

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 23 SEPTEMBER 2014

Policy & Resources Committee

Tuesday 23 September 2014 at 3pm

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

Chair: Councillor McCabe presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Head of Mental Health, Addictions & Homelessness, Head of Legal & Property Services, Head of Finance, Head of Organisational Development, HR & Communications, Mr G Gillespie (ICT Services), Corporate Procurement Manager, Corporate Policy & Partnership Manager and Corporate Communications Manager.

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

560 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 560

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Rebecchi, with Councillor Shepherd substituting.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

561 Policy & Resources Capital Programme – (2013/14 – 2015/16) – Progress Report 561

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and the Head of Finance (1) providing an update on the status of the projects forming the Policy & Resources Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the current position of the 2014/16 Capital Programme and the progress of the specific projects detailed in Appendix 1; and
- (2) that the Committee note the level of slippage in 2013/14 and the action being taken to improve matters in future years.

562 Capital Programme 2014/16 562

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the latest position of the 2014/16 Capital Programme.

Decided: that the Committee note the current position of the 2014/16 Capital Programme and the previous decision that any surplus on the 2014/16 Capital Programme be considered as part of the February 2015 budget process.

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- 563 Policy & Resources Committee 2014/15 Revenue Budget – Period 4 to 31 July 2014 563**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive, Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Head of Finance on the 2013/14 Revenue Budget out-turn and the 2014/15 projected out-turn for the Policy & Resources Committee as at Period 4 (31 July 2014).
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the 2013/14 Revenue Budget out-turn and the 2014/15 projected underspend of £1,331,000 for the Policy & Resources Committee as at Period 4; and
- (2) that the Committee note the projected deficit fund balance of £21,910 for the Common Good Fund and approve usage of underspend detailed in the report to replace the £150,000 contribution from the Common Good for the Port Glasgow Regeneration projects.
- 564 General Fund Revenue Budget 2014/15 as at 31 July 2014 564**
- There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) advising the Committee of the position of the General Fund Revenue Budget as at 31 July 2014 and (2) providing an update in respect of the position of the General Fund Reserves and Workstream Savings.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the latest position of the 2014/15 Revenue Budget and General Fund Reserves; and
- (2) that the 2013/16 Workstream Savings position be noted.
- 565 Procurement Update 565**
- There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the progress being made with Procurement since the last report in May 2014.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the progress on the Strategic Procurement Framework;
- (2) that the progress made in savings delivery be noted; and
- (3) that the Committee endorse the work being undertaken to encourage payment of the Living Wage by organisations delivering services on behalf of the Council.
- 566 Modernisation Programme/PSN/SWAN Update 566**
- There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources providing an update on the status of the Council's ongoing Modernisation Programme, the Council's annual PSN accreditation and the status of the Scottish Wide Area Network Programme.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the good progress being made on the ICT initiatives detailed in the report.

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567 Repopulation Outcome Delivery Group – Update as at August 2014 567

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee in respect of the work of the Repopulation Outcome Delivery Group (ODG) charged with the delivery of the Repopulation Outcome included within the Single Outcome Agreement.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress being made in respect of promoting Inverclyde and developing strategies to repopulate the area; and
- (2) that Officers prepare a proposal as part of the 2015/18 budget process for a further one-off sum to be allocated to the Repopulation Outcome.

568 Corporate Services Performance Report 568

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on the progress made by the Council's Corporate Services towards achieving their key objectives, as detailed in the Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Directorate Improvement Plans 2013/16.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress made by the Council's Corporate Services in delivering improvement actions outlined in their respective Corporate Directorate Improvement Plans 2013/16; and
- (2) that it be agreed to consider the fourth progress report at the meeting of the Committee on 3 February 2015.

569 Treasury Management - Annual Report 2013/14 569

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the operation of the treasury function and its activities for 2013/14 as required under the terms of Treasury Management Practice 6 ("TMP6") on "Reporting Requirements and Management Information Arrangements".

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the contents of the annual report on Treasury Management for 2013/14 and the ongoing work to ensure the delivery of financial benefits for the Council and homologate the exceeding of Council limits in 2014/15 as explained in paragraph 4.10 of the report; and
- (2) that the annual report be remitted to the Inverclyde Council for approval.

570 Debt Recovery Performance 2013/14 570

There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising the Committee of the Council's debt recovery performance during 2013/14 and of future plans.

Decided: that the Committee note the Council's continued good performance in the area of debt recovery in 2013/14 and that the Council has extended the contract with Alex M Adamson to 31 March 2015.

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- 571 Audit Scotland: Benefits Performance Audit Annual Update 2013/14 571**
- There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on the findings of the Account Commission's Benefits Performance Audit Annual Update.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the key risks, areas of improvement and good practice as evidenced by Audit Scotland and the comparison with Inverclyde's benefits service; and
 (2) that the Committee note the proposals in Appendix 2 to adopt good practice identified within the Accounts Commission report.
- 572 Results from the Citizens' Panel Spring 2014 Survey 572**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing details of the headline results from the Spring 2014 Citizens' Panel Survey.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the main findings from the Spring 2014 Citizens' Panel Survey be noted; and
 (2) that it be agreed the feedback from Panel members be taken into account when reviewing service delivery as appropriate.
- The Convener being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources was relevant, competent and urgent moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to enable, if agreed, contracts to be awarded at the earliest opportunity. This was agreed unanimously.**
- 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 8 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.**
- 573 Award of Contracts for the Hire of Surfacing Plant 573**
- There was submitted a report by the Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on tenders submitted for the hire of surfacing plant and (2) seeking approval to award contracts.
- Decided:** that approval be given to award contracts for the hire of surfacing plant to the suppliers listed in table 1 of the report for each of the four lots.