

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 20 April 2011.

Present: Councillors I Miller, K Baird, P Barrett, J Flynn, C Gillies (substituting for A MacLellan), A Grant, E Grant, T Gray, Provost Hulbert, J Kellas, M Roberts, W Robertson, A Stewart, B Vaughan and W Wilson.

In Attendance: B Malone, Chief Executive and J Irons, Depute Chief Executive and Executive Director (Environment); I Innes, S MacKenzie, H Mackenzie, J Somerville, J Symon, G Taylor, S Watson and T Yule (all Chief Executive's Service); G Boland (Education and Children's Services); B Renton and J Valentine (the Environment Service); D Burke, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care); and J Walker (Housing and Community Care).

Apology for Absence: Councillor G Hayton

Councillor I Miller, Convener, Presiding.

195. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

196. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 9 February 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 12 August 2010 and 23 February 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 30 November 2010, 25 January 2011 and 26 January 2011 was submitted and noted **(Appendix II)**
- (c) The Minute of the Meeting of the Appeals Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 25 February 2011 was submitted and noted **(Appendix III)**

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(iii) Executive Sub-Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 15 March 2011 was submitted and noted (**Appendix IV**)

(iv) Corporate Health and Safety Consultative Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Corporate Health and Safety Consultative Committee of 6 September 2010 was submitted and noted (**Appendix V**)

(v) Employees Joint Consultative Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Employees Joint Consultative Committee of 25 November 2010 was submitted and noted (**Appendix VI**)

197. REVENUE BUDGET 2010/11 – MONITORING REPORT NO 4 (Art. 62)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (11/162) providing an update on (1) progress with the 2010/11 General Fund Revenue Budget based on the January 2011 ledger (updated for any subsequent known material movements); and (2) providing an update on the projected financial position of the Housing Revenue Account.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 11/162 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments to the 2010/11 Management Revenue Budget, detailed in Appendix 1 to and Sections 2, 4 and 5 of Report 11/162, be approved.
- (iii) The possible adjustments to the 2011/12 Council Approved Budget, outlined in Section 3.1.2 of Report 11/162, be noted.
- (iv) The adjustments to the 2011/12 Council Approved Budget, detailed in Sections 3.1.4, 3.1.6 and 3.1.8 of Report 11/162, be approved.
- (v) The individual Service virements, summarised in Appendices 2 and 3 to Report 11/162, be approved.

198. COMPOSITE CAPITAL BUDGET 2010/15 - MONITORING REPORT NO 4 (Art. 63)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (11/163) (1) providing a summary position to date of the Composite Capital Programme for 2010/11 to 2014/15; and (2) seeking approval for adjustments to the Programme.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 11/163 be noted.
- (ii) The proposed budget and monitoring adjustments to the five year Capital Budget 2010/15, as set out in Sections 3 and 4 of Report 11/46 and summarised in Appendices I and II thereto, be approved.

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- (iii) The proposed adjustment to the Renewal and Repair Fund, as detailed in Section 5 of Report 11/163 and summarised at Appendix III, be approved.

199. HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2010/11 – BUDGET MONITORING REPORT NO 4 (Art. 64)

There was submitted a joint report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) and the Head of Finance (11/164) (1) summarising the position as at 31 January 2011 for the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme for 2010/11; and (2) seeking approval for adjustments to the 2010/11 programme.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 11/164, including that the net borrowing requirement for 2010/11 had decreased by £329,000 to £1,696,000, be noted.
(ii) The adjustments made to the budget for 2010/11, as set out in Sections 4 and 5 of Report 11/164 and summarised at Appendices 1 and 2 thereto, be approved.

200. RENEWAL AND REPAIR FUND 2011/12 (Art. 209/10)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (11/165) recommending the programme of works to be funded from the Renewal and Repair Fund in 2011/12.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 11/165 be noted.
(ii) The proposed programme of works to be funded from the Renewal and Repair Fund in 2011/12, set out in Section 4 of Report 11/165, be approved.

201. FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND (Art. 607/09)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal Services (11/166) monitoring the Council's performance against the Code of Guidance for Funding External Bodies and Following the Public Pound (FPP) for the financial year 2009/2010.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 11/166 be noted.
(ii) That adequate governance procedures are in place for Following the Public Pound be confirmed.

202. SUSTRANS RIVER TAY CONNECT 2 PROJECT, PERTH (Art. 680/10)

There was submitted a report by the Depute Chief Executive (11/172) (1) advising of Atkins' revised estimate of the costs of the bridge construction; and (2) recommending that the Council now declines to provide any additional funding to the project.

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Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 11/172, including the Atkins' latest estimate of the cost of the bridge construction, be noted.
- (ii) That TACTRAN and SUSTRANS be advised that the Council would not provide any additional funding to close the gap between Atkins' revised estimate and the funding currently available be approved.
- (iii) Although neither TACTRAN and SUSTRANS have yet taken any decisions regarding this matter, that it was unlikely either of these organisations would be able to provide the additional funding required, and that this decision was likely to result in the project being abandoned, be noted.

203. ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PERFORMANCE REVIEW

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (11/167) (1) advising of the Council's progress towards mainstreaming Sustainable Development; and (2) seeking approval for the current performance position.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 11/167 be noted.
- (ii) The updated performance position for the Council's Sustainable Development Framework be approved.

204. STATUTORY EQUALITY EMPLOYMENT MONITORING STATISTICS

There was submitted a report by the Head of Human Resources (11/168) providing corporate level employment equality data for the previous three financial years and for the six month period to 30 September 2010.

Resolved:

- (i) That employment related data be published on www.pkc.gov.uk be noted.
- (ii) The three year trend analysis be noted.
- (iii) That the Council actively seek to identify positive action strategies where recruitment opportunities arise and occupational segregation exists be noted.
- (iv) That current exit procedures are revised to introduce a more meaningful and streamlined process via My View be noted.
- (v) That the reasons for disciplinary action be analysed and the findings included in the next scheduled report to the Equality Strategic Group be noted.
- (vi) That age monitoring be introduced for reporting periods from 1 April 2011 and that an implementation plan be developed to extend monitoring arrangements to all relevant protected equality groups covered by the Equality Act 2010 be noted.

205. SINGLE STATUS EQUAL PAY AUDIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2009/10

There was submitted a report by the Head of Human Resources (11/169) (1) advising that the Council was committed through its Equal Pay Policy to conducting annual equal pay audits of its Single Status Pay and Grading Structure to ensure the Council fulfilled its statutory obligations in respect of equal pay for all employees; and (2) a summary of the findings of the Single Status Equal Pay Audit for 2009/10.

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Resolved:

- (i) That the analysis of basic pay comparing all males and females without preservation indicates there are no grades with a pay gap of more than 5% be noted.
- (ii) That the analysis of the overall average basic pay gap of all grades comparing all males and females without preservation was 11.72% and that the gender pay gap in the public sector when comparing average earnings of all employees was 19.2%, as quoted by the Office of National Statistics published on 8 December 2010, be noted.
- (iii) That the analysis of previous audits on basic pay and total pay with and without preservation show a steady reduction in the pay gap be noted.
- (iv) That the analysis of overtime by gender within Services has indicated no gender inequality or bias be noted.

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