

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
17 JUNE 2015

STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held in the Gannochy Suite, Dewar's Centre, Glover Street, Perth on Wednesday 17 June 2015 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors I Miller, A Grant, B Band, P Barrett, D Cuthbert, D Doogan, J Kellas, A MacLellan, A Parrott (Substitute for D Pover), M Roberts, A Stewart, B Vaughan, W Wilson and A Younger.

In Attendance: B Malone, Chief Executive; J Fyffe, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); J Valentine, Executive Director (Environment); J Walker, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care); K Donaldson, C Flynn, I Innes, C Irons, L Potter, S Rodger, L Simpson, J Symon, G Taylor & L Whiteford (all Chief Executive's Service); F Robertson (Education and Children's Services); J Carney, S D'All, K McNamara, B Morton, B Renton, A Seggie and S Terras (all The Environment Service); A MacDonald and M Mitchell (both Housing and Community Care)

Apologies for Absence: Provost L Grant, Councillor I Campbell and Councillor D Pover.

Councillor I Miller, Convener, Presiding.

398. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting and apologies were noted as above.

399. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillor B Band declared a non-financial interest in Article 402 – Chief Executive's Service Annual Scheme of Charges; and Councillors J Kellas and B Vaughan declared non-financial interests in Article 403 – Authority to write off Debt and Obsolete Stock.

400. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 22 April 2015 (Arts.250 - 256) was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Property Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Property Sub-Committee of 4 March 2015 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix I)**

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
17 JUNE 2015

(iii) Appeal Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Appeal Sub Committee of 16 April 2015 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix II)**

401. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S SERVICE JOINT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2015/16 AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2014/15

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (15/249) presenting the Joint Business Management and Improvement Plan 2015/16 and Annual Performance Report 2014/15 for the Chief Executive's Service. It was noted that a figure had been omitted in respect of Changed/Deleted Indicators in Service Objective 4 which was 58.

Resolved:

- (i) The Joint Business Management and Improvement Plan 2015/16 and Annual Performance Report 2014/15 for the Chief Executive's Service be approved.
- (ii) Report 15/249 would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee on 17 June 2015 for scrutiny and comment as appropriate.
- (iii) That 100% of audits had been undertaken in accordance with the approved Audit Plan be noted.

402. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S SERVICE ANNUAL SCHEME OF CHARGES

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (15/250) providing details of the current charges in place within the Chief Executive's Service and seeking approval of all discretionary charges that had not been approved by any other Committee. The charges currently in place for financial year 2015/16 were detailed in Appendices 1 to 4 to the report.

Resolved:

- (i) The discretionary charges detailed in Appendices 1, 3 and 4 to Report 15/250, be approved.
- (ii) Previous years charges be included in future reports for comparison.

403. AUTHORITY TO WRITE OFF DEBTS AND OBSOLETE STOCK

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (15/251) (1) seeking approval to write off identified debts in respect of Sales Ledger; Council Tax (including Water & Waste Water charges); Non-Domestic Rates; Irrecoverable Rents; Housing Benefit Overpayments and Car Park Trading Account Income, and (2) approval to write off obsolete stock and outstanding reconciliation items.

Resolved:

- (i) All amounts detailed in Section 2 of and Appendices 1-5 to Report 15/251 be written off.
- (ii) Previous years' figures be included in future reports for comparison.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
17 JUNE 2015

404. DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY AT AUCTION

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment)(15/252) seeking approval for the procedure for disposing of property at auction, following agreement at Property Sub-Committee on 20 May 2015.

Resolved:

- (i) Where appropriate, properties be placed in an auction with a reserved price under delegated authority for disposals of property valued at less than delegated approval level.
- (ii) Any property valued over the delegated authority approval level be agreed by the Property Sub-Committee prior to being placed in an auction, be noted.

405. DEVELOPING SCOTLAND'S YOUNG WORKFORCE

There was submitted a joint report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) and the Executive Director (Environment) (15/253) outlining the Scottish Government's response to The Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce, and highlighting the national targets and priorities contained within the implementation plan. The report outlined the work to date of the Community Planning Working Group, which had been developing a local action plan to implement a series of measures within Perth & Kinross.

Resolved:

- (i) The findings of the Commission for Scotland's Young Workforce and the Scottish Government's response published in December 2014 be noted.
- (ii) The establishment of a Community Planning Working Group to develop a local response and Action Plan be noted.
- (iii) The initial Action Plan for 2015/16 as outlined in Appendix 1 to Report 15/253 be approved.
- (iv) Funding proposals be submitted for consideration to this Committee in September 2015.
- (v) A progress report be submitted to the Council and the Community Planning Partnership in the summer of 2016.

406. ROADS ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2015-2020

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (15/254) on the Roads Asset Management Plan (RAMP) detailing the Council's strategy for maintenance of the road asset and to inform future capital investment.

Resolved:

- (i) The Roads Asset Management Plan as outlined within Report 15/254 be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed to provide an update status and options report on an annual basis to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed to review the Roads Asset Management Plan every five years and report back to this Committee.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
17 JUNE 2015

407. FLEET AND MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Environment) (15/255) on the Fleet Asset Management Plan detailing the Council's strategy for managing the maintenance and replacement programme for the Council's fleet and mechanical equipment (FaME) asset, as well as to inform future capital investment.

Resolved:

- (i) The Fleet and Mechanical Equipment Asset Management Plan attached as Appendix 1 to Report 15/255 be approved.
- (ii) The policies for procurement, fuel, maintenance and disposal attached as Appendices 2 – 5 to Report 15/255 be approved.
- (iii) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed to review the Fleet and Mechanical Equipment Asset Management Plan every five years and report back to this Committee.
- (iv) The Executive Director (Environment) be instructed to bring an update status report on an annual basis to this Committee.

408. TENDERS ACCEPTED BY THE TAYSIDE PROCUREMENT CONSORTIUM AND COUNCIL SERVICES

There was a submitted and noted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (15/256) in accordance with the Council's Contract Rules providing information on tenders accepted by the Tayside Procurement Consortium and Council Services under delegated authority.

409. THE ROYAL NATIONAL MÒD 2019

There was submitted a joint report by the Executive Director (Environment) and the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (15/257) advising of the process to bid for the Royal National Mòd in 2019; the anticipated outcomes of the event; and the financial implications of hosting the event.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress made with the preparation of the formal bid to An Comunn Gàidhealach to host the Royal National Mòd in Perth in 2019, be noted.
- (ii) The bid be approved in principle with authority delegated to the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) and Executive Director (Environment) to finalise the bid.
- (iii) The subsequent expenditure to stage the Royal National Mòd, including a fee to An Comann Gàidhealachy, of £140,000 be approved from Council resources if the bid was successful.
- (iv) Consideration be given to appointing a Modern Apprentice or Graduate Trainee to work with the Local Organising Committee as part of the Council's contribution to the event.
- (v) The Executive Director (Environment) and the Executive Director (Education and Childrens' Services) be instructed to seek other sources of funding to support the hosting of the Mòd, if the bid was successful.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
17 JUNE 2015

- (vi) Reports be submitted to future meetings of relevant Committees in respect of progress regarding the event.

410. VALEDICTORY

The Convener thanked Ian Innes, Head of Legal Services, for his dedicated service to Perth and Kinross Council and predecessor authorities over 40 years. Ian had started with Perth County Council as a graduate law apprentice after obtaining his law degree at Aberdeen University, becoming Head of Legal Services in 1995.

On behalf of the Council, the Convener thanked Ian for his enormous contribution to many aspects of the Council.

Councillor B Band presented a gift to Ian on behalf of the Council and wished him well in his retirement.

Ian referred to his 40 years' service as always interesting and challenging and thanked the Councillors, Chief Executive, colleagues and fellow professionals.

The Convener offered best wishes to Ian in his retirement and also welcomed Lisa Simpson, the new Head of Legal Services, to her first meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973

411. BUILDING AMBITION – A BLUEPRINT FOR A 21ST CENTURY COUNCIL

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (15/258) setting out the Council's approach to organisational transformation to meet the significant challenges over the next five years and beyond. A phased approach to reshaping the Council's senior management arrangements was proposed as part of a bigger cultural change programme to create a blueprint for a modern and ambitious 21st Century Council.

Motion (Councillors I Miller and B Band)

- (i) **The proposals detailed in Section 5 of Report 15/258 be approved, and the Chief Executive be authorised to implement the changes to be effective from October 2015, with the exception of the increased salary grade for the post of Director and the Chief Executive be requested to review the salary level following the appointment of the Chief Officer for Health and Social Care, and report back to this Committee in due course.**
- (ii) **The transitional funding for the temporary additional costs be met from the sum set aside in the earmarked reserve for Workforce Planning and Transformation, including workforce management.**
- (iii) **Any consequential adjustments associated with implementation be made by the Chief Executive.**

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
17 JUNE 2015

- (iv) **The senior management arrangements be further reviewed to ensure alignment with Council priorities and the changing public services landscape, and further reports be submitted in due course.**
- (v) **The post of Director (Education and Children's Services) which would become the Chief Education Officer in 2017 be advertised both internally and externally.**

Amendment (Councillors P Barrett and W Wilson)

- (i) The proposals detailed in section 5 of Report 15/258 be approved with the exception of the creation of the posts of Senior Depute Chief Executive and the two other Depute Chief Executives; with the existing posts of Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) and (Environment) being retained; recruitment to a standalone post Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); and a post of Depute Director of Social Work being created.
- (ii) The transitional funding for the temporary additional costs be met from the sum set aside in the earmarked reserve for Workforce Planning and Transformation, including workforce management.
- (iii) Any consequential adjustments associated with implementation be made by the Chief Executive.
- (iv) The senior management arrangements be further reviewed to ensure alignment with Council priorities and the changing public services landscape, and further reports be submitted in due course.

In accordance with Standing Order 44, a roll call was taken.

Three members voted for the Amendment as follows:

Councillors P Barrett, D Cuthbert and W Wilson.

Eleven members voted for the Motion as follows:

Councillors I Miller, A Grant, B Band, D Doogan, J Kellas, A Maclellan, A Parrott, M Roberts, A Stewart, B Vaughan and A Younger.

Amendment – 3 votes Motion – 11 votes

Resolved:

In accordance with the Motion.

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