

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 7 AUGUST 2018

Policy & Resources Committee

Tuesday 7 August 2018 at 3pm

Present: Councillors Ahlfeld, Clocherty, Curley (for MacLeod), McCabe, McCormick, J McEleny (for C McEleny), McVey, Moran, Rebecchi, Robertson and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor McCabe presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Ms S McAlees (for Corporate Director (Chief Officer) Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership), Chief Financial Officer, Head of Legal & Property Services, Mr J Hamilton & Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services), Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications, Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Communities, Service Manager, Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport, Corporate Policy & Partnership Manager and Corporate Communications Manager.

Prior to the commencement of business, the Convener, on behalf of the Committee, extended his congratulations to Ms Ruth Binks on her recent appointment to the post of Corporate Director Education Communities & Organisational Development

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

411 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 411

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor C McEleny, with Councillor J McEleny substituting, and Councillor MacLeod, with Councillor Curley substituting.

Councillor Curley declared a non-financial interest in Agenda Item 14 (Equal Pay Claims).

412 Workforce Information and Activity Report (WIAR) 2017/2018 412

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications advising the Committee of key workforce information and activity for the year 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.

The Committee heard a presentation relative to the report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications who answered a number of questions from Members.

Decided: that the Committee note the content of the Workforce Information and Activity (WIAR) Report for 2017/2018 outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.

413 Revenue Budget Outturn 2017/18 – Unaudited 413

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) advising the Committee of the unaudited outturn of Service Committee budgets for the year ending 31 March

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2018 and (2) highlighting any significant variances between revised budgets, Period 11 reports and outturn as set out in the 2017/18 unaudited accounts.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the underspend of £2,797,000 as set out in the unaudited account for 2017/18, the reasons for the material variances from budget and the 0.09% movement from Period 11 to final outturn; and

(2) that the Committee note that officers will identify any opportunities to adjust budgets from 2019/20 and will include proposals in future budget reports.

414 2017/18 Capital Programme Performance 414

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer advising the Committee of the performance in respect of the delivery of the 2017/18 Capital Programme.

Decided: that the Committee note the 2017/18 Capital outturn position of 1.2% slippage.

415 Treasury Management – Annual Report 2017/18 415

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer advising the Committee of the operation of the treasury function and its activities for 2017/18 as required under the terms of Treasury Management Practice 6 (“TMP6”) on “Reporting Requirements and Management Information Arrangements”.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the contents of the Annual Report on Treasury Management for 2017/18 and the ongoing work to seek to ensure the delivery of financial benefits for the Council during the current uncertainty and beyond; and

(2) that the Annual Report be remitted to the Inverclyde Council for approval.

416 Northamptonshire County Council Best Value Inspection 416

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) advising the Committee of the recently issued Best Value inspection report for Northamptonshire County Council and (2) highlighting relevant matters.

Decided: that the Committee note the contents of the Northamptonshire Best Value inspection report.

417 Local Governance Review 417

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisation Development, Policy & Communications (1) advising the Committee of the work being undertaken in connection with the Scottish Government’s Local Governance Review and (2) proposing that discussions take place with both the Elected Members and officers to inform Inverclyde’s response to the review.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the start of the engagement process in respect of the Local Governance Review;

(2) that it be agreed that there be attendance by Elected Members and officers at a workshop on 23 August at 12.30pm with representatives from CoSLA and the Scottish Government to identify local governance issues for Inverclyde and to inform the response to CoSLA and the Scottish Government.

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- 418 European Charter of Local Self Government – Private Member’s Bill – Request by Councillor McCabe 418**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising the Committee of a request received from Councillor McCabe that support be given to a proposal for a Private Member’s Bill for the Scottish Parliament to consider the incorporation of a European Charter of Local Self-Government into law in Scotland.
- Decided:** that it be remitted to the Head of Legal & Property Services to prepare a proposed response for consideration by the Committee at its 18 September 2018 meeting which is prior to the consultation deadline of 21 September.
- 419 Developing Participatory Budgeting in Inverclyde 419**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education Culture & Communities (1) providing an overview of Participatory Budgeting in Inverclyde and (2) requesting the Committee to agree to further developing this approach to support decentralisation of budgets and enhance community empowerment.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the report and approve the intended actions;
 - (2) that the Committee note the consultation, communications and engagement objectives, audiences and key mechanisms outlined in the report, the timetable for consultation and the potential release of funding to the community through the Participatory Budgeting process;
 - (3) that the Committee agree to the implementation of a short-life working group to develop a long-term sustainable Participatory Budgeting model for Inverclyde; and
 - (4) that the Committee agree to the release of Community Initiatives Funding through the process set out in the report to support initiatives to alleviate poverty within the designated Community Planning locality areas.
- 420 Scotland’s Fiscal Outlook – The Scottish Government’s 5 Year Financial Strategy 420**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) advising the Committee of the recently published Medium-Term Financial Strategy prepared by the Scottish Government and (2) highlighting the relevant matters which may impact on Local Government and Council budgets.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the contents of the Scottish Government’s first Medium-Term Financial Strategy and the potential impact which the forecasts contained in the strategy will have on funding for Local Government and Inverclyde Council.
- 421 Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017-2022 421**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications appending the final version of Inverclyde’s Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017-2022 for adoption by the Committee on behalf of Inverclyde Council.
- Decided:** that the Committee adopt Inverclyde’s Local Outcome Improvement Plan as the overarching partnership strategy for Inverclyde.

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422 **Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Gourock, Inverkip & Wemyss Bay) (Waiting Restrictions) (Variation No. 4) Order 2018** 422

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) advising the Committee of the outcome of the consultation procedure undertaken for the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) associated with various requests for waiting and loading restrictions in Gourock entitled The Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Gourock, Inverkip & Wemyss Bay) (Waiting Restrictions) (Variation No. 4) Order 2018 during which two maintained objections were received and (2) seeking the Committee's decision on whether these should be heard by the Environment & Regeneration Committee or by an independent Reporter.

Decided: that the Committee note the requirement to hold a public hearing to consider the maintained objections in relation to the TRO and that these be heard at a special meeting of the Environment & Regeneration Committee on a date to be determined in consultation with the Convener.

423 **Amendment to Community Facilities Service Review: Exceptional School Lets to Non-Uniformed and Commercial Organisations not entitled to Waivers** 423

There was submitted a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Communities (1) requesting the Committee to agree to an amendment to the proposals for the restriction of some primary school lets to uniformed organisations as detailed in the Communities Facilities Service Review submitted to the Education & Communities Committee on 23 January 2018 and (2) providing details of a proposal for the implementation of procedures for exceptional lets to non-uniformed groups and commercial organisations as a potential source of income for Inverclyde Council.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee agree to the proposed amendment to Inverclyde Council's current policy on lets to community facilities now to include one-off or non-regular lets requested by non-uniformed or commercial organisations; and

(2) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture & Communities in consultation with the Head of Legal & Property Services and the Chief Financial Officer to establish an appropriate schedule of payments for one-off or non-regular access community facility lets requested by non-uniformed or commercial organisations with no net financial cost to the Council.

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 item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 12 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

424 **Equal Pay Claims** 424

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services on the results of the review undertaken in relation to a number of equal pay claims against the Council.

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Councillor Curley declared a non-financial interest in this item as a result of family relationships with 3 of the claimants referred to in the report and left the meeting. The Committee agreed to continue consideration to its next meeting to allow further information to be provided in relation to a number of the claims, all as detailed in the Appendix.