

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 21 MAY 2013

Policy & Resources Committee

Tuesday 21 May 2013 at 3 pm

Present: Provost Moran, Councillors Clocherty, Loughran, Campbell-Sturgess (for MacLeod), McCabe, McCormick, McEleny, McIlwee, Nelson, Shepherd (for Rebecchi) and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor McCabe presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Corporate Director Inverclyde Community Health & Care Partnership, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Chief Financial Officer, Interim Head of ICT, Head of Organisational Development, HR & Communications, Head of Education, Head of Mental Health & Addictions, Head of Property Assets & Facilities Management, Corporate Policy & Partnership Manager, Corporate Procurement Manager, Finance Manager, Legal Services Manager (Litigation, Licensing & Advice), Community Safety & Wellbeing Service Manager, Legal Services Manager (Procurement & Conveyancing), Mr A Hughes (Human Resources) and Mr M Bingham (Corporate Communications).

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

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| 376 | Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest | 376 |
| | <p>Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors MacLeod and Rebecchi, with Councillor Campbell-Sturgess substituting for Councillor MacLeod and Councillor Shepherd substituting for Councillor Rebecchi.
Councillors McCabe, McEleny, McIlwee and Wilson declared interests in agenda item 12 (Welfare Reform Update).</p> | |
| 377 | The Equality Act 2010 - Specific Duties: Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Report | 377 |
| | <p>There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing a set of draft Equality Outcomes and a Mainstreaming Report both of which required to be published by 30 April 2013 as part of the Council's legislative duties under the Equality Act 2010.
The Head of Education gave a presentation on the Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming Report.
Decided: that approval be given to the draft Equality Outcomes and associated Mainstreaming Report appended to the report.</p> | |
| 378 | Policy & Resources Capital Programme - 2012/13 - 15/16 - Progress Report | 378 |
| | <p>There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and the Chief Financial Officer (1) providing an update on the status of the projects forming the Policy & Resources Capital Programme 2012/13 - 15/16 and (2) highlighting the actual spend as at 28 February 2013.
Noted</p> | |

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- 379 Capital Programme 2012/16 379**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer on the latest position of the 2012/16 Capital Programme.
- Noted**
- 380 Policy & Resources Committee 2012/13 Revenue Budget - Period 11 to 28 February 2013 380**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Chief Financial Officer on the 2012/13 projected out-turn for the Policy & Resources Committee as at Period 11 (28 February 2013).
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the projected underspend of £1,287,000 for the Policy & Resources Committee Revenue Budget as at Period 11; and
- (2) that the virement request of £38,450 set out in appendix 4 to the report be approved.
- 381 General Fund Revenue Budget 2012/13 as at 28 February 2013 381**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the position of the General Fund Revenue Budget as at 28 February 2013 and (2) providing an update in respect of the Reserves and Workstream Savings.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the latest position in respect of the 2012/13 Revenue Budget and the General Fund Reserve; and
- (2) that the Committee note the 2013/16 Workstream Savings position.
- 382 General Fund Revenue Budget 2013/14 382**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the opening position of the 2013/14 General Fund Revenue Budget and (2) highlighting the latest position in respect of delivering and managing budgets within the Council.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the initial position of the 2013/14 Revenue Budget; and
- (2) that approval be given to the framework of budget reporting and monitoring for the Council for the 2013/16 budget period as set out in the report.
- 383 Procurement - Update 383**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer on the progress being made with procurement since the last report to the Committee in February 2013.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note progress on the Strategic Procurement Framework; and
- (2) that the Committee note the progress made in savings delivery.

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- 384 Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2013 - 2016 384**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval of the Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan for the Environment, Regeneration & Resources Directorate for the period 2013 - 2016.
- Decided:**
- (1) that approval be given to the Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2013 - 2016 as outlined in appendix A to the report; and
- (2) that the Service Statements for the Environment, Regeneration & Resources Directorate as outlined in appendix B to the report be noted.
- 385 Education, Communities & Organisational Development Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 385**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval of the Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan for the Education, Communities & Organisational Development Directorate.
- Decided:** that approval be given to the Education, Communities & Organisational Development Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan.
- 386 An Overview of Local Government in Scotland 2013 - Accounts Commission Report 386**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the Accounts Commission document "An Overview of Local Government in Scotland 2013" published in late March 2013 and (2) seeking the Committee's views on any actions arising from the document.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the contents of the Accounts Commission document "An Overview of Local Government in Scotland 2013" and the action points for Councillors set out in appendix 1 to the document be noted;
- (2) that the Committee agree to the action points identified in paragraph 2.5 of the report; and
- (3) that the report be remitted to the Audit Committee for further consideration.
- 387 Welfare Reform Update 387**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer providing an update in respect of Welfare Reform, specifically on the Scottish Welfare Fund and Discretionary Housing Payments.
- Councillors McCabe, McEleny and McIlwee declared non-financial interests in this matter as members of the Board of River Clyde Homes and Councillor Wilson declared a non-financial interest as a Director of Link Housing Association. They also formed the view that the nature of their interests and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the Chamber or their participation in the decision making process.

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Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note and welcome the successful implementation by the Council of its new responsibilities under the Welfare Reform Act 2012; and
- (2) that agreement be given to expand the eligibility criteria for Discretionary Housing Payments as outlined in Section 6 of the report and that these changes become effective from 1 April 2013.

388 Inverclyde Alliance Repopulation Outcome Delivery Group - Funding Allocation

388

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources outlining the allocation of the £1m funding approved by The Inverclyde Council across a range of initiatives to promote the repopulation of Inverclyde.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee approve the Repopulation Outcome Delivery Group Action Plan outlined in appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) that authority be delegated to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to vary the allocations as outlined in consultation with the Repopulation Outcome Delivery Group; and
- (3) that the Repopulation Outcome Delivery Group monitor and scrutinise performance against each of the initiatives and provide regular updates every other cycle to the Policy & Resources Committee and Single Outcome Agreement and Alliance Boards.

389 Services to Gypsies/Travellers

389

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Inverclyde Community Health & Care Partnership (1) on the outcome of the work carried out by the short-term Gypsies/Travellers Working Group set up by the Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee on 31 August 2011, (2) seeking approval of a reviewed and updated policy and procedures guide on the management of unauthorised Gypsies/Travellers encampments in Inverclyde, (3) seeking approval for further works to secure access arrangements to the car park facility at Newark Castle, in addition to works already completed, and to commence work on other sensitive sites to allow their continued use as intended, and (4) recommending the establishment of an official transit site and associated services for Gypsies/Travellers in Inverclyde, that will be consulted on and subject to planning approval.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the work of the short-term Working Group on Gypsies/Travellers and the proposals made by the Group outlined at Section 11 of the report;
- (2) that approval be given to the content of the updated policy and procedures on the management of unauthorised Gypsies/Travellers encampments as set out in appendix A of the report, to be formally adopted from 1 June 2013;
- (3) that the Committee note the upgrading works carried out at Newark Castle and other sensitive sites and approve further measures to secure sensitive sites in Inverclyde in terms of car park and park management rules and regulations, that will be consulted on and subject to planning approval; and
- (4) that the Committee support in principle the establishment of an official transit site for Gypsies/Travellers in Inverclyde, that public consultation be undertaken in respect of the possible location of an official transit site at Kelburn Park and that a report on the outcome of the public consultation exercise, options for charging and the design of the site be submitted to the Committee for consideration in due course.

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- 390 Suspension of Standing Orders to Pilot New Electronic Tendering System 390**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on the proposed use of a new e-tendering system and (2) seeking approval to suspend Contract Standing Orders 6.5 and 6.6 to enable Corporate Procurement to pilot the new system.
- Decided:**
- (1) that approval be given to the suspension of Contract Standing Orders 6.5 and 6.6 for the period to the September 2013 meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee to enable Corporate Procurement to pilot the new electronic tendering system, PCS-Tender; and
- (2) that a report on the outcome of the pilot be submitted to the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee to be held in September 2013.
- 391 Comet Canopy: Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee 391**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 2 May 2013 relative to the Comet Canopy.
- Decided:** that the Committee agree to vire £89,000 of the SV Comet allocation back to the Common Good Fund.
- 392 John Wood Street and Bay Street, Port Glasgow: Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee 392**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 2 May 2013 relative to the refurbishment of shop premises belonging to the Common Good Fund in John Wood Street and Bay Street, Port Glasgow.
- Decided:** that the Committee approve funding of £95,000 from the Common Good Fund for refurbishment of shop premises belonging to the Common Good Fund in John Wood Street and Bay Street, Port Glasgow.
- 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) |
|---|--------------|
| Appendices C and D relative to Agenda Item 14 | 6 |
| Property Services - Transfer to New Services and Re-Structure | 1 |
| Lease of Premises - John Wood Street, Port Glasgow: Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee | 2, 6 & 9 |

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- 393 Appendices C and D relative to Agenda Item 14 393**
- There were submitted appendices C and D relative to agenda item 14 (Services to Gypsies/Travellers) comprising information on and maps of sites in private ownership.
Noted
- 394 Property Services - Transfer to New Services and Restructure 394**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on proposals in respect of a revised structure for Property Assets & Facilities Management and (2) advising of the transfer of services to the new Legal & Property Services and Environmental & Commercial Services.
Decided:
- (1) that the Committee note the transfer of employees to the new Legal & Property Services and Environmental & Commercial Services as set out in appendix A of the report;
 - (2) that the structure of Property Services from April 2014 as set out in appendix B be noted;
 - (3) that it be agreed to reduce the size of Property Services in accordance with the changes to the structure and as shown in appendix C;
 - (4) that voluntary severance be offered to employees who may have to be released in March 2015 and 2016;
 - (5) that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to release employees under the Council's Voluntary Severance scheme subject to the Council's agreed value for money criteria;
 - (6) that the Committee note that officers will explore options for shared services for Property Services; and
 - (7) that, should there be any difficulties in implementing the revised structures, a report be submitted to the Committee.
- 395 Lease of Premises - John Wood Street, Port Glasgow: Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee 395**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 2 May 2013 relative to the lease of premises in John Wood Street, Port Glasgow and the Committee agreed to the request, all as detailed in the appendix.