

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 27 MARCH 2018

Policy & Resources Committee

Tuesday 27 March 2018 at 3pm

Present: Provost Brennan (for Councillor McCormick), Councillors Ahlfeld, Clocherty, Curley (for MacLeod), McCabe, Crowther (for C McEleny), McVey, Moran, Rebecchi, Robertson and Brooks (for Wilson).

Chair: Councillor McCabe presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Corporate Director (Chief Officer) Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership, Head of Legal & Property Services, Ms R McGhee (Legal & Property Services), Chief Financial Officer, Ms B McQuarrie (for Head of Organisational Development, Human Resources & Communications), Acting Head of Safer & Inclusive Communities, ICT Service Manager, Corporate Procurement Manager, Ms K Barclay and Ms K McCready (Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy), Corporate Communications Manager and Mr M Bingham (Corporate Communications).

In attendance also: Mr A MacKenzie (Audit Scotland).

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Committee.

209 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 209

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor MacLeod, with Councillor Curley substituting, Councillor McCormick, with Provost Brennan substituting, Councillor C McEleny, with Councillor Crowther substituting, and Councillor Wilson, with Councillor Brooks substituting.

Councillors Brooks and Curley declared an interest in agenda item 15 (Proposed Disposal of Land at Upper Bow Road, Greenock to Registered Social Landlord).

210 SOLACE Improving Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2016/17 210

There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy (1) providing details of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) 2016/17 data and (2) highlighting Inverclyde's performance across the range of indicators.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the LGBF 2016/17 data was published on 2 February 2018; and
- (2) that it be agreed that the information in the Appendix to the report be used to form the basis of the Council's public performance reporting on the LGBF 2016/17.

211 Audit Scotland Annual Assurance and Risks Report on Local Government 211

There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy (1) summarising the Audit Scotland Annual Assurance and Risks Report on Local

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Government published in February 2018 and (2) highlighting areas of particular relevance to Inverclyde Council.

Decided: that the Committee note that Inverclyde Council, as an outward looking authority, places value on the key messages contained within the Audit Scotland report and that these key messages will be taken into account in future service planning to ensure the ongoing delivery of Best Value.

212 Audit Scotland Reports on Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Orkney Islands, West Lothian and Clackmannanshire Councils and Accounts Commission Report “Auditing Best Value – a summary of the overall framework for our new approach” 212

There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Corporate Policy summarising (1) Audit Scotland’s 2017 Best Value Assurance Reports (BVARs) on Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Orkney Islands, West Lothian and Clackmannanshire Councils and (2) a report on feedback provided by local authorities (including Inverclyde) on the new approach to auditing Best Value, as contained in the Accounts Commission report entitled “Auditing Best Value – a summary of the overall framework for our new approach”.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the contents of Audit Scotland’s BVARs on Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Orkney Islands, West Lothian and Clackmannanshire Councils and take cognisance of the recommendations made in respect of each Council;
- (2) that it be noted officers are exploring Renfrewshire Council’s Tackling Poverty Programme with the aim of establishing how they may learn from that Council’s approach to this area of work; and
- (3) that the Committee note the feedback provided by local authorities (including Inverclyde) regarding the new approach to auditing Best Value.

213 Community Benefits Weightings 213

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources benchmarking the Council’s community benefits weighting with other Councils and determining if the evidence demonstrates an opportunity to increase the weighting.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the detail within the report and approve the continued use of a 10% community benefits weighting; and
- (2) that the Procurement Manager provide updates within future procurement reports on any changes requiring a review of the agreed percentage.

214 Proposed Investment in Digital Technologies 214

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer seeking approval for the upgrading and integration of the existing Customer Service Management (CSM) and associated systems.

Decided: that the Committee note the contents of the report and approve the investment of £145,000 funded from the Digital Access Earmarked Reserve for the upgrading and integration of the existing Customer Service Management (CSM) and associated systems.

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- 215 Policy & Resources Capital Programme 2017/2020 – Progress Report 215**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) providing an update on the status of the projects within the Policy & Resources Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the current position of the 2017/2020 Capital Programme, the reported advancement and the progress on the specific projects detailed in the report and Appendix 1.
- 216 Capital Programme 2017/2020 216**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer on the latest position of the 2017/2020 Capital Programme.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the current position of the 2017/2020 Capital Programme of projected slippage of 4.51% (£1.452m); and
- (2) that the Committee note that decisions regarding the 2018/2021 Capital Programme taken by the Council on 15 March 2018 will be reflected in the report to the next meeting of the Committee.
- 217 Policy & Resources Committee Revenue Budget 2017/18 – Period 10 to 31 January 2018 217**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive, the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Chief Financial Officer on the 2017/18 projected out-turn for the Policy & Resources Committee as at Period 10 to 31 January 2018.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the 2017/18 projected underspend of £883,000 for the Policy & Resources Committee as at Period 10 to 31 January 2018; and
- (2) that the Committee note the projected fund balance of £9,520 for the Common Good Fund as at 31 March 2018.
- 218 General Fund Revenue Budget 2017/18 as at 31 January 2018 218**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the position of the General Fund Revenue Budget as at 31 January 2018 and (2) providing an update on the position of the General Fund Reserves and Earmarked Reserves.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the latest position of the 2017/18 Revenue Budget and General Fund Reserves; and
- (2) that the Committee note that the use of any Free Reserves was considered at the meeting of the Council on 15 March 2018.
- 219 Welfare Reform Update 219**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership on the latest position in respect of the Council's response to ongoing Welfare Reform changes.

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Decided: that the Committee note the latest developments in respect of Welfare Reform and the Council's response.

220 Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy – 2018/19 - 2021/22 220

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer seeking approval of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2018/22, Treasury Policy Limits, a policy on the repayment of Loans Fund advances, the Council's Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators for the next 4 years and the List of Permitted Investments.

Decided: that the following, as outlined in the report, be remitted to the Inverclyde Council for approval:-

- (a) Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy;
- (b) Authorised Limits for 2018/22;
- (c) Treasury Management Policy Statement set out in paragraph 5.2 of the report;
- (d) Policy on repayment of Loans Fund advances set out in paragraph 8.2 of the report;
- (e) Treasury Policy Limits;
- (f) Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Indicators; and
- (g) List of Permitted Investments (including those for the Common Good Fund).

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as are set opposite each item.

Item	Paragraph(s)
Public Space CCTV Provision - Update	6, 8 & 9
John Wood Street, Port Glasgow – Lease Renewal Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee	2, 6 & 9
Proposed Disposal of Land at Upper Bow Road, Greenock to Registered Social Landlord	2, 6 & 9

221 Public Space CCTV Provision - Update 221

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the current position relative to the replacement of public space CCTV and requesting the Committee to agree a way forward.

There was circulated an amendment to the report including an additional recommendation.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended in the report and the amendment, all as detailed in the Appendix.

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222 John Wood Street, Port Glasgow – Lease Renewal Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee 222

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources requesting the Committee to consider a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 8 March 2018 relative to renewal of the lease of premises at John Wood Street, Port Glasgow.

Decided: that the Committee approve the continuing and increased funding from the Common Good Fund to meet the increased rental costs for the further 5 year period of the new lease of premises at John Wood Street, Port Glasgow.

223 Proposed Disposal of Land at Upper Bow Road, Greenock to Registered Social Landlord 223

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking authority for the disposal of land at Upper Bow Road, Greenock to a Registered Social Landlord.

Councillors Brooks and Curley declared a non-financial interest in this item as Board Members of a Registered Social Landlord. They also formed the view that the nature of their interest and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the Chamber or their participation in the decision making process.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the Appendix.