

**SAFE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 12 JANUARY 2010**

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**Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee**

**Tuesday 12 January 2010 at 3 pm**

**Present:** Councillors Ahlfeld, Dorrian, McCallum (for Grieve), MacLeod, McCabe, McIlwee, Moran, Nelson, Rebecchi, Wilson and White.

**Chair:** Councillor Moran presided.

**In attendance:** Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection, Ms L Bairden (for Chief Financial Officer), Head of Safer Communities, Head of Environmental Services, Mr R Graham and Mr S Hartley (Environmental Services), Mr F MacLeod (for Head of Planning & Housing), Mr W Rice (Housing Team), Mr J Douglas (for Head of Legal & Administration) and Mr M Bingham (Corporate Communications & Public Affairs).

**Apologies:** Councillor Grieve.

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

**20 Revenue Budget 2009/10 - Period 7 20**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on the position of the 2009/10 Revenue Budget as at period 7 (31 October 2009) which projected an underspend of £87,000.

There was circulated to the Committee, a Project Summary relative to the Community Investment Fund which showed a balance of £49,000.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £87,000 as at 31 October 2009;
- (2) that the virement request detailed in appendix 4 to the report be approved;
- (3) that a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee on proposals for utilisation of the Community Investment Fund balance of £49,000; and
- (4) that the Committee's appreciation be extended to all staff who worked during the Christmas and New Year holidays to alleviate the effects of the severe weather conditions.

**21 Trading Account Revenue Budget 2009/10 - Period 7 21**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on the position of the Roads and Vehicle Management Trading Accounts as at period 7 (31 October 2009).

**Decided:**

- (1) that the current outturn for the Vehicle Management Trading Account and the current projected over recovery of £3,000 in respect of the Roads Trading Account as at 31 October 2009 be noted; and
- (2) that agreement be given to the virement request detailed in appendix 3 to the report.

**22 Capital Programme 2009/12 - Progress 22**

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection and the Chief Financial Officer on the position of the Capital Programme 2009/12.

**Noted**

**23 Inverclyde Local Plan: Annual Monitoring and Review of Housing Strategy (2008-09) 23**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) on the progress made in implementing the housing strategy of the Local Plan and (2) reporting on trends in housing completions and the take up and availability of housing land, by market sector and location, across the Inverclyde Housing Market Area for the period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee endorse the findings and interpretation of this year's annual monitoring in accordance with the requirements of Local Plan Policy H7; and
- (2) that it be noted that there is sufficient capacity in the "Effective Land Supply" to meet estimated demand and therefore there is no requirement to increase the land supply through greenfield release in advance of the new Local Development Plan.

**24 Support for Owners Fund 24**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection providing an update on the current position of the Support for Owners Fund in relation to River Clyde Homes' Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) investment programme.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the current financial position of the Support for Owners Fund and the projections for the future Fund be noted; and
- (2) that representations be made to Mr Alex Neil MSP, the Minister for Housing & Communities, for a meeting with Inverclyde Council and River Clyde Homes to consider further the request for removal of the rule of annuality as set out in the joint letter of 14 November 2009 and that the Council be represented at the meeting by the Leader, Councillor MacLeod and a Member of the Liberal Democrat Group.

**25 Food Waste Collection Trial Termination 25**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) providing an update on the food waste trial funded by the Scottish Government for 1 year and (2) advising of the planned cessation of the service by the end of January 2010.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the report be noted; and
- (2) that a further report be submitted to the Committee detailing alternative options for the development of a combined food and garden waste scheme.

**26 Street Name - Cul-de-Sac off Parkhill Avenue, Port Glasgow 26**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection requesting the Committee to assign a street name for a new cul-de-sac off Parkhill Avenue, Port Glasgow.

**Decided:** that the cul-de-sac be named School Road.

**27 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - On-Street Parking Places (Without Charges) Order No 3 2009 27**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources recommending the making of a Traffic Regulation Order to accompany the provision of parking bays for the disabled.

**Decided:** that The Inverclyde Council be recommended to make the Traffic Regulation Order - On-Street Parking Places (Without Charges) Order No 3 2009 and that it be remitted to the Head of Environmental Services and the Head of Legal & Administration to arrange for implementation of the Order.

**28 Greenock Town Centre Parking and Removal of Redundant Traffic Restrictions 28**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection seeking approval to appoint consultants (1) to investigate the introduction of charged parking within Greenock Town Centre including the options for parking enforcement and (2) to review the removal of any unnecessary areas of existing waiting and loading restrictions and identify any additional areas for on and off road parking in Greenock Town Centre.

Following discussion, Councillor Moran moved (1) that the contents of the report be noted; (2) that approval be given to the appointment of consultants to (a) investigate the removal of redundant areas of traffic restrictions within the town centre and identify any additional areas for on and off road parking and (b) investigate the introduction of charged parking within Greenock Town Centre including the options on parking enforcement and provide a developed business case supporting the proposals; and (3) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection to report to the Committee on the recommendations made by the consultants.

As an amendment, Councillor White moved (1) that the contents of the report be noted; (2) that it be remitted to the Council's Officers to (a) investigate the removal of redundant areas of traffic restrictions within the town centre and identify any additional areas for on and off road parking and (b) investigate the introduction of charged parking within Greenock Town Centre; and (3) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection to report back to the Committee on the recommendations of the Council's Officers.

On a vote, 5 Members voted for the amendment and 6 for the motion which was declared carried.

Those Members who had voted in favour of the amendment then requested in terms of the relevant Standing Order that the matter be referred to The Inverclyde Council for decision in terms of the amendment.

**C Decided: C**

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted;
- (2) that approval be given to the appointment of consultants to (a) investigate the removal of redundant areas of traffic restrictions within the town centre and identify any additional areas for on and off road parking and (b) investigate the introduction of charged parking within Greenock Town Centre including the options on parking enforcement and provide a developed business case supporting the proposals; and
- (3) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection to report to the Committee on the recommendations made by the consultants.

**29 Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 - Quarterly Indicator Analysis and Fixed Penalty Notices 29**

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection providing an update on Inverclyde Council's performance in relation to the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005.

(Councillor McCallum left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Council's positive performance in terms of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 be noted; and
- (2) that the Committee note the Fixed Penalty Notices which had been issued and the associated income.

**30 Inverclyde Flood Plan**

**30**

There was submitted (1) a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection advising of progress made with the development of a Flood Action Plan to deal with the issues highlighted in the report submitted to the Committee on 1 September 2009 and (2) a letter by Councillor Blair raising a number of issues in respect of flooding within Inverclyde.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the progress made to date with the development of the Flood Action Plan be noted;
- (2) that it be noted that a fully costed plan will be submitted to the Committee at its meeting on 4 May 2010; and
- (3) that the issues raised in Councillor Blair's letter be noted.

**31 Equipment and Adaptations**

**31**

There was submitted a report by the Acting Director Social Care and the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection providing detailed information on the current and future demand for equipment and adaptations in the private and public housing sectors to inform future housing investment requirements.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the historical demand and rising demand for equipment and adaptations in Inverclyde; and
- (2) that further reports be submitted to the Health & Social Care and Safe Sustainable Communities Committees on funding issues relating to equipment and adaptations including the level of registered social landlord budgets for 2010/11.