

STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Buildings, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 2 December 2009 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors I Miller, G Hayton, K Baird, R Band (substituting for E Grant), P Barrett, A Grant, Provost Hulbert, A Jack, J Kellas, A MacLellan, M Roberts, W Robertson, A Stewart, B Vaughan, W Wilson and A Wylie.

In Attendance: B Malone, Chief Executive; J Irons, Executive Director (Environment) and Depute Chief Executive; G Taylor, T Yule, L Dott, F Mackay, J Mackay and J Somerville (all Chief Executive's Service); I Innes, J Symon, H Mackenzie, R Thomson, J Carney and C Robertson (all Corporate Services); J Fyffe, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); R Bean, B Renton and S Best (all The Environment Service); and D Burke, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) and H Turley (Housing and Community Care).

Councillor I Miller, Convener, Presiding.

598. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

599. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 16 September 2009 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Appeals Sub-Committee

The following minutes were submitted and noted:

- (a) Minute of Meeting of 25 August 2009 (**Appendix I**)
- (b) Minute of Meeting of 9 September 2009 (**Appendix II**)
- (c) Minute of Meeting of 29 October 2009 (**Appendix III**)
- (d) Minute of Meeting of 5 November 2009 (**Appendix IV**)

(iii) Executive Director Appointments Sub-Committee

The following minutes were submitted and noted:

- (a) Minute of Meeting of 13 July 2009 (**Appendix V**)
- (b) Minute of Meeting of 1 September 2009 (**Appendix VI**)
- (c) Minute of Meeting of 17 September 2009 (**Appendix VII**)
- (d) Minute of Meeting of 8 October 2009 (**Appendix VIII**)
- (e) Minute of Meeting of 9 October 2009 (**Appendix IX**)

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(iv) Executive Sub-Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 13 October 2009 was submitted and noted. (**Appendix X**)

(v) Property Sub-Committee

The Minute of the Meeting of the Property Sub-Committee of 18 November 2009 was submitted and noted. (**Appendix XI**)

600. REVENUE BUDGET 2009/10 – MONITORING REPORT NO 2 (Art 467)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/556) providing an update on (1) progress with the 2009/10 General Fund Revenue Budget based upon the September 2009 ledger; and (2) the projected financial position of the Housing Revenue Account.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 09/556 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments to the 2009/10 management revenue budget, detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 09/556 and Sections 2, 3 and 4 of Report 09/556, be approved.
- (iii) The individual Service virements, summarised in Appendices 2 and 3 to Report 09/556, be approved.
- (iv) Gratitude to the staff involved in successfully reclaiming backdated VAT monies from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs be recorded.

601. COMPOSITE CAPITAL BUDGET 2009/14 - MONITORING REPORT NO 2 (Art 468)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/557), (1) providing a summary position to date of the Composite Capital Programme for 2009/10 to 2013/14; and (2) seeking approval for adjustments to the Programme.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 09/557 be noted.
- (ii) The proposed budget and monitoring adjustments to the five year Capital Budget 2009/14, as set out in Sections 3 and 4 of Report 09/557 and summarised in Appendices I and II thereto, be approved.

602. HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2009/14 – BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2 (Art 58)

There was submitted a joint report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) and the Head of Finance (09/558), (1) summarising the position as at August ledger 31 August 2009 for the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme for 2009/10 to 2013/14; and (2) seeking approval for adjustment to the Programme.

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Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 09/558 and that the net borrowing requirement had increased by £21,000 in 2009/10 and decreased by £635,000 in 2010/11, be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments made to the budgets for 2009/10 and 2010/11, as set out in Section 4 of Report 09/558 and summarised at Appendices 1 and 2 to Report 09/558 be approved.
- (iii) The virement of £50,000 from Major Adaptations to External Refurbishment to meet the anticipated costs of the additional work to Cumberland Barracks, Coupar Angus, be approved.

603. CORPORATE INSURANCE STRATEGY AND COVER 2009-2011

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/559), (1) outlining the Corporate Insurance Strategy for the next three years; and (2) detailing the recent changes to insurance cover procured under delegated authority.

Resolved:

The tender for insurance cover accepted under delegated authority, which took effect from 1 October 2009, be noted.

604. TREASURY ACTIVITY AND COMPLIANCE REPORT (Art 49)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/560), (1) providing a summary of the Loans Fund transactions for the quarter to 30 September 2009; and (2) reporting on compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy Statement, Treasury Management Practices and the Prudential Indicators for the same period.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 09/560, which was submitted in accordance with the Council's approved Treasury Management Practices, be noted.
- (ii) The temporary reinstatement of the Co-operative Bank PLC to the list of approved counterparties for investments to cover the Christmas closedown of Perth and Kinross Council, as detailed at Section 5.1 of Report 09/560, be approved.

605. REVIEW OF TREASURY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS DOCUMENT (Art 826)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (09/561) informing Members of the revised Treasury Management Systems Document, as required by the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management.

Resolved:

- (i) The revised Treasury Management Systems Document be approved.
- (ii) The inclusion in the Daily Limitations of Authority for the Accounting Technician – Central Accounting Team in the Treasury policy, as detailed at Section 3.2 of Report 09/561, be approved.

***606. SIX MONTHLY SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT (Art 304)**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (09/562) reviewing the performance of the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership against the Single Outcome Agreement 2009-2011 for the period 1 April 2009 to 30 September 2009.

Resolved:

After noting that the report would also be considered by the Scrutiny Committee later in the day, the contents of Report 09/562 were considered, discussed and accepted, subject to an amendment in the Performance Report itself to show that 300 teachers had been trained rather than 700.

607. CODE OF GUIDANCE FOR FUNDING EXTERNAL BODIES AND FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND (Art 302/06)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal Services (09/563) outlining the improvements made to the Council's arrangements for Funding External Bodies and Following the Public Pound since March 2007.

Resolved:

- (i) The revised Code of Guidance for Funding External Bodies and Following the Public Pound be approved.
- (ii) The other improvement actions implementing the Audit Scotland recommendations, as set out in Report 09/563, be noted.

608. STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2008/09 AND STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACTION PLAN 2009/10

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (09/564) (1) updating the Committee on the Council's progress towards mainstreaming Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA); (2) seeking approval for the briefing note which set out elected members' role and responsibilities in the SEA process; and (3) highlighting that an SEA awareness raising session had been held for elected members prior to the start of this Committee.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress on mainstreaming Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) within the Council be noted.
- (ii) The elected members' briefing note, which covers their role and responsibilities in the SEA process, at Appendix 1 to Report 09/564, be approved.
- (iii) That an awareness raising session on SEA open to all Elected Members had been conducted prior to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 2 December 2009 be noted.

609. ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PERFORMANCE REVIEW (Art 802/07)

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (09/565), (1) advising the Committee of the Council's progress towards mainstreaming Sustainable Development; and (2) seeking approval for the current performance position.

Resolved:

The updated performance position for the Council's Sustainable Development Framework be noted and approved.

***610. SIX MONTHLY BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN PERFORMANCE EXCEPTION REPORT**

(i) Chief Executive's Service

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (09/566) reviewing the performance of the Chief Executive's Service against its Business Management and Improvement Plan (BMIP) for the period 1 April 2009 to 30 September 2009.

Resolved:

After noting that the report would also be considered by the Scrutiny Committee later in the day, the contents of Report 09/566 were considered, discussed and accepted.

(ii) Corporate Services

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance and the Head of Legal Services (09/567) reviewing the performance of Corporate Services against its Business Management and Improvement Plan (BMIP) for the period 1 April 2009 to 30 September 2009.

Resolved:

After noting that the report would also be considered by the Scrutiny Committee later in the day, the contents of Report 09/567 were considered, discussed and accepted.

611. EQUALITIES KEY ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS TO SEPTEMBER 2009

There was submitted a report by the Head of Business Transformation and Improvement (09/568) highlighting progress for key equality activities across all Council Services.

Resolved

- (i) The progress made to September 2009 be noted.
- (ii) Gratitude to all involved in equality work across the Council, the Equalities and Diversity Member/Officer Working Group and Community Planning Partners, be recorded.

612. STATUTORY EQUALITIES EMPLOYMENT MONITORING STATISTICS

There was submitted a report by the Head of Human Resources (09/569) providing a corporate level employment equalities analysis for the year to 31 March 2009 and the six month period to 30 September 2009.

Resolved:

- (i) The employment equalities related data contained in the Appendices to Report 09/569 be noted and approved.
- (ii) That the report be submitted to the Equalities and Diversity Member/Officer Working Group for consideration be agreed.

613. COMMON PROCESS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS AND REDUNDANT ASSETS

There was submitted a report by the Head of Property (09/570) recommending the adoption of a common process for the disposal of surplus and redundant Council assets.

Resolved

The Common Process for the Disposal of Surplus and Redundant Assets, as attached to Report 09/570, be approved.

614. AN UPDATE ON THIRD SECTOR DEVELOPMENTS: SINGLE INTERFACES AND THE JOINT STATEMENT ON THE RELATIONSHIP AT LOCAL LEVEL BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND THE THIRD SECTOR

There was submitted and noted a report previously submitted to the Community Planning Partnership of 13 November 2009 by the Chief Executive, Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Services (09/574) providing information on continuing developments between the Third Sector and its relationship with Local and National Government.

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