

STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 15 June 2011.

Present: Councillors I Miller, K Baird, P Barrett, J Flynn, A Grant, E Grant, T Gray, Councillor G Hayton, Provost Hulbert, J Kellas, A MacLellan, M Roberts, A Stewart, B Vaughan and W Wilson.

In Attendance: B Malone, Chief Executive and J Irons, Depute Chief Executive and Executive Director (Environment); L Dott, I Innes, C Irons, S MacKenzie, H Mackenzie, K Lawrie, F Mackay, G Taylor and T Yule (all Chief Executive's Service); G Boland (Education and Children's Services); D Burke, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care); A Harrow and J Walker (Housing and Community Care).

Also in Attendance: M Richardson, Henderson Loggie.

Councillor I Miller, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led discussion on Arts 358-363 and the Vice Convener led on Arts 364-368.

358. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

359. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 20 April 2011 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Appeals Sub-Committee

- (a) The Minute of the Meeting of the Appeals Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 18 February 2011, 10 March 2011 and 30 March 2011 was submitted and noted (**Appendix I**)
- (b) The Minute of the Meeting of the Appeals Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 6 April 2011 was submitted and noted (**Appendix II**)

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(iii) Property Sub-Committee

- (a) The Minute of the Meeting of the Property Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 18 August 2010 was submitted and noted (**Appendix III**)
- (b) The Minute of the Meeting of the Property Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 25 May 2011 was submitted and noted (**Appendix IV**)

(iv) Provost's Sub-Committee

- (a) The Minute of the Meeting of the Provost's Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 9 February 2011 was submitted and noted (**Appendix V**)
- (b) The Minute of the Meeting of the Property Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 20 April 2011 was submitted and noted (**Appendix VI**)

(v) Corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Consultative Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Consultative Committee of 7 March 2011 was submitted and noted (**Appendix VII**)

(vi) Employees Joint Consultative Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Employees Joint Consultative Committee of 24 February 2011 was submitted and noted (**Appendix VIII**)

360. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S SERVICE JOINT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (11/314) presenting the Joint Business Management and Improvement Plan and Annual Performance Report 2011-2014 for the Chief Executive's Service.

Resolved:

- (i) The Joint Business Management and Improvement Plan and Annual Performance Report 2011-2014 for the Chief Executive's Service be approved.
- (ii) It be noted that Report 11/314 would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee on 15 June 2011 for scrutiny and comment.

361. AUDIT SCOTLAND 'OVERVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN SCOTLAND 2010' REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Business Transformation and Improvement (11/315) providing a summary of the Overview of Local Government in Scotland 2010, which had been published by Audit Scotland in February 2011.

Resolved:

- (i) The findings of the Overview of Local Government in Scotland 2010 report by Audit Scotland be noted.
- (ii) The Council's progress against each of the action points identified in the Audit Scotland report be noted.
- (iii) It be remitted to the Head of Democratic Services to incorporate the questions for Councillors identified in the Audit Scotland report into an appropriate development session for elected members.
- (iv) It be noted that Report 11/315 on the findings of the Overview of Local Government in Scotland 2010 report would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee on 15 June 2011.

362. REALISING THE POTENTIAL OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (11/316) presenting a revised information and communications technology strategy and plan to support the Council's transformational approach. The strategy had been refreshed to align with changing Council priorities, address current corporate challenges and reflect the strategic opportunities made possible by new and enhanced technologies.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress made from the previous information and communications technology strategy, be noted.
- (ii) That the Corporate Resources Group become the programme board for the governance of all of the Council information and communications technology spend be approved.
- (iii) The revised strategy and actions, as detailed in Appendix A to Report 11/316, be approved.

363. EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES – INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2011/12 TO 2015/16

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (11/317) providing an update on the details of the proposed corporate information technology capital projects approved by the Council on 11 May 2011 in setting of the Capital Programme for 2011/12 – 2015/16.

Resolved:

- (i) The business cases for the agreed information technology capital programme for 2011/12, as listed in Appendix 1 to Report 11/317, be noted.

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- (ii) The projects, as listed in paragraph 3.3 of Report 11/317, as part of the setting of the capital programme for 2015/16, be approved.

364. PROCUREMENT PROGRAMME – ANNUAL REPORT 2010-11

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Housing and Community Care) (11/318) summarising the Council's progress with the Procurement Programme for the financial year 2010/11 against the objectives set in the approved Procurement Strategy 2008-2011.

Resolved:

The contents of Report 11/318, submitted in accordance with the Council's approved procurement objectives as defined in the Procurement Strategy 2008-2011, be noted.

365. TAYSIDE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY 2011-15

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Housing and Community Care) (11/319) detailing the Tayside Procurement Strategy 2011-15.

Resolved:

The Tayside Procurement Strategy 2011-15 be approved for Perth and Kinross Council's interest.

366. PERTH CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU – ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL REQUEST

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (11/320) outlining an additional financial request from Perth Citizens Advice Bureau for the years 2011/12 and 2012/13.

Resolved:

- (i) Additional funding of £6,881.00 be granted to Perth Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) for the years 2011/12 and 2012/13 be approved.
- (ii) The agreement with Perth CAB be reviewed as planned in 2013/14.

COUNCILLOR J KELLAS LEFT THE MEETING DURING DISCUSSION OF THE ABOVE ITEM.

367. AUTHORITY TO WRITE OFF BAD DEBTS AND OBSOLETE STOCK

There was submitted a report by the Acting Head of Finance (11/321) seeking an update on, (1) approval to write off identified bad debts in respect of Sales Ledger; Council Tax (including Water & Sewerage charges); Non-Domestic Rates; Irrecoverable Rents; Housing Benefit Overpayments; Commercial Rent and Car Park Trading Account Income; and (2) seeking approval to write off obsolete stock.

Resolved:

That all amounts detailed in Section 3 of and appendices to Report 11/321 be written off.

368. POLICY ON OTHER WORK/CONFLICT OF INTEREST PROCEDURE

There was submitted a report by the Head of Human Resources (11/322) introducing (1) the revised Policy on Other Work; and (2) the new Conflict of Interest Procedure which supplements the Employee Code of Conduct.

Resolved:

- (i) The revised Policy on Other Work contained in Appendix 1 to Report 11/322, be approved.
- (ii) The introduction of the new Conflict of Interest Procedures, to supplement the Employee Code of Conduct contained in Appendix 2 to Report 11/322, be approved.

369. VALEDICTORY

Councillor Miller referred to the retiral of Karen Lawrie and on behalf of the Council, thanked her for her considerable contribution and wished her well in the future.

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