

STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee held in the Hay Room, Dewar's Centre, Glover Street, Perth on Wednesday 23 September 2015 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors I Miller, A Grant, H Anderson (substituting for D Pover), B Band, P Barrett, I Campbell, D Doogan, J Flynn (substituting for D Cuthbert), Provost L Grant (ex-officio), Councillors J Kellas, A Munro (substituting for A MacLellan), M Roberts, A Stewart, B Vaughan, W Wilson and A Younger.

In Attendance: J Fyffe, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services); J Walker, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care); K Donaldson, C Irons, L Potter, L Simpson, J Symon and G Taylor (all Chief Executive's Service); S Crawford, S Mackenzie, K McNamara and B Renton (all The Environment Service) and N Copland (Housing and Community Care).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors D Cuthbert, A MacLellan and D Pover.

Councillor I Miller, Convener, Presiding.

583. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

584. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

585. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The minute of meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 17 June 2015 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Executive Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The minute of meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 30 July 2015 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature. (**Appendix I**)

In response to a point made by Councillor Vaughan, the Convener gave a reassurance that all meetings of Committees and Sub-

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
23 SEPTEMBER 2015

Committees called outwith the approved timetable would be notified to all elected members.

(iii) Property Sub-Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee of 20 May 2015 and the special meetings of 27 May and 8 June 2015, were withdrawn from the agenda to enable them to be approved at the next meeting of the Property Sub-Committee prior to submission to a future meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

(iv) Appeal Sub-Committee

The minutes of meetings of the Appeal Sub-Committee of 28 May 2015 were submitted and noted subject to amendment that Councillor Vaughan was present and not Councillor Wilson, and that Councillor Giacomazzi chaired the meetings. **(Appendix II)**

(v) Appeal Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Appeal Sub-Committee of 23 June 2015 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix III)**

(vi) Provost's Sub-Committee

The minute of meeting of the Provost's Sub-Committee of 24 June 2015 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix IV)**

(vii) Corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Consultative Committee

The minute of meeting of the Corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Consultative Committee of 16 March 2015 was submitted and noted. **(Appendix V)**

586. REVENUE BUDGET 2015/16 – MONITORING REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (15/395), providing an update on (1) progress with the 2015/16 General Fund Revenue Budget based upon the June 2015 Ledger; (2) the projected financial position of the Housing Revenue Account; and (3) the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of Report 15/395 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments to the 2015/16 Management Revenue Budget, detailed in Appendix 1 to and Section 2 of Report 15/395, be approved.
- (iii) The service virements, summarised in Appendices 2 and 3 to Report 15/395, be approved
- (iv) The amendments to the Medium Term Financial Plan and Corporate Savings Targets, set out in Section 5 of Report 15/395, be approved.

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
23 SEPTEMBER 2015

- (v) All elected members respond to the Depute Director (Environment) with information on playparks in their wards which they consider are in need of essential repairs.

587. COMPOSITE CAPITAL BUDGET AND HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME – MONITORING REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (15/396), (1) providing a summary position to date for the Composite Capital Programme for 2015/16 to 2021/22 and the Housing Investment Programme 2014/15 to 2019/20; and (2) seeking approval for adjustments to the Programmes.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of report 15/396 be noted.
- (ii) The adjustments to the seven year Composite Capital Budget 2015/16 to 2021/22, set out in Sections 2 and 3 of Report 15/396 and summarised at Appendices I and II to the Report, be approved.
- (iii) The budget and monitoring adjustments to the Housing Investment Programme Budget 2015/16 to 2019/20, set out in Section 4 of Report 15/396 and summarised at Appendix III to the Report, be approved.
- (iv) The proposed revised Criteria for Scoring and Prioritising Capital Funded projects, together with the Outline Business Case for Proposed Capital Funded Projects, as detailed at Section 5 of Report 15/396, and set out in Appendices IV and V to the Report, be approved in principle subject to consideration and comment by the Modernising Governance Member/Officer Working Group, with a report back to this Committee on 1 December 2015.
- (v) The proposed revised Renewal & Repair Fund budget 2015/16, as set out in Section 6 of Report 15/396 and summarised in Appendix VI, be approved.
- (vi) Wherever possible in future reports, information be presented in tabular form.

588. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME 2015/20: PHASE 1

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (15/397), (1) providing an update on the Council's Transformation Programme and; (2) requesting £3,283,000 funding from the Earmarked Reserve for Transformation (including £666,000 in 2015/16), and £20,000 from the Housing Revenue Account in 2015/16 to provide specific reviews with capacity and support to secure the effective delivery of Phase 1 reviews.

The Convener welcomed six of the seven Graduate Trainees recruited for twelve months to support the Transformation Programme.

Resolved:

- (i) The release of £3,283,000 funding from the Transformation Reserve and the £20,000 funded by the Housing Revenue Account, be approved.
- (ii) The governance arrangements for monitoring the Transformation Programme, as detailed in Section 6 of Report 15/397, be approved.
- (iii) In response to a point by Councillor Wilson, the Convener gave a reassurance that progress on the implementation of the revised Employee Review and

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
23 SEPTEMBER 2015

Development process would be reported to a future meeting of this Committee.

589. ANNUAL EFFICIENCY STATEMENT 2014/15

There was submitted and noted a report by the Head of Finance (15/398), (1) summarising the efficiency gains of £17.019 million identified by the Council during financial year 2014/15 and (2) describing how, in the context of a challenging financial climate, the Council would make further efficiency gains in future financial years.

590. SAVINGS ARISING FROM EARLY RETIREMENT DECISIONS TAKEN IN 2014/15

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (15/399), providing information on the costs and savings arising from early retirement decisions taken in financial year 2014/15.

Resolved:

The overall net savings achieved by the Council of £148,582 in relation to members of the Local Government Pension Scheme and £40,498 in respect of members of the Teachers' Pension Scheme, as detailed in the Appendix to Report 15/399, be noted.

***591. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME – EMPLOYING AUTHORITY DISCRETIONS**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Human Resources Manager (15/400), advising that following the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) moving from a final salary scheme to a Career Average Revalued Earning (CARE) scheme on 1 April 2015, and that by virtue of the Regulations of the Local Government Pension Scheme 2015, employers were required to prepare and publish a statement of policy in relation to five specific discretions.

Resolved:

- (i) The discretions, set out in Appendix 1 of Report 15/400, be approved.
- (ii) The Scheme of Administration be amended so that as from 1 October 2015 the Depute Chief Executive – Corporate & Community Development Services (Chief Operating Officer) be given delegated authority to determine other pension discretions not specifically addressed within Report 15/400.

592. CORPORATE CHARGING POLICY

There was submitted a report by the Head of Finance (15/401), outlining the updated Corporate Charging Policy for Perth and Kinross Council.

Resolved:

The revised Corporate Charging Policy, attached at Appendix 1 to Report 15/401, be approved.

593. ACCOUNTS COMMISSION'S ASSESSMENT OF PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE REPORTING FOR 2013/14

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (15/402), presenting the Accounts Commission's assessment of the Council's approach to responding to its statutory public performance reporting duties.

It was noted that this report would also be considered by the Scrutiny Committee at a meeting to be held later this day.

Resolved:

The Accounts Commission's assessment of Perth and Kinross Council's performance reporting for 2013/14 and the next steps, detailed at Section 3 of Report 15/402, to secure further improvement, be noted.

594. REVIEW OF THE GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CORPORATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (15/403), seeking approval for revised governance and procedural arrangements in relation to the Corporate Financial Assistance Budget.

Resolved:

- (i) The proposed governance and procedural arrangements for the distribution of grant funding to Village Hall Committees and In Bloom groups, set out in Sections 2.3 – 2.5 of Report 15/403, be approved.
- (ii) The proposed governance and procedural arrangements for Corporate Financial Assistance funding, set out in Sections 2.6 – 2.19 of and Appendix 1 to Report 15/403, be approved.
- (iii) The proposed eligibility criteria and standard grant conditions for Corporate Financial Assistance funding, set out in Section 3 of and Appendix 2 to Report 15/403, be approved.

595. PROPERTY REACTIVE MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS STRATEGY

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Environment) (15/404), on proposals for the retendering of the reactive maintenance contracts utilised by Property Services to deliver day-to-day maintenance and minor works to the Council's estate.

Resolved:

- (i) Option 2, the use of a trade specific framework contracts, of Report 15/404 be approved for a term of four years.
- (ii) It be delegated to the Executive Director (Environment) to implement the strategy for contracts commencing in April 2016.

~~~~~