

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;

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(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.