revenue Budget Report – 2023/24 Projected Outturn at 31 October 2023 41

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising Committee of the 2023/24 Revenue Budget position at 31 October 2023.

Decided:

- (1) that the current projected overspend for 2023/24 of £302,000 as at 31 October 2023 be noted;
- (2) that it be noted that the projected overspend has reduced since the last Committee meeting mainly due to a credit within Employee Costs of £127,000 for strike days in schools, £247,000 of additional funding for the Teachers' Induction Programme and £100,000 of the ASN Smoothing Reserve offsetting ASN Transport costs; and
- (3) that it be noted that the Communities part of the Committee is currently projecting an underspend of £210,000 which partially offsets the projected overspend for the Education part of the Committee.

42 Education Capital Programme 2023/26 - Progress 42

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer (1) providing performance information for the Education part of the Education & Communities Committee, and (2) providing an update in respect of the status of the projects which form the Education Capital Programme.

Decided:

- (1) that the current position of the 2023/26 Capital programme be noted; and
- (2) that the progress on the following projects be noted (a) general lifecycle works, (b) CO² monitors in schools, and (c) Universal Free School Meals.

43 Education Update Report – Overview of local and National Initiatives 43

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on local and national projects and initiatives linked to education.

Decided:

- (1) that the updates on the following be noted (a) Care Inspectorate inspection outcomes for Inverkip Primary School Nursery Class and Play for All provision based at

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Craigmarloch School, (b) Independent Review of Qualifications and assessment, (c) Education Reform, (d) Education Bill consultation response, (e) Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence levels 2022/23, (f) Scottish Attainment Challenge – local stretch aims 2023/24 to 2025/26, (g) statutory review of the National Improvement Framework, (h) Education (Scotland) Act 2016 – Statutory Guidance Working Group, (i) Getting it Right for Every Child, (j) Scottish Languages Bill, and (k) teacher numbers update; and

(2) that the thanks and appreciation of the Committee be conveyed to all staff at Inverkip Primary School Nursery Class and Play for All after school provision based at Craigmarrloch School for the successful Care Inspectorate inspection outcomes recently received.

44 Secondary Gaelic Education in Inverclyde – Establishment of a Catchment Area for GME Provision at Inverclyde Academy 44

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing the Committee with the outcome of the statutory consultation to establish a catchment area for secondary Gaelic provision at Inverclyde Academy.

Decided:

(1) that approval be given to the establishment of a secondary catchment area for Gaelic education at Inverclyde Academy for the academic year beginning August 2024; and

(2) that the thanks and appreciation of the Committee be conveyed to all officers connected with this project.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

45 Governance of External Organisation – Update on Early Years Provider 45

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on an external service provider.

Decided: following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended in the report, all as detailed in the private appendix.

LOCAL POLICE AND FIRE SCRUTINY PANEL – 25 JANUARY 2024

Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel

Thursday 25 January 2024 at 11am

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillor Cassidy (for McGuire) Clocherty, Crowther, Law, McCabe (for Brennan) McCluskey (for Moran), Quinn, Reynolds, Robertson (for Daisley), and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor Wilson presided until 12.10 pm and Provost McKenzie presided for the remainder of the meeting.

In attendance:

Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Tony McEwan	Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources
Hugh Scott	Service Manager Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport
Ross Scullion	Team Leader, Community Safety Partnership
Martin McNab	Public Protection Manager
Anne Sinclair	Legal Services Manager (for Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services)
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader
PJ Coulter	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

In attendance also:

Gordon McCreddie	Chief Superintendent, Local Police Commander, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division, Police Scotland
Damien Kane	Chief Inspector, Area Commander, Inverclyde, Police Scotland
Richard Banks	Superintendent Operations for Renfrewshire & Inverclyde, Police Scotland
Alan Harris	Estates Change Manager – West, Estates Transformation, Police Scotland
Davina Fereday	Research and Insight Manager, Strategy, Insight and Engagement, Professionalism, Strategy and Engagement, Police Scotland
David McCarrey	Area Commander, Service Delivery, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillor Crowther attending remotely.

Prior to the commencement of business, the Convener welcomed the representatives from Police Scotland to the meeting.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Panel.

LOCAL POLICE AND FIRE SCRUTINY PANEL – 25 JANUARY 2024

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Brennan, with Councillor McCabe substituting, Councillor Daisley, with Councillor Robertson substituting, Councillor Moran, with Councillor McCluskey substituting and Councillor McGuire with Councillor Cassidy substituting.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

47 Police Scotland Estate Strategy Consultations**47**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) informing the Panel about Police Scotland's national consultation on their estate strategy and potential local implications and (2) presenting a draft response to both the national consultation on estate strategy and the local consultations on Port Glasgow and Greenock Police Stations.

At the commencement of discussion, Chief Superintendent McCreadie made a statement on the consultations regarding the proposed disposal and relocation of Greenock Police Station and the sale of the Port Glasgow Police Station. He focussed on four key points relating to Greenock Police Station (a) the need for change, (b) the reasons and rationale behind the proposals, (c) what the future might look like for the communities of Inverclyde in respect of any future police station should that be determined and (d) the scale and scope of service provision, and noted that Port Glasgow Police station is not currently in use. Following his statement Chief Superintendent McCreadie answered a number of questions from Members. He gave assurances that the Greenock Station would not be closed until a credible, realistic option was identified and stated that there is no proposal to reduce the number of officers. He stated that if it is determined that Greenock Police Station is beyond repair, the same number of officers and services in Inverclyde would be maintained. Following discussion on front counter provision, Chief Superintendent McCreadie stated that a front counter that is open 24/7 would not change and the station would be visible, accessible to the public, and a place of safety. Concerns were raised by Members in relation to custody suite matters.

Chief Superintendent McCreadie stated that he understood Members' concerns and advised that the existing custody suite at Greenock is outdated and does not comply with modern standards. He explained that the cells do not only serve Greenock but are part of a national resource and they provide a default custody arrangement for officers from Paisley. He further advised that if there were no custody facilities in Greenock, officers would require to travel to either Glasgow, Clydebank or Saltcoats. Chief Superintendent McCreadie advised the Panel that he has advocated for the retention of the custody provision and gave assurances that he will continue to do so. Mr Harris assured the Panel that a full options appraisal would be conducted after the consultation closes and Chief Superintendent McCreadie confirmed that the Panel would be advised of the results.

Councillor Wilson left the meeting during consideration of this item at 12.10pm. Prior to leaving he thanked officers from Police Scotland for attending. Provost McKenzie assumed the Chair.

Decided: that the Panel approves the proposed response to (a) the national consultation on the Police Scotland Estate, (b) the local consultation on the Port Glasgow Police Station, and (c) the local consultation on the Greenock Police Station.

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 1 FEBRUARY 2024

The Inverclyde Council

Thursday 1 February 2024 at 4pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Brooks, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Jackson, Law, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Quinn, Reynolds, Robertson and Wilson.

Chair: Provost McKenzie presided.

In attendance:

Louise Long	Chief Executive
Alan Puckrin	Chief Financial Officer
Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Iain Strachan	Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services
Angela Edmiston	Finance Manager (Corporate Services & Strategic Finance)
Mary McCabe	Finance Manager (Education & Communities)
Matt Thomson	Finance Manager (Environment & Technical)
Tracy Bunton	Revenue & Benefits Manager
Morna Rae	Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications
Barbara McQuarrie	Organisational Development & Human Resources Manager
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader
PJ Coulter	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Clocherty, Daisley, Law and McGuire attending remotely.

48 Apologies and Declarations of Interest 48

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Nelson.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

49 2024/26 Budget Update 49

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) providing an update on the development of the Council's Budget following the announcement by the Scottish Government of the Draft Settlement for Local Government and analysis of the Inverclyde specific figures, and (2) raising the significant risks around the deliverability of the planned two-year Budget Strategy and making recommendations in that regard.

Following discussion, Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor McGuire moved that the Council approve the recommendations as contained within the report and appendices. As an amendment, Councillor Robertson seconded by Councillor Curley moved that the recommendations be approved with the exclusion of 2.7 and 2.15, namely:

'2.7 It is recommended that the Council approve that the savings options in appendix 4 are subject to further public consultation whilst noting that any decisions will be taken on these savings at the proposed Budget Setting meeting of the Council.

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2.15 It is recommended that the Council considers the contents of appendix 10 and thereafter approves the draft public consultation document in appendix 11.'

Following a roll call vote, 7 Members, Councillors Armstrong, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Law, Reynolds and Robertson voted in favour of the amendment, and 14 Members, Provost McKenzie, Councillors Brennan, Brooks, Cassidy, Clocherty, Jackson, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Quinn and Wilson voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

Decided:

- (1) that the contents of the report and the significant financial pressures which continue to face the Council be noted;
- (2) that it be noted that the 2024/25 draft Budget Settlement for the Council is approximately £1.5million lower than factored into the Budget Strategy and that this has increased the 2024/26 funding gap to £4.464million after an assumed 7.0% increase in Council Tax income in 2025/26;
- (3) that it be noted that (a) the estimated grant were it to freeze Council Tax in 2024/25 is £1.76million, and (b) this equates to a 5.0% increase in Council Tax as opposed to the 7.0% increase included as a planning assumption in the Budget Strategy;
- (4) that (a) the updated position on Budget pressures as detailed in appendix 2 be noted, and (b) the savings/adjustments totalling £680,000 as detailed in appendix 5 be approved;
- (5) that it be agreed that the previously approved increase in daily parking charges from £2/day to £3/day from 1 April 2024 will no longer be implemented;
- (6) that (a) the updated Savings Workstream position be noted, and (b) it be agreed that a decision regarding the £310,000 contingency in 2025/26 be taken at a future date;
- (7) that (a) it be approved that the savings options detailed in appendix 4 are subject to further public consultation, and (b) it be noted that any decisions on these savings will be taken at the proposed Budget Setting meeting of the Council;
- (8) that it be noted that several matters remain to be decided in relation to the Council contribution to the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board in 2024/25 and that a decision on the level of contribution will be taken at the proposed Budget Setting meeting of the Council;
- (9) that the earmarked reserve write-backs as detailed in appendix 6(1) and the indicative allocation of the Budget Delivery earmarked reserve as detailed in appendix 6(2) be approved;
- (10) that (a) the estimated £4.615million shortfall in resources in the draft 2024/28 Capital programme as detailed in appendix 7 be noted, and (b) the transfer of £215,000 expenditure from the Education Lifecycle Budget to the Universal Free School Meals capital grant be approved, thus reducing the 2024/28 funding shortfall to £4.4million;
- (11) that it be noted that the Members Budget Working Group recommend the allocation of £4.4million from reserves to bring the capital programme back into balance and that a final decision on this will be taken at the proposed Budget Setting meeting of the Council;
- (12) that it be noted from appendix 8 that there remains a funding gap of £2.464million after the use of a further £6.74million from Reserves over 2024/28 and after assuming a 7.0% increase in Council Tax income in 2025/26 and delivery of £2.68million from savings workstreams over 2024/26;
- (13) that the potential use of projected Free Reserves as detailed in appendix 9 be noted, and that final decisions on the allocation of available reserves will be taken at the proposed Budget Setting meeting of the Council;
- (14) that, in light of the estimated remaining funding gap, the level of savings remaining for further consultation and the limited availability of unallocated reserves, the advice from the Chief Financial Officer regarding the likelihood of the Council being able to approve a

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 1 FEBRUARY 2024

sustainable two-year Revenue Budget based on the Council freezing Council Tax in 2024/24 be noted;

(15) that (a) the contents of appendix 10 of the report be noted, and (b) the draft public consultation document as detailed in appendix 11 be approved;

(16) that (a) it be agreed to temporarily enhance the Council's Voluntary Severance Scheme as detailed in appendix 12 for any future Voluntary Early Retirement (VER) trawls which result in savings which contribute to balancing the Budget over both 2024/25 and 2025/26, and (b) it be noted that the cost will be contained in the existing VER earmarked reserve;

(17) that the public consultation feedback as detailed in appendix 13 be noted; and

(18) that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Provost and Leader of the Council, to fix the date for a special Council meeting to take place late February or early March 2024 to set the Revenue Budget, Capital Programme and 2024/25 Band D Council Tax.