

Municipal Buildings, Greenock PA15 1LY

Ref: SL/AI

Date: 12 February 2020

A meeting of the Inverclyde Council will be held on Thursday 20 February 2020 at 4pm within the Municipal Buildings, Greenock.

GERARD MALONE Head of Legal and Property Services

## **BUSINESS**

## \*\*Copy to follow

1.	Apologies and Declarations of Interest	Page
NEW B	USINESS	
2.	Minutes of Meetings of The Inverclyde Council, Committees, Sub-Committees and Boards	
	Inverclyde Council (pp 343 – 347)	
**	Audit Committee Planning Board Health & Social Care Committee General Purposes Board Environment & Regeneration Committee Education & Communities Committee Policy & Resources Committee Planning Board Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Committee General Purposes Board Grants Sub-Committee (p 1) (pp 3 – 7) (pp 9 – 16) (pp 17 – 21) (pp 22 – 27) (pp 28 – 31) (pp 32 – 34) (pp 35 - ) (pp 35 - )	
3.	Approval of the Band D Council Tax for 2020/21 Report by Chief Financial Officer	
4.	Resolution: Setting of Band D Council Tax for 2020/21	
5.	Environmental Impact – Notice of Motion by Councillor Curley Report by Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	р

6.	The Campaign to Save Inchgreen Dry Dock – Request by Councillor McCabe Report by Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	р
7.	Gourock – Dunoon Infrastructure and Vessels Project – Reference Group Report by Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	р
8.	CoSLA: Family Leave Guidance for Councillors Report by Head of Legal & Property Services	р
9.	Housing to 2040 Consultation Report by Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	р
10.	Administrative Arrangements: Determination of Planning Applications subject to a Pre-Determination Hearing Report by Head of Legal & Property Services	р
REMITS	S FROM COMMITTEES	
11.	Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverciyde Council, Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 4 2019 – Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee	
	Report by Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	р
The documentation relative to the following item has been treated as exempt information in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, the nature of the exempt information being that set out in the paragraphs of Part I as detailed in the minute of the relevant Committee, Sub-Committee or Board.		
NEW B	USINESS	
12.	Business in the Appendix	

Enquiries to - **Sharon Lang** - Tel 01475 712112



Municipal Buildings, Greenock PA15 1LY

Ref: SL/sc

Date: 13 February 2020

I refer to the agenda for the meeting of the Inverclyde Council to be held on Thursday 20 February 2020 at 4pm and now attach report relative to Item 3 (Approval of the Band D Council Tax for 2020/21) which was not available on the date of issue, together with a further item as undernoted.

GERARD MALONE Head of Legal & Property Services

#### **UNDERNOTE**

#### **FURTHER ITEM:**

13. **George Wyllie Foundation – Elected Member Representation**Report by Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources

## **The Inverciyde Council**

#### Thursday 5 December 2019 at 4pm

**Present:** Provost Brennan, Councillors Ahlfeld, Brooks, Crowther, Curley, Dorrian, Jackson, McCabe, McCormick, C McEleny, McKenzie, McVey, Moran, Murphy, Nelson, Quinn, Rebecchi, Robertson and Wilson.

Chair: Provost Brennan presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Chief Social Work Officer, Head of Legal & Property Services, Ms R McGhee and Ms D Sweeney (Legal & Property Services), Chief Financial Officer, Head of Organisational Development, Policy and Communications and Service Manager – Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

Prior to the commencement of business, the Council observed a minute's silence in memory of the victims of the London Bridge terror attack on 29 November 2019.

## 715 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

715

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Clocherty, MacLeod and J McEleny.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

**Approved** on the motion of Councillor Dorrian.

## Minutes of Meetings of The Invercive Council, Committees, Sub-Committees and Boards

	The invercifue Council, Committees, Sub-Committees and Boards	
716	The Inverclyde Council – 26 September 2019	716
	Approved on the motion of Provost Brennan.	
717	Planning Board – 2 October 2019	717
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Wilson.	
718	Local Review Body – 2 October 2019	718
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Wilson.	
719	Policy & Resources Executive Sub-Committee – 3 October 2019	719
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.	
720	General Purposes Board – 9 October 2019	720

721	Environment & Regeneration Committee (Special) – 17 October 2019	721
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.	
722	Audit Committee – 22 October 2019	722
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Rebecchi.	
723	Health & Social Care Committee – 24 October 2019	723
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Moran.	
724	Environment & Regeneration Committee – 31 October 2019	724
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.	
725	Education & Communities Committee – 5 November 2019	725
	Approved on the motion of Provost Brennan.	
726	Planning Board – 6 November 2019	726
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Wilson.	
727	General Purposes Board – 13 November 2019	727
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Dorrian.	
728	Policy & Resources Committee – 19 November 2019	728
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.	
729	Local Policy & Fire Scrutiny Committee – 21 November 2019	729
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Quinn.	
730	Planning Board – 4 December 2019	730
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Wilson.	
731	Local Review Body – 4 December 2019	731
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Wilson.	
732	Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report 2018/19	732
	There was submitted a report by the Chief Social Work Officer for Inverclyde Council (1) on the content of her annual report 2018/19 and (2) seeking approval for its submission to the Office of the Chief Social Work Adviser to the Scottish Government.  Decided: that the content of the Inverclyde Chief Social Work Officer report for 2018/19 be noted and that approval be given for its submission to the Office of the Chief Social	

Work Adviser to the Scottish Government.

## 733 Financial Strategy 2019/2029 - Update

733

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer appending the updated Financial Strategy for review and approval by the Council.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the latest revision of the Financial Strategy and specifically:-

- (a) that the previously approved £2.0 million allocation from the Capital Fund to the Loans Charges Model over 2019/21 no longer takes place;
- (b) that the £240,000 annual contribution from the Capital Fund to the School Estate Model for Loans Charges ceases from 2020/21;
- (c) that the remaining balance in the AMP at 31 March 2020 be added to the 2020/21 Property Maintenance Capital Allocation;
- (d) that the budget allocated to loans charges for the AMP be reduced by £200,000 from 2020/21;
- (e) that the Loans Charges budget in the Vehicle Replacement Model be increased by £91,000 from 2020/21 to reflect increases in vehicle replacement costs; and
- (f) that all the above proposals be factored into the 2020/23 Budget Strategy and the 2020/21 Budget to be considered by the Council in March 2020.

## 734 Administrative Arrangements: Committee Remits and Delegations

734

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services requesting the Council to make necessary changes to the Scheme of Administration and Scheme of Delegation (Officers) relating to the Homelessness Service and More Choices, More Chances.

## Decided:

- (1) that approval be given to the changes to the Scheme of Administration as set out in Appendix 1 to the report; and
- (2) that approval be given to the changes to the Scheme of Delegation (Officers) as set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

#### 735 Proposed Compulsory Purchase Order – Babylon, West Stewart Street, Greenock

735

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services requesting that the Council seek to promote the Compulsory Purchase Order at Babylon, West Stewart Street, Greenock in order to improve the conditions of the West Blackhall Street area and to assist making Greenock Town Centre a successful and attractive place.

Following discussion, 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 to allow the Council to discuss matters relating to third party business and financial affairs, details of the officer contact and discussions with the owners of the property and legal issues on the grounds that this involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6, 9 and 12 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

Following consideration of and discussion on these matters, the meeting returned to public session.

Decided: that approval be given to the promotion of a Compulsory Purchase Order for

the building at Babylon, West Stewart Street, Greenock and that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources in consultation with relevant Officers to progress and report thereon, in due course.

## Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council, Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 3 2019

736

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 31 October 2019 requesting approval of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 3 2019.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the making of the Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 3 2019 and that the Shared Head of Service Roads and the Head of Legal & Property Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

## 737 Riverside Inverclyde – Company Restructure

737

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 31 October 2019 relative to proposals to revise Riverside Inverclyde's Articles of Association, to include a change in the structure and composition of the Riverside Inverclyde Board and the effect on the number of Council nominee to the Riverside Inverclyde Board and requesting the Council to determine the two Council nominees to the Board.

Following discussion, Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor Ahlfeld moved that Councillors Clocherty and McKenzie be appointed to the Riverside Inverclyde Board. As an amendment, Councillor C McEleny seconded by Councillor Robertson moved that Councillors Clocherty and Curley be so appointed.

On a vote, 5 Members, Councillors Crowther, Curley, C McEleny, Nelson and Robertson, voted for the amendment and 14 Members, Provost Brennan, Councillors Dorrian, Jackson, McCabe, McCormick, Moran, Murphy, Ahlfeld, McKenzie, McVey, Quinn, Rebecchi, Brooks and Wilson, voted for the motion, which was declared carried. **Decided:** that Councillors Clocherty and McKenzie be appointed to the Riverside Inverciyde Board.

### 738 Treasury Management – Mid-Year Report 2019/20

738

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Policy & Resources Committee of 19 November 2019 requesting approval of the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2019/20.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2019/20.

#### 739 Trust Funds Annual Accounts 2018-19

739

There was submitted a report by the Honorary Treasurer requesting the Council, as Trustees, to (1) adopt the examined Annual Accounts of the Birkmyre Trust and the Watt Institution Trust Fund and (2) note the draft annual accounts of the McLeod Trust. **Decided:** that the Council, as Trustees:

- (1) approve the Annual Accounts of the Birkmyre Trust and the Watt Institution Trust Fund for the year ended 31 March 2019; and
- (2) note the accounts of the McLeod Trust for the year ended 31 March 2019.

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 for the following item on the grounds that it contained exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as detailed in the relevant minute.

## **Appendices to Minutes**

740	General Purposes Board – 9 October 2019	740
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Dorrian.	
741	Environment & Regeneration Committee – 31 October 2019	741
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.	
742	Education & Communities Committee – 5 November 2019	742
	Approved on the motion of Provost Brennan.	
743	General Purposes Board – 13 November 2019	743
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Dorrian.	
744	Policy & Resources Committee – 19 November 2019	744
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.	

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE - 7 JANUARY 2020**

## **Audit Committee**

## Tuesday 7 January 2020 at 3pm

Present: Provost Brennan, Councillors Brooks, Curley, McCabe, McCormick, J McEleny, McVey, Nelson and Rebecchi.

Chair: Councillor Rebecchi presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Chief Internal Auditor, Ms G Murphy (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms R McGhee (Legal & Property Services) and Mr M Thomson (for Chief Financial Officer).

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

#### 1 **Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Quinn.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

#### 2 Internal Audit Progress Report – 30 September to 29 November 2019

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources appending the monitoring report in respect of Internal Audit activity for the period 30 September to 29 November 2019.

Decided: that the monitoring report in respect of Internal Audit activity for the period 30 September to 29 November 2019 be noted.

#### 3 External Audit Action Plans – Current Actions

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the status of current actions from External Audit Action Plans as at 30 November 2019.

**Decided:** that the progress to date in relation to the implementation of External Audit actions be noted.

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, 3 and 6 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

#### 4 Appendix relative to Item 2 Providing Information on a Special Investigation

There was submitted an appendix to the Internal Audit progress report providing information on a special investigation.

**Decided:** that the contents of the appendix be noted.

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#### PLANNING BOARD - 8 JANUARY 2020

### **Planning Board**

#### Wednesday 8 January 2020 at 3pm

**Present:** Councillors Clocherty, Crowther, Dorrian, J McEleny, McKenzie, McVey, Moran, Nelson, Rebecchi and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor Wilson presided.

**In attendance:** Head of Regeneration & Planning, Mr D Ashman (Planning Services), Mr G Leitch (Roads & Transportation), Mr J Kerr (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms R McGhee (Legal & Property Services) and Mr D McLavin (Corporate Communications).

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

#### 5 APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Murphy.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

#### 6 DISCHARGE OF PLANNING OBLIGATION

There was submitted a report by the Head of Regeneration & Planning on an application by Ms S McNeill for discharge of the planning obligation in respect of planning permission IC/06/201 at Carraig View, Parkhill, Old Greenock Road, Port Glasgow (19/0002/MP).

**Decided:** that the Section 75 Agreement in respect of planning permission IC/06/201 be discharged.

5

#### **Health & Social Care Committee**

### Thursday 9 January 2020 at 3pm

**Present**: Councillors Brooks, Dorrian, Jackson, MacLeod, McCabe, C McEleny, McKenzie, Moran, Quinn, Rebecchi and Robertson.

Chair: Councillor Moran presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership, Head of Health & Community Care, Service Manager Children & Families, Service Manager Quality & Development, Service Manager Addictions & Homelessness, Project Manager Specialist Children's Services, Chief Nurse, Ms S White (for Chief Financial Officer), Ms V Pollock (for Head of Legal & Property Services) and Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services).

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

## 7 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

No apologies for absence were intimated.

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:-

Agenda Item 18 (Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned External Organisations) – Councillors MacLeod and Robertson.

#### 8 Chief Social Work Officer Annual Report 2018/19

There was submitted a report by the Chief Social Work Officer for Inverclyde Council advising the Committee of the content of the Inverclyde Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) report for 2018/19.

During the course of discussion on this item, Mr Stevenson, Acting Chief Social Work Officer, advised the Committee of the joint commissioning through Inverclyde's Adult Protection and Child Protection Committees of a Significant Case Review to examine fully the circumstances surrounding the death of Margaret Fleming which had been implemented following the conclusion of the recent court and subsequent appeals processes. The full independent inquiry under the chairmanship of Professor Jean MacLellan OBE would commence work in February 2020 and would involve all of the agencies which had been in contact with Margaret during her life. The report, which it was anticipated would take some six months to complete, would be published once finalised. It was noted that the results of the inquiry would be reported to the Adult Protection and Child Protection Committees, the Chief Officers' Group, the Integration Joint Board and appropriate Council Committees as well as the Care Inspectorate which was responsible for the evaluation of all Significant Case Reviews.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the content of the Inverclyde Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) report for 2018/19 be noted;
- (2) that the Committee's congratulations be extended to the Home 1st Team which had been awarded the Greater Glasgow & Clyde Chairman's Award for outstanding

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excellence; and

(3) that the commissioning of the Significant Case Review into the circumstances surrounding the death of Margaret Fleming be noted.

## 9 Revenue and Capital Budget Report – Projected 2019/20 Revenue Outturn as at 31 October 2019

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership and the Chief Financial Officer on the projected outturn on Revenue and Capital for 2019/20 as at 31 October 2019 (Period 7).

#### Decided:

- (1) that the current year Revenue outturn projected overspend of £228,000 as at 31 October 2019 be noted;
- (2) that the current projected Capital position be noted, that approval be given to the additional expenditure on the Cardross (The View) project as outlined in paragraph 6.4 and reflected in the projected spend within the report and that the Capital Programme contingency be utilised to address the over-expenditure;
- (3) that the current Earmarked Reserves position be noted; and
- (4) that approval be given to the Capital works to convert the study room to a seventh bedroom in the three Children's Houses, the cost to be contained within the Capital Programme for Children's Houses.

## 10 Update on the Ethical Care Charter and Fair Working Practice within Care at Home Framework

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership on the progress of the implementation of the Ethical Care Charter promoted by UNISON.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the progress made in relation to implementing the Ethical Care Charter be noted:
- (2) that it be noted that further engagement was taking place with providers to clarify the status of travel time:
- (3) that it be noted that whilst the Care at Home Framework Agreement was due to be extended to 2020, it was recognised that market conditions were such that Officers would reassess how the existing contracts were able to inform the future tender process; and
- (4) that a review of the Ethical Care Charter be incorporated within the Care at Home Framework Review to be submitted to the Committee in late 2020.

#### 11 Annual Report: Clinical and Care Governance 2018 - 2019

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing a summary of the yearly activity of Inverclyde HSCP Clinical and Care Governance Group for 2018-2019.

**Decided:** that the report be noted.

### 12 Review of Inverclyde HSCP Alcohol and Drug Services – Progress Report

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on the progress of the Inverclyde

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HSCP review of alcohol and drug services.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the progress and actions being taken by the Alcohol and Drug Partnership to support the new approach to alcohol and drugs in Inverclyde be noted;
- (2) that it be agreed that a report be submitted by Inverciyde HSCP Alcohol and Drugs Service to the next meeting of the Committee which would include an analysis of data within the implementation plan; and
- (3) that it be agreed that an alcohol and drug themed report be submitted to each meeting of the Committee during 2020.

## 13 Integration Scheme Review Timeline

13

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on the timeline for the review of Inverclyde's Health and Social Care Integration Scheme.

**Decided:** that the proposed timeline for the review be agreed.

## 14 Tier 2 Children and Young People's Mental Health Tender

14

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership seeking approval to change the tender weightings in relation to the forthcoming tender process for the Tier 2 Children and Young People's Mental Health Service.

**Decided:** that Contract Standing Order 13.2 be suspended to allow the use of a 60% quality and 40% cost of service weighting in the forthcoming tender for the Tier 2 Children and Young People's Mental Health Service.

### 15 Inverclyde Rights of the Child Award and Children's Rights Duty to Report 2020

15

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership advising the Committee of the launch and roll-out of the co-designed Inverclyde Rights of the Child Award and the plans for the 2020 duty to report on the embedding and progression of Children's Rights under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

## Decided:

- (1) that the report be noted; and
- (2) that agreement be given to the plan to implement an Inverclyde Rights of the Child Award, as set out in the report.

#### 16 Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019

16

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership (1) informing the Committee of the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019, the implementation of which had commenced at the end of November 2019 and would be undertaken on a phased basis, and (2) setting out the implications of the Act.

- (1) that the report be noted; and
- (2) that agreement be given to the changes required to the Service to ensure the appropriate support to young people as set out in the report.

### 17 Items for Noting

17

There was submitted a report for noting by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership on the Physically Disabled Rehabilitation Unit, Inverclyde Royal Hospital.

**Decided:** that the contents of the report be noted.

#### 18 Criminal Justice Social Work Inspection

18

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership informing the Committee of the very positive outcome of the recent inspection of Criminal Justice Social Work which indicated a high-performing Service.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the contents of the report, including the requirement to develop an improvement action plan, be noted;
- (2) that a further update on the improvement action plan be submitted to the Committee; and
- (3) that the Committee's congratulations be extended to all those involved in the service provision.

#### 19 Looked After Children Attainment Fund

19

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership (1) outlining the need to increase the capacity of the Corporate Parenting Team/Looked After Children Reviewing Officers on a temporary basis from January 2020 until June 2020 and (2) seeking approval for this to be funded from the Looked After Children (LAC) Attainment Fund.

#### Decided:

- (1) that agreement be given to the proposal to allocate a portion of the underspend in the LAC Attainment Fund to facilitate the temporary funding of an additional LAC Teacher and a Child's Planning Reviewing Officer for a six month period to June 2020;
- (2) that it be noted that a report on the use of future years' funding would be submitted to the Committee in 2020/21; and
- (3) that a report be submitted to the Committee on planning for children within Inverclyde including Named Persons and Looked After Children and that this report include information on any financial resources required.

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)

Update on the Ethical Care Charter and Fair Working Practice 6 within Care at Home Framework – Appendix 1

Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned 6 and 9 External Organisations

## 20 Update on the Ethical Care Charter and Fair Working Practice within Care at Home Framework – Appendix 1

20

There was submitted Appendix 1 relative to Agenda Item 3 (Update on the Ethical Care Charter and Fair Working Practice within Care at Home Framework) providing information on external providers' compliance with fair working practices. **Decided:** that the appendix be noted.

## 21 Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned External Organisations

21

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on matters relating to the HSCP governance process for externally commissioned Social Care Services.

Councillor MacLeod declared a non-financial interest in this item as a Non-Executive Director of Parklea Branching Out and Councillor Robertson declared a non-financial interest as a member of the Management Committee of Financial Fitness. Both Members 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.

- (1) that the governance report for the period 21 September to 22 November 2019 be noted; and
- (2) that Members acknowledge that Officers regard the control mechanisms in place through the governance meetings and Managing Poorly Performing Services Guidance within the Contract Management Framework as sufficiently robust to ensure ongoing quality and safety and the fostering of a commissioning culture of continuous improvement.

#### **GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD - 15 JANUARY 2020**

### **General Purposes Board**

## Wednesday 15 January 2020 at 3pm

**Present**: Provost Brennan, Councillors Ahlfeld, Brooks, Crowther, Dorrian, Jackson, J McEleny, MacLeod, Moran and Quinn.

Chair: Councillor Dorrian presided.

**In attendance:** Mr D Keenan (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms A Sinclair, Ms E Peacock, Ms F Denver and Ms A Bagstad (Legal & Property Services) and Sergeant B Brooks (Police Scotland).

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

#### 22 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

22

Apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Curley.

There were no substitutions.

Councillor Quinn declared an interest in Agenda Item 3 (Application for Taxi Driver's Licence).

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 paragraph 6 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

#### 23 Application for Renewal of Taxi Driver's Licence

23

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services on an application for renewal of a Taxi Driver's Licence which was continued to a further meeting of the Board, all as detailed in the appendix.

#### 24 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence

24

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services on an application for a Taxi Driver's Licence which was granted, all as detailed in the appendix.

#### 25 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence

25

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services on an application for a Taxi Driver's Licence which was granted, all as detailed in the appendix.

## **Environment & Regeneration Committee**

#### Thursday 16 January 2020 at 3pm

**Present:** Councillors Ahlfeld, Brooks, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Jackson, McCabe, McCormick, J McEleny, McKenzie and Nelson.

Chair: Councillor McCormick presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Head of Legal & Property Services, Technical Services Manager, Ms R McGhee (Legal & Property Services), Ms M McCabe (for Chief Financial Officer), Shared Head of Service (Roads), Service Manager (Roads), Head of Environmental & Public Protection, Environmental Services Manager, Service Manager – Public Protection, Mr G Ross (Environmental & Public Protection) and Head of Regeneration & Planning.

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

### 26 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

26

No apologies for absence were intimated.

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:-

Agenda Item 3 (Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2022/23 – Progress) – Councillors Brooks, Clocherty, Curley and J McEleny;

Agenda Item 7 (Conservation Grant) - Councillor Brooks;

Agenda Item 12 (Inverclyde Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2020/21 – 2024/25) – Councillors Brooks and Curley;

Agenda Item 13 (Strategic Housing Priority Areas) – Councillors Brooks and Curley;

Agenda Item 17 (Kilmacolm Parking Consultation) – Councillor Curley;

Agenda Item 18 (Port Glasgow Parking Study) - Councillor Curley;

Agenda Item 23 (Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report: Update on Current Actions) – Councillors Brooks and Curley; and

Agenda Item 24 (Property Assets Management Report) - Councillor Brooks.

## 27 Environment & Regeneration 2019/20 Revenue Budget – Period 7 (31 October 2019)

27

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising the Committee of the position of the 2019/20 Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2019.

- (1) that the current projected underspend of £106,000 for 2019/20 as at 31 October 2019 be noted;
- (2) that the current position with regard to European Social Fund funding be noted and that it be noted that updates will be submitted to future meetings of the Committee; and

(3) that approval be given to the virement detailed in Section 7 and Appendix 5 of the report.

### 28 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2022/23 – Progress

28

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 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.

Councillors Brooks, Clocherty and J McEleny declared a non-financial interest interest in this item as Board Members of Inverclyde Leisure and Councillor Curley declared a non-financial interest as a Board Member of Boglestone Community Association. All four Members 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.

It was noted that £0.075m was currently allocated to the Lyle Fountain, rather than £0.75m as set out in paragraph 7.1 of the report.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the current position of the 2019/23 Capital Programme and the progress on the specific projects detailed in Appendices 1 3 be noted;
- (2) that it be noted that further projects have been identified in Section 7 of the report utilising the 2020/21 general property allocation as part of the ongoing review and prioritisation of works; and
- (3) that a report on toilet provision within Greenock Municipal Buildings including, following consultation with the Women's Forum, the Grand Corridor toilet alterations project be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

## 29 Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2019/22 Progress Report

29

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources providing an update on the delivery of the improvement actions in the Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan (CDIP) 2019/22.

**Decided:** that the progress made in delivering the year 1 improvement actions contained within the Environment, Regeneration & Resources CDIP 2019/22 be noted.

## 30 Inverclyde Local Development Plan Supplementary Guidance: Planning Application Advice Notes

30

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval for publication of draft Supplementary Guidance on Planning Application Advice Notes for consultation.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the publication of the draft Supplementary Guidance on Planning Application Advice Notes, a copy of which was appended to the report, for consultation.

## 31 Quarrier's Homes Conservation Area Appraisal

31

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the outcome of the public consultation exercise carried out for the Quarrier's Homes Conservation Area Appraisal.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the Quarrier's Homes Conservation Area Appraisal attached to the report at Appendix 2 and that this be used as non-statutory Planning Guidance.

#### 32 Conservation Grant

32

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval of the terms associated with the Conservation Grant. Councillor Brooks declared a financial interest in this item as joint owner of a property within the Greenock West End and left the meeting.

**Decided:** that the terms of the Conservation Grant as set out in the report be approved.

Councillor Brooks returned to the meeting at this juncture.

## 33 Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park - Governance

33

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval of the Minute of Agreement between Renfrewshire Council, Inverclyde Council and North Ayrshire Council in respect of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park, following a governance review.

The Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources requested that, in the light of information provided by North Ayrshire Council since the report was published in respect of its 2020/21 budget process, the matter be continued to the 5 March meeting of the Committee when Officers will provide a detailed update.

**Decided:** that, in the light of information provided by North Ayrshire Council since the report was published in respect of its 2020/21 budget process, the matter be continued to the 5 March meeting of the Committee.

#### 34 Kilmacolm Self Build – Leperstone Avenue

34

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) seeking approval to vary the conditions associated with the self build project at Leperstone Avenue, Kilmacolm in order to stimulate interest in development with the site; and (2) to settle any funds due to Riverside Inverclyde for their involvement in the project.

The Head of Regeneration & Planning advised the Committee that the project sought to create seven self build plots and, accordingly, at paragraph 2.1 the word "six" should read "seven" and, consequently, at paragraph 2.2 the work "five" should read "six".

- (1) that it be agreed to remove the requirement for purchasers of the self build plots at Leperstone Avenue, Kilmacolm to be from outwith Inverclyde and to reduce the period of residence to three years; and
- (2) that it be agreed to settle any funds due to Riverside Inverclyde for their involvement in the project and to remit the decision to the Policy & Resources Committee for the use of the Capital Fund.

#### 35 Road Naming within New Development at Kilmacolm Road, Greenock

35

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to name new roads being created within Cloch Housing Association's development at Kilmacolm Road, Greenock.

**Decided:** that approval be given to King's Glen Place, Godman Place and Woodhead Road as the names of the new roads within the development at Kilmacolm Road, Greenock, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

#### 36 Transient Visitor Taxes in Scotland - Consultation

36

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval of the provisional response as submitted to the Scottish Government's "Consultation on the Principles of a Local Discretionary Transient Visitor Levy or Tourist Tax" by the 2 December 2019 deadline.

Following consideration, Councillor Brooks moved that no action be taken. As an amendment, Councillor McCormick moved that the provisional response as submitted to the Scottish Government on the "Consultation on the Principles of a Local Discretionary Transient Visitor Levy or Tourist Tax" set out in the appendix to the report be approved. On a vote, one Member, Councillor Brooks, voted for the motion and ten Members, Councillors Ahlfeld, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Jackson, McCabe, McCormick, J McEleny, McKenzie and Nelson, voted for the amendment which was declared carried. Councillor Brooks asked that his dissent to this decision be recorded.

**Decided:** that the provisional response as submitted to the Scottish Government on the "Consultation on the Principles of a Local Discretionary Transient Visitor Levy or Tourist Tax" set out in the appendix to the report be approved.

## 37 Inverclyde Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2020/21-2024/25

37

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval of the new annual Inverclyde Strategic Housing Investment Plan, covering the period 2020/21 – 2024/25, which had been submitted in draft form to the Scottish Government pending approval by the Committee.

Councillors Brooks and Curley declared a non-financial interest in this item as Board Members of River Clyde Homes. 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.

#### Decided:

- (1) that approval be given to the Strategic Housing Investment Plan for the five year period 2020/21 2024/25 for submission to the Scottish Government;
- (2) that the projects included in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2020/21-2024/25 as detailed in the appendices to the report be noted; and
- (3) that a report on the review of specialist housing provision currently being undertaken be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

#### 38 Strategic Housing Priority Areas

38

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on work to develop a strategic approach to the "Eastern Gateway" in Port Glasgow and (2) seeking approval for a programme of studies assessing housing need and demand, informed by an Inverciyde wide survey of house condition.

Councillors Brooks and Curley declared a non-financial interest in this item as Board Members of River Clyde Homes. 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.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the work being carried out on the Eastern Gateway under the aegis of the repopulation strategy be noted and that a report on the outcomes of the study and the next steps be submitted to the Committee in due course; and
- (2) that it be agreed to carry out separate studies into housing and the development of strategies in central Port Glasgow and Greenock town centres and that Officers report thereon to the Committee at a future date.

## 39 Housing to 2040 Consultation

39

It was noted that this item had been withdrawn to enable further consultation with the Health & Social Partnership and that a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

## 40 Withdrawal from the European Union - Update

40

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources providing an update on actions taken to mitigate the potential risks arising from European Union withdrawal including a "no deal" Brexit.

The Head of Environmental & Public Protection advised the Committee that the Government had stood down Operation Yellowhammer and that the Scottish Government had suspended its "no deal" preparations on the basis that the UK will leave the European Union on 31 January 2020 with a withdrawal deal.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the actions taken to mitigate the impact of a "no deal" European Union exit in Inverclyde.

#### 41 Scottish Government Deposit and Return Scheme (DRS)

41

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising of the Scottish Government's proposed design for Scotland's new Deposit Return Scheme (DRS), which will include aluminium and steel cans, as well as drinks containers made of glass and Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) plastic.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the current position in respect of the Scottish Government's Deposit Return Scheme be noted; and
- (2) that Officers keep the Committee apprised of relevant developments in the implementation of the Deposit Return Scheme and potential impact on Inverclyde Council.

#### 42 Kilmacolm Parking Consultation

42

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the outcome of the public consultation on proposed parking locations in Kilmacolm village centre.

Councillor Curley declared a non-financial interest in this matter as a Board Member of Kilmacolm Community Centre Co Ltd. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber or his participation in the decision-making process.

#### Decided:

- (1) that it be remitted to the Shared Head of Service (Roads) to carry out a design and cost for the two top preferred options for parking locations in Kilmacolm village centre, the corner of Moss Road and Gilburn Road and behind the old Police Station on Lochwinnoch Road:
- (2) that it be noted that a report will be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee detailing the outcome of the detailed design; and
- (3) that Officers explore any opportunities for utilising the site of the old railway to the east of Lochwinnoch Road for potential parking/traffic interchange use.

## 43 Port Glasgow Parking Study

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the findings of the Port Glasgow Parking Study, as agreed by the Petitions Committee at the meeting held on 1 February 2018 following consideration of a petition seeking the introduction of a residents' parking scheme in Port Glasgow Town Centre in areas currently subject to a 30 minute restriction.

Councillor Curley declared a non-financial interest in this matter as a Board Member of River Clyde Homes. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber or his participation in the decision-making process.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the findings of the Port Glasgow Parking Study report be noted;
- (2) that approval be given to the increase in the parking time limit on existing restricted streets from 30 minutes to one hour with an exemption for permit holders;
- (3) that approval be given to the introduction of a one hour time limit with an exemption for permit holders on Station Road, Willison's Lane, Falconer Street and Crawford Street, Monday to Friday 8.00am 6.00pm, and that a report on the operation of the restrictions be submitted to the Committee one year after the relative Traffic Regulation Orders have been brought into effect;
- (4) that approval be given to the introduction of a Residents' Parking Permit Scheme, Monday to Friday 8.15am to 9.15am and 5.00pm to 6.00pm, on Court Road, Huntly Place and Huntly Terrace; and
- (5) that it be remitted to the Shared Head of Service (Roads) to liaise with River Clyde Homes regarding the future use of the car park on Station Road.

## 44 Larkfield Road/George Road Junction Assessment

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the outcome of the Larkfield Road/George Road junction assessment, providing details of the options to improve the operation of the junction, following receipt of a petition seeking the installation of traffic lights at the junction.

The Shared Head of Service (Roads) advised the Committee that the third bullet point under paragraph 5.1 should read "Relief Road Larkfield Road to Drumshantie Road and One Way System on George Road (Eastbound or Westbound)".

43

**Decided:** that consideration of the matter be continued for a working meeting, involving all Elected Members and the Shared Head of Service (Roads), to review all the options for the Larkfield Road/George Road junction and that a report be submitted to the Committee thereafter.

## 45 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 4 2019

45

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources recommending the making of a Traffic Regulation Order to accompany the provision of parking places for the disabled.

**Decided:** that, subject to correction of entry reference number 1947 in Schedule (Part 1) to read 28c Ardgowan Street, Greenock (rather than Ardgowan Road) and correction of the map as required relative to entry reference number 1314 in Schedule (Part 2) relative to 46A Newton Street, Greenock, the Inverclyde Council be recommended to make the Traffic Regulation Order – Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 4 2019 and that it be remitted to the Shared Head of Service (Roads) and the Head of Legal & Property Services to arrange for implementation of the Order.

#### 46 Items for Noting

46

There were submitted reports for noting by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on (1) SEEP Transition Programme Update Report and (2) Lamont's Pier Update.

**Decided:** that the contents of the reports be noted.

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)
Residual Waste Disposal Procurement Update	6 & 8
Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report: Update on Current Actions	6, 9, 12 & 13
Property Assets Management Report	2, 6 & 9

#### 47 Residual Waste Disposal Procurement Update

47

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on the position regarding the Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) landfill ban and (2) providing details of the possible options for Inverclyde. Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the Appendix.

#### 48 Clune Park Regeneration Plan Progress Report: Update on Current Actions

48

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) advising the Committee of the current actions to implement the Council's decisions on the Clune Park Estate and (2) providing a briefing on key, current items to ensure that the Committee is fully advised of progress.

Councillors Brooks and Curley declared non-financial interest in this item as Board Members of River Clyde Homes. 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.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the current progress in respect of the Clune Park Area Regeneration Plan be noted; and
- (2) that approval be given to the direct award of contracts to the relevant contractors for rot surveys, tolerable standards and economic viability surveys and structural stability surveys as set out in paragraph 5.3 of the report.

### 49 Property Assets Management Report

49

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources making recommendations in respect of property assets.

Councillor Brooks declared a non-financial interest in this item as a Board Member of Inverclyde Leisure. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber or his participation in the decision-making process.

- (1) that authority be delegated to the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources to alter the terms of the Licence to Occupy the Community Facilities between Inverclyde Council and Inverclyde Leisure by removing both Park Farm Community Hall and the Paton Street Family Centre from the agreement, as they have been declared surplus to requirements; and
- (2) that consideration in relation to the McPherson Centre, Gourock be continued to allow the Committee to consider all offers made and any options for community use.

## **Education and Communities Committee**

#### Tuesday 21 January 2020 at 2pm

**Present**: Provost Brennan, Councillors Clocherty, Curley, McCabe, J McEleny (for C McEleny), McVey, Murphy, Quinn and Robertson, Rev. D Burt and Mrs F Gilpin, Church Representatives, Ms A McMillan, Parent Representative, and Ms P McEwan, Teacher Representative.

Chair: Councillor Clocherty presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Head of Culture, Communities & Educational Resources, Head of Education, Service Manager, Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport, Mr I Cameron (for Chief Financial Officer), Ms G Murphy (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services), Corporate Policy, Performance & Partnership Manager, Property Services Manager and Service Manager, Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

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

## 50 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

50

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

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:

Agenda Item 3 (Communities Capital Programme 2019-2023 Progress) – Councillors Clocherty, Curley, J McEleny and Quinn.

Agenda Item 6 (Indoor Tennis Facility) – Councillors Clocherty, J McEleny and Quinn. Agenda Item 7(a) (Inverclyde Leisure Complaints Procedure) – Councillors Clocherty, J McEleny and Quinn.

### 51 Communities 2019/20 Revenue Budget - Period 7 to 31 October 2019

51

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the position of the 2019/20 Communities Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2019.

**Decided:** that the current projected underspend of £22,000 in the 2019/20 Communities Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2019 be noted.

## 52 Communities Capital Programme 2019-2023 Progress

**52** 

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer (1) on the status of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.

Councillor Curley declared a non-financial interest in this item as a member of

Boglestone Community Association and Councillors Clocherty, J McEleny and Quinn declared a non-financial interest as members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. All 4 Members 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.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the progress of the specific projects detailed in Appendix 1 be noted; and
- (2) that Inverclyde Leisure be asked to include within its annual report, trends over time data in relation to the usage of the refurbished facilities at Lady Octavia Sports Centre, Boglestone Activity and Community Centre and Ravenscraig Activity Centre.

## A 3 Year Plan for Co-ordinating Community Learning and Development (CLD) in Inverclyde 2018-2021: Progress Report, Year 1

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development appending a report in respect of the Year 1 progress of Community Learning and Development delivery by all partners across Inverclyde as part of the 3 Year Plan "Co-ordinating Community Learning and Development in Inverclyde 2018-2021".

#### Decided:

- (1) that the progress made in the implementation of Year 1 of the 3 Year Plan for Community Learning and Development be noted; and
- (2) that the actions to be implemented in Year 2 of the 3 Year Plan be noted.

## 54 Community Learning and Development Service: Annual Report 2018-19

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development appending an annual update on progress of the Community Learning & Development Service's 3 Year Strategic Plan.

**Decided:** that the contents of the Community Learning & Development Annual Report for the period 2018-19 be noted.

#### 55 Indoor Tennis Facility

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the current position regarding the potential development of a three court tennis facility at Rankin Park, Greenock.

Councillors Clocherty, J McEleny and Quinn declared a non-financial interest in this item as members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. 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.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the progress of the application to the Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis Fund be noted:
- (2) that it be agreed that the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development receive the Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis funding on behalf of Inverclyde Council, in consultation with the Head of Legal & Property Services and the Chief Financial Officer;
- (3) that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development to agree the terms of Funding and Agency Agreements with Inverclyde Leisure, in consultation with the Head of Legal & Property

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Services and the Chief Financial Officer; and

(4) that a further report on the progress of the local tennis initiative be submitted to the Committee in due course.

#### 56 Items for Noting (Communities)

56

There was submitted a report for noting by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on Inverclyde Leisure's approach to complaints handling.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the report be noted; and
- (2) that Inverclyde Leisure be asked to include data on complaints within its annual report.

The Communities business concluded at 2.45pm. The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4pm with Rev. Burt, Mrs Gilpin, Ms McMillan and Ms McEwan joining the meeting.

## 57 Education 2019/20 Revenue Budget – Period 7 to 31 October 2019

57

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on the position of the 2019/20 Education Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2019.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the current projected overspend of £27,000 in the 2019/20 Education Revenue Budget as at Period 7 to 31 October 2019 be noted;
- (2) that approval be given to the virements totalling £100,750 as detailed in paragraph 7.1 and Appendix 5 of the report; and
- (3) that the ongoing actions to bring the budget back to a break-even position be noted.

## 58 Education Capital Programme 2019-2023 Progress

58

59

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer (1) on the status of the projects forming the Education Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the progress of the specific projects detailed in Appendix 1 be noted;
- (2) that allocation from the lifecycle budget to address the revised cost estimate for the former Kelly Street Children's Centre demolition and landscaping project outlined in paragraph 7.2 be noted; and
- (3) that an update report in relation to the pre-5 expansion programme be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

## 59 Education & Communities Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan 2019/22 Progress Report

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the delivery of improvement actions in the Education, Communities & Organisational Development (ECOD)

Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan (CDIP), focusing on the improvement actions within the remit of the Education Service and the Culture, Communities & Educational Resources Service.

**Decided:** that the progress made in delivering the Year 1 improvement actions contained within the Education, Communities & Organisational Development CDIP 2019/22 be noted.

# Outcome of Pre-Consultation in relation to the Admission Policy for Village Schools and the Future Need for Denominational Education in the West of Inverclyde

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) informing the Committee of the outcome of the preconsultation exercise which took place in December 2019 in relation to the admission policy for village schools and the future need for denominational education in the west of Inverclyde and (2) outlining the proposed next steps to manage the current pressure on St Columba's High School.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the outcome of the pre-consultation exercise in relation to the admission policy for village schools and the future need for denominational education in the west of Inverclyde be noted;
- (2) that approval be given for a statutory consultation to take place to change the wording of the current policy for admission and pupil placement in mainstream schools, in relation to village schools, as outlined in paragraphs 5.1.2 and 5.1.3 and summarised in Appendix 5 of the report but subject to the following amended wording being inserted at paragraph 5.1.2 and Appendix 5 as follows:

"Only those children

- (a) who before entry to primary school, have a Certificate of Baptism into the Roman Catholic faith and
- (b) whose parents have chosen, because of travelling distance, to send them to the non-denominational primary school which serves the defined catchment area assigned to their address (rather than to the assigned denominational primary school) will have the entitlement of admission, without the necessity of a placing request, to the catchment denominational secondary school. As with all schools, this entitlement is subject to there being space at the specified school. The Council's policy in respect of school transport will always apply."; and
- (3) that approval be given to the proposed transition arrangements to be set out in the statutory consultation, as outlined in paragraphs 5.1.4 and 5.1.5 and summarised in Appendix 5 of the report.

Councillor Curley left the meeting at this juncture.

## 61 Bereavement, Loss and Change Policy

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) providing an overview of the Bereavement, Loss and Change Policy set out in the appendix to the report and (2) seeking the Committee's approval of the policy.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the Bereavement, Loss and Change Policy set out in the appendix to the report.

60

## 62 Items for Noting (Education)

62

There were submitted reports for noting by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on (1) National Updates and (2) Updates on the Looked After Children Attainment Fund and the Tier 2 Mental Health Strategy. **Decided:** that the contents of the reports be noted.

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 6 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

## 63 Local Authority Provision of Cleaning and Janitorial Services to Police Scotland

63

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications providing an update on the changes to the provision of cleaning and janitorial services by Police Scotland and the employee and financial implications for the Council.

- (1) that the changes to the provision of cleaning and janitorial services by Police Scotland be noted; and
- (2) that the employee and financial implications for the Council as outlined in the report be noted.

## **Policy & Resources Committee**

#### Tuesday 4 February 2020 at 3pm

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

Chair: Councillor McCabe presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Service Manager Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport, 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, ICT Service Manager, Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications, Corporate Policy, Performance & Partnership Manager, Procurement, Regeneration & Building Services Manager and Service Manager – Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

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

## Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor MacLeod, with Councillor Curley substituting, and Councillor Rebecchi, with Provost Brennan substituting.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

#### 65 2019/20 General Fund Revenue Budget as at 30 November 2019

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the position of the General Fund Revenue Budget as at 30 November 2019 and (2) providing an update in respect of the position of the General Fund Reserves and Earmarked Reserves.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the latest position of the 2019/20 Revenue Budget and General Fund Reserves be noted; and
- (2) that it be noted that the use of any Free Reserves will be considered as part of the 2020/23 budget process.

### 66 2019/23 Capital Programme

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer on the latest position of the 2019/23 Capital Programme.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the current position of the 2019/23 Capital Programme be noted; and
- (2) that it be noted that a refreshed 2020/23 Capital Programme will be considered as part of the March 2020 budget.

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## 67 Policy & Resources Committee 2019/20 Revenue and Capital Budget – Period 8 to 30 November 2019

67

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer on the position of the 2019/20 Revenue and Capital Budget as at Period 8 to 30 November 2019.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the 2019/20 Revenue Budget projected underspend of £1,957,000 as at Period 8 to 30 November 2019 be noted:
- (2) that the projected 2019/20 surplus of £45,000 for the Common Good Fund be noted; and
- (3) that the current projected Capital position be noted.

## 68 Welfare Reform Update

68

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer providing an update on recent developments in respect of Welfare Reforms and associated matters.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the updates provided in the report be noted;
- (2) that approval be given to the amendments to the Discretionary Housing Payments Policy set out in Appendix 4 to the report;
- (3) that approval be given to the War Pensions Disregard Policy set out in section 8 of the report;
- (4) that approval be given to the further allocation of funding from the Anti-Poverty earmarked reserves set out in section 10 of the report; and
- (5) that information on the outcomes achieved by the Homestart, Cook School project be included in the next update report to the Committee.

## 69 ICT Services Performance Update

69

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer providing an update on the Digital and ICT Strategies, performance and Channel Shift statistics, details of the Council's PC refresh programme and information on a number of upgrade projects being implemented by ICT and Finance Services.

## Decided:

- (1) that the performance statistics report and action plan updates for the Digital and ICT Strategies be noted; and
- (2) that it be noted that the current Digital Strategy funding is almost fully committed.

## 70 Corporate Services Progress Report

**70** 

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications updating the Committee on the delivery of the improvement actions by the Council's Corporate Services, as detailed in the Education, Communities & Organisational Development and the Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Directorate Improvement Plans (CDIPs) 2019/22.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the progress made by the Council's Corporate Services during 2019/20 in delivering the year one improvement actions, as detailed in their respective CDIPs, be noted: and
- (2) that the programme of Public Service Improvement Framework assessments that will be carried out in 2020 be noted.

#### 71 SiMBA Inverciyde Tree of Tranquility – Request by Councillor McCabe

71

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a request received from Councillor McCabe that consideration be given to a request from SiMBA, a charity that supports anyone affected by the loss of a baby during pregnancy or birth, for funding of £6,880.26 towards the installation of a Tree of Tranquility in Gourock Park.

**Decided:** that support be given to SiMBA's proposal for the installation of a Tree of Tranquility within Gourock Park, that Council officers work with the Group, the preferred course of action being that the Council procure and install the tree directly, and that a contribution of up to £10,000 from the Revenue Contingency be made to the overall project and suitable landscaping.

#### 72 Accounts Commission Report – Local Government Financial Overview 2018/19

**72** 

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the main issues raised in the recent Local Government Financial Overview report by the Accounts Commission and (2) highlighting relevant matters.

**Decided:** that it be agreed to note the contents of the Accounts Commission report and to approve the Officer assessment of where the Council is placed against the matters raised in Appendix 1.

#### 73 2020/23 Revenue Budget Update

**73** 

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) providing an update in respect of the 2020/23 Revenue Budget and (2) seeking approval of a number of matters.

- (1) that it be agreed to note the latest position regarding the UK and Scottish Budget announcements and that there is not expected to be any impact on the timescales previously agreed by the Council;
- (2) that approval be given to the proposals set out in Appendix 1 to the report which will further reduce the 2020/21 Revenue Funding gap by £418,000;
- (3) that the latest estimated funding gap position of the 2020/23 Budget outlined in Appendix 2 be noted;
- (4) that it be agreed to add the two savings in respect of terms and conditions and classroom assistants to the Council's Delivering Differently programme and that these be progressed through that process with reports being submitted to the relevant Committees as appropriate;
- (5) that the contents and requests within the CoSLA Invest in Essential Services document be noted; and

(6) that it be noted that a further update on the 2020/23 Revenue Budget will be submitted to the Council on 20 February 2020 as part of the consideration of the Council Tax level for 2020/21.

#### 74 Analysis of the Results from the Budget Consultation 2019

74

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications on the analysis of the results from the budget consultation 2019, which included a total of 30 budget saving proposals (excluding charges).

**Decided:** that cognisance be taken of the feedback provided during the budget consultation 2019 when considering decisions about the Council's budget 2020/23.

## 75 Participatory Budgeting in Inverclyde: Evaluation and Next Steps

**75** 

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) providing an evaluation of phase 1 of the Participatory Budgeting (PB) approach in Inverclyde and (2) making proposals for a revised approach towards mainstreaming PB in Inverclyde.

#### Decided:

- (1) that the evaluation of the pilot phase 1 of the PB process in Inverclyde be noted;
- (2) that it be agreed to implement the revised approach to PB in Inverclyde set out in the report by March 2021;
- (3) that it be agreed to use the current PB Earmarked Reserve for the establishment of a temporary Community Learning & Development worker for 18 months to support the process;
- (4) that it be agreed that areas of budget which can be taken through the PB process be identified by Committees on an ongoing basis; and
- (5) that a report on locality planning, including the role of Elected Members, be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

#### 76 People and Organisational Development Strategy 2020-2023

**76** 

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications (1) providing an update on the delivery of the existing Organisational Development Strategy 2017-2020 and (2) seeking approval of the fourth edition of the People and Organisational Development Strategy for 2020-2023.

(Councillor Ahlfeld left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

- (1) that the progress made in the delivery of the Council's Organisational Development Strategy 2017-2020 be noted;
- (2) that approval be given to the People and Organisational Development Strategy 2020-2023 attached to the report at Appendix 1: and
- (3) that it be noted that the key messages of the Strategy will be communicated to Council employees and managers to raise awareness.

## 77 Kilmacolm Self Build – Leperstone Avenue: Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee

**77** 

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 16 January 2020 relative to the self-build project at Leperstone Avenue, Kilmacolm requesting the Committee to approve the use of the Capital Fund to settle any funds due to Riverside Inverciyde for their involvement in the project.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the use of the Capital Fund to settle any funds due to Riverside Inverclyde for their involvement in the self-build project at Leperstone Avenue, Kilmacolm.

The Convener being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications was relevant, competent and urgent, moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to allow the Committee to be apprised of the key points contained within the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2020 at the earliest opportunity. This was agreed unanimously.

#### 78 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2020

**78** 

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications providing an overview of the key points and initial commentary on the data contained within the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2020, published by the Scottish Government on 28 January 2020, with particular focus on the data relating to Invercible.

(Councillor Ahlfeld returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided: that the Committee note:-

- (a) the key points arising from the SIMD 2020;
- (b) that a more detailed analysis of the data will be carried out and a report with associated recommendations submitted to the meeting of the Committee on 24 March 2020:
- (c) that further engagement will take place with the Scottish Government to provide assistance for the local economy and communities within Invercive; and
- (d) that the report will be submitted to the Inverclyde Alliance Board for consideration and action to reduce inequalities within Inverclyde.

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)

Advice Services – Case Management System 6 and 8

Interim Head of Mental Health, Addictions and Homelessness 1

## 79 Advice Services – Case Management System

79

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership seeking approval of a direct award for the purchase of a Case Management System when the current contract comes to an end on 20 February 2020.

**Decided:** that approval be given to a direct award for the purchase of the Advice Pro Case Management System.

#### 80 Interim Head of Mental Health, Addictions and Homelessness

80

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership seeking approval of (1) the appointment through external advertisement of the post of Interim Head of Mental Health, Addictions and Homelessness and (2) the arrangements for the recruitment panel composition for any future interim appointments.

- (1) that approval be given to the appointment through external advertisement of an Interim Head of Mental Health, Addictions and Homelessness; and
- (2) that approval be given to the arrangements set out in the report for the recruitment panel composition for any future interim appointments.

#### PLANNING BOARD - 5 FEBRUARY 2020

#### **Planning Board**

#### Wednesday 5 February 2020 at 3pm

**Present:** Councillors Clocherty, Crowther, Dorrian, J McEleny, McKenzie, McVey, Moran, Murphy, Nelson and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor Wilson presided.

**In attendance:** Head of Regeneration & Planning, Mr D Ashman (Planning Services), Mr G Leitch (Roads & Transportation), Mr J Kerr (for Head of Legal & Property Services) and Ms R McGhee (Legal & Property Services).

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

#### 81 APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

81

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Rebecchi.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

#### 82 PLANNING APPLICATION

82

New Build Community Centre including Associated External Landscaping Works, Demolition of Existing Building and Extension of Existing Car Park: Craigend Resource Centre, McLeod Street, Greenock (19/0201/IC)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Regeneration & Planning on an application by Craigend Resource Centre for new build community centre including associated external landscaping works, demolition of existing building and extension of existing car park at Craigend Resource Centre, McLeod Street, Greenock (19/0201/IC). **Decided:** that planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions:-

- (1) that prior to their use on site, samples of all external materials (inclusive of all walls, paving and hard surfacing) shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Development thereafter shall proceed utilising the approved materials unless an alternative is agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the external materials are appropriate for the development in the interests of visual amenity:
- (2) that prior to the commencement of works on site, full details of a hard and soft landscaping scheme together with a detailed programme for implementation shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. The hard and soft landscaping scheme shall then be implemented as approved and be retained on site at all times thereafter unless otherwise first agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the provision of an appropriate landscaping scheme in the interests of visual amenity;
- (3) that prior to the commencement of works on site, full details of the landscape maintenance regime shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Maintenance shall then commence on the completion of the landscaping and be undertaken as approved at all times thereafter to the satisfaction of the Planning

#### PLANNING BOARD - 5 FEBRUARY 2020

Authority, to ensure the maintenance of the landscaping scheme in the interests of visual amenity;

- (4) that, in respect of the approved landscaping arrangement, any specimens that in the subsequent 5 years die, become diseased, are removed or are damaged shall be replaced in the next planting season with a similar specimen, unless the Planning Authority gives its prior written approval to an alternative, to ensure the retention of the landscaping scheme in the interests of visual amenity;
- (5) that prior to the commencement of works on site full details of the design of the bin store and the windcatchers shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Development thereafter shall proceed as approved unless otherwise first agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure a suitable appearance of the bin store and windcatchers in the interests of visual amenity;
- (6) that prior to the commencement of works on site, full details of the design of the plant enclosure together with the detailed specification of the plant shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Development thereafter shall proceed as approved unless otherwise first agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure a suitable appearance of the plant area and appropriate plant specification in the interests of visual and residential amenity;
- (7) that prior to the commencement of works on site, full details of the phasing of the development shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. For the avoidance of doubt, the car park shall remain available for use at all times. Development thereafter shall proceed as approved unless otherwise first agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the appropriate phasing of the development;
- (8) that prior to the commencement of works on site, full details of the proposed play park, inclusive of equipment schedule, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. The play park shall be formed in accordance with the approved drawings and be available for use in accordance with the approved phasing of the development under Condition 7 above and be retained on site at all times thereafter unless otherwise first agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure suitable replacement play provision on site;
- (9) that prior to the commencement of works on site, full details of the management of car parking on site for both the existing building during construction works and for the new building, should it open prior to the demolition of the existing building and completion of the car park hereby permitted, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Car parking shall then be managed as approved unless otherwise first agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure suitable parking provision during the works in the interests of road safety;
- (10) that the proposed car park shall be formed in accordance with the approved drawings and be available for use in accordance with the approved phasing of the development under Condition 7 above and be retained on site at all times thereafter unless otherwise first agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure suitable parking provision for the new development in the interests of road safety;
- (11) that car parking spaces shall be a minimum of 5 metres by 2.5 metres with an aisle spacing of a minimum of 6 metres, to ensure the usability of the car parking spaces in the interests of road safety;
- (12) that prior to the commencement of works on site, full details of cycle parking provision shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Works shall then proceed as approved and the cycle parking provision shall be retained on site at all times thereafter unless otherwise first agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure suitable cycle parking provision in the interests of encouraging active travel;

#### PLANNING BOARD - 5 FEBRUARY 2020

- (13) that prior to the commencement of works on site, full details of any proposed ramps shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Works thereafter shall proceed as approved unless otherwise first agreed in writing by the Planning Authority. For the avoidance of doubt, any ramps shall have a maximum gradient of 10%, shall be not more than 6 metres long, shall have a minimum width of 1.4 metres and shall have platforms of a minimum of 1.35 metres by 1.35 metres. A 50mm handrail shall be set 1 metre above a ramp, to ensure the suitability of ramped access where provided;
- (14) that prior to the commencement of works on site, full drainage detail drawings in accordance with CIRIA C753, the SUDS Manual, and Sewers for Scotland shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Works shall then proceed as approved unless otherwise first agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the adequacy of the drainage details in the interests of avoiding flooding;
- (15) that prior to the commencement of works on site, the maintenance regime for the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Maintenance shall then be undertaken as approved at all times thereafter to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority, to ensure the adequacy of the drainage maintenance regime in the interests of avoiding flooding;
- (16) that prior to the commencement of works on site, confirmation of the Scottish Water acceptance of the proposals shall be submitted to the Planning Authority, to ensure Scottish Water acceptance of the drainage proposals in the interests of avoiding flooding;
- (17) that no site clearance or demolition works shall be undertaken during the bird nesting season March to September inclusive unless first agreed in writing by the Planning Authority. For the avoidance of doubt, any such agreement will require a full nesting bird survey prior to the commencement of works on site, the methodology and findings of which shall be submitted to the Planning Authority, to avoid disturbance to nesting birds;
- (18) that prior to the start of development, details of a survey for the presence of Japanese Knotweed shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority and that, for the avoidance of doubt, this shall contain a methodology and treatment statement where any is found. Development shall not proceed until appropriate control measures are implemented. Any significant variation to the treatment methodology shall be submitted for approval, in writing by the Planning Authority, prior to implementation, to help arrest the spread of Japanese Knotweed in the interests of environmental protection;
- (19) that the development shall not commence until an Environmental Investigation and Risk Assessment, including any necessary Remediation Scheme with timescale for implementation, of all pollutant linkages has been submitted to and approved, in writing by the Planning Authority. The investigations and assessment shall be site-specific and completed in accordance with current codes of practice. The submission shall also include a Verification Plan. Any subsequent modifications to the Remediation Scheme and Verification Plan must be approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to implementation, to satisfactorily address potential contamination issues in the interests of human health and environmental safety;

#### **PLANNING BOARD - 5 FEBRUARY 2020**

- (20) that before the development hereby permitted is occupied, the applicant shall submit a report for approval, in writing by the Planning Authority, confirming that the works have been completed in accordance with the agreed Remediation Scheme and supply information as agreed in the Verification Plan. This report shall demonstrate that no pollutant linkages remain or are likely to occur and include (but not be limited to) a collation of verification/validation certificates, analysis information, remediation lifespan, maintenance/aftercare information and details of all materials imported onto the site as fill or landscaping material. The details of such materials shall include information of the material source, volume, intended use and chemical quality with plans delineating placement and thickness, to ensure contamination is not imported to the site and confirm successful completion of remediation measures in the interest of human health and environmental safety; and
- (21) that the presence of any previously unrecorded contamination or variation to anticipated ground conditions that becomes evident during site works shall be brought to the attention of the Planning Authority and the Remediation Scheme shall not be implemented unless it has been submitted to and approved, in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure that all contamination issues are recorded and dealt with appropriately.

#### **Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Committee**

#### Thursday 6 February 2020 at 3pm

**Present**: Councillors Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, MacLeod, J McEleny, McVey, Moran, Murphy and Quinn.

Chair: Councillor McVey presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Head of Culture, Communities & Educational Resources, Service Manager, Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport, Mr I Hanley (Community Safety & Resilience), Ms R Dillon (for Head of Environmental & Public Protection), Ms V Pollock (for Head of Legal & Property Services) and Ms S Lang (Legal & Property Services).

In attendance also: Superintendent D Leitch, Chief Inspector D Reilly and Inspector A Durk (Policy Scotland), Area Manager G Binning, Group Manager D McCarrey and Station Commander S MacMillan (Scottish Fire & Rescue Service).

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

Prior to the commencement of business, the Convener referred to the death in December 2019 of a local serving Police Officer and he asked that the Committee's condolences be passed on to the Officer's family, friends and colleagues.

# 83 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Jackson and Wilson and Chief Superintendent Murray.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

#### 84 Police Scotland Performance Report

There was submitted a report on the performance and activities of Police Scotland during the reporting period 1 April to 31 December 2019.

During the course of discussion on this item, reference was made to the fact that almost 30% of the 98 missing people in Inverclyde in the reporting period were looked after and accommodated children from young persons' units within the area and Councillor Moran, as Convener of the Health and Social Care Committee, stated that he would raise this Committee's concerns with the Chief Officer of the Inverclyde HSCP.

The Police Scotland representatives were asked if statistics were collected on the number of victims of crime suffering from mental illness.

In this regard, Chief Inspector Reilly advised that statistics on this were not routinely recorded. She indicated that this was a very complex issue, particularly due to problems of categorisation which were based on individual perceptions of mental illness. Police Scotland did, however, have a bespoke database of vulnerable people, including those with a mental illness, which was based on identification of vulnerability by the Police but this did not involve input from any other agencies.

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j Min LP&FS - 06 02 2020

#### **LOCAL POLICE & FIRE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 6 FEBRUARY 2020**

With regard to information sharing, protocols had been established and data was shared through the Concern Hub to the multi-agency Adult Protection Committee.

At the conclusion of the discussion on this subject, the Convener indicated that it would be his intention to raise the issues identified with the Chief Officer of the Inverclyde HSCP.

Police Scotland representatives were also asked if it would be possible to include within the statistics presented to the Committee, information on the number of crimes committed by repeat offenders and Chief Inspector Reilly confirmed that she would speak to the data analyst within the Police to ascertain if this would be feasible.

**Decided:** that the information contained in the report be noted.

# 85 Scottish Fire & Rescue Service – Spotlight on Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

There was submitted a report by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service providing details of unwanted fire alarm systems (UFAS) incidents which were attended by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service covering 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 up to December 2019.

It was noted that work was being carried out in conjunction with East Renfrewshire Council to plan and implement a version of the NHS TAKE5 initiative, aimed at reducing the number of false fire alarms, which would be bespoke to all Council premises including office and education facilities. The proposal was to run a pilot across East Renfrewshire Council early in 2020 with a view to launching it within Renfrewshire and Inverclyde thereafter.

**Decided:** that the spotlight report on unwanted fire alarm signals be noted.

# 86 Fire and Rescue Local Inverciyde Update

There was submitted a Fire and Rescue Local Inverclyde update covering recruitment, the Retained Duty System (RDS) Recruitment Strategy and the Local Fire and Rescue Plan. There was circulated to the Committee, a letter from the Local Senior Officer requesting the participation of Inverclyde stakeholders in a short survey which would inform the revisions required in the Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

**Decided:** that the local update report be noted.

# 87 Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Committee Update Report (February 2020)

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development providing an update on current and emerging issues relating to both Police and Fire and Rescue Services.

Area Manager Binning confirmed during discussion on this item that the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service was able to manage the risk when a second appliance at Greenock Fire Station was dispatched to a major incident outwith Inverciyde or should the appliance be stood down due to exceptional circumstances.

**Decided:** that the current and emerging national issues relating to Police and Fire and Rescue matters be noted.

# 88 Consultation on Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) Scrutiny Plan 2020-21

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development appending a consultation response to HMICS in respect of its scrutiny planning arrangements for the period 2020-21 which had been submitted by

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j Min LP&FS - 06 02 2020

# **LOCAL POLICE & FIRE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 6 FEBRUARY 2020**

the consultation deadline of 17 January 2020.

**Decided:** that approval be given to the consultation response to HMICS appended to the report.



**AGENDA ITEM NO: 3** 

Report To: The Inverciyde Council Date: 20 February 2020

Report By: Chief Financial Officer Report No: FIN/17/20/AP/LA

Contact Officer: Alan Puckrin Contact No: 01475 712223

Subject: Approval of the Band D Council Tax for 2020/21

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide information to the Council on the latest position of the 2020/21 Revenue Budget to allow the level of Band D Council Tax for 2020/21 to be determined.

#### 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 At its meeting on 19 November 2019, the Policy & Resources Committee agreed that the date for setting the Band D Council Tax for 2020/21 be 20 February 2020. This would allow Council Tax bills for the forthcoming year to be issued in an appropriate timescale. At the same meeting it was agreed to request that the Provost agrees that the 2020/21 Revenue Budget be approved at a special meeting of the Council on 12 March 2020 to allow sufficient time for the consideration of the 2020/21 grant settlement for the Council which is now due to be formally approved by the Scottish Parliament on 5 March 2020.
- 2.2 The Local Government Finance Act (The Act) 1992 Section 93 states that the Council Tax set should be sufficient to meet the total estimated expenses including contingencies for the forthcoming year. Given the current Council Tax increase limit advised by the Scottish Government, then the maximum Council Tax increase will still leave a funding gap to be closed by the Council when it meets on 12 March.
- 2.3 The Draft Scottish Budget was announced on 6 February and allocated a General Revenue Grant to Inverclyde Council of £164.653million. After adjusting for new funds which are effectively ring-fenced, the Council is estimated to receive a like for like cash reduction of £1.971million which is £0.971million less grant than the £1.0million reduction allowed for in the Budget Strategy. Officers have reviewed the pay and non-pay inflation contingencies in light of the savings and would propose a £1,050,000 reduction across these. Officers continue to analyse the detail of the settlement and will report any changes as part of the 12 March Council Budget report.
- 2.4 The estimated funding gap in 2020/21 prior to the consideration of any increase in Council Tax is now estimated to be £1.899 million as illustrated in Appendix 1. The maximum Council Tax increase in 2020/21 is estimated to raise £1.53million. In addition Members are considering savings options for 2020/21 which total £3.639 million plus there is a Budget Smoothing reserve of £3.0million and unallocated Free Reserves currently estimated to total £3.14 million by 31 March 2020.
- 2.5 Based on the above there is enough flexibility for the Council to set the Council Tax at today's meeting and balance the 2020/21 Budget on 12 March. As such, the Council can satisfy the requirements of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- 2.6 Having considered the options to balance the budget in 2020/21, the Members' Budget Working Group (MBWG) would recommend that the Council agrees a 3.0% increase from 1 April 2020 which would raise an extra £948,000 and increase the Band D Council Tax to £1,331.84. Appendix 3 shows the impact of a 3% increase in Council Tax in 2020/21.

#### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 3.1 It is recommended that the Council:

- a) Approves the budget savings/adjustments totalling £1,071,000 in Appendix 2 and notes the latest position of the 2020/21 Budget set out in Appendix 1.
- b) Notes the advice from the Chief Financial Officer and the Head of Legal & Property Services regarding setting the Band D Council Tax for 2020/21 in advance of confirmation of the 2020/21 Revenue Budget.
- c) Approves the recommendation of the MBWG and confirms that the level of Band D Council Tax for 2020/21 be set at £1,331.84.
- d) Formally agrees the resolution that the level of Band D Council Tax for the year commencing the 1<sup>st</sup> April.
- e) Meets on the 12 March 2020 to consider the 2020/21 Budget which will include the finalised Local Government Finance Settlement for Inverciyde Council.

Alan Puckrin Chief Financial Officer

#### 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Council requires to formally approve the level of Band D Council Tax for the forthcoming year as part of the Budget process and prior to Council Tax bills being issued. The Local Government Finance Act 1992 sets a deadline of 11 March for Councils to set their Council Tax. The 2019/20 Band D Council Tax is £1293.05.
- 4.2 Most Councils however set their Council Tax before the end of February in order that Council Tax bills can be issued in sufficient time to start collecting Council Tax from 1 April. Inverclyde Council is one such Council and at the 19 November, 2019 Policy & Resources Committee it was agreed to set the Council Tax for 2020/21 on 20 February whilst asking the Provost to agree to a special Council Meeting to set the 2020/21 Budget on 12 March.
- 4.3 The Council has undertaken a similar process on 3 occasions in the last 4 years and each time received advice from the Head of Legal & Property Services who confirmed that in separating the approval of the Council Tax from final approval of the budget, the Council still fulfilled its legal requirements provided this could be clearly demonstrated.
- 4.4 The Draft Scottish Budget was announced on 6 February and allocated a General Revenue Grant to Inverclyde Council of £164.653million. After adjusting for new funds which are effectively ring fenced, the Council is estimated to receive a like for like cash reduction of £1.971million which is £0.971million less grant than the £1.0million reduction allowed for in the Budget Strategy. Officers continue to analyse the detail of the settlement and will report any changes as part of the 12 March Council Budget report.
- 4.5 The Scottish Parliament is due to confirm the Budget for 2020/21 on 5 March. The Scottish Government advised Councils as part of the draft Budget announcement that Council Tax could be increased by a maximum of 4.84% in 2020/21.
- 4.6 The next section of the report sets out the options the Council has to deliver a balanced budget based on the latest figures and these options remain relevant in the event there are any last minute changes to the Council's grant settlement as part of the Parliamentary approval process..

#### 5.0 CURRENT POSITION AND PROPOSALS

- 5.1 At the time of preparing the report, the estimated funding gap in 2020/21 prior to the consideration of any increase in Council Tax is estimated to be £1.899 million as illustrated in Appendix 1. This assumes Members will approve the adjustments/savings shown in Appendix 2. The maximum Council Tax increase in 2020/21 is estimated to raise £1,529,000.
- 5.2 The Local Government Finance Act (The Act) 1992 Section 93 states that the Council Tax set should be sufficient to meet the total estimated expenses including contingencies for the forthcoming year. Given the current Council Tax increase limit set by the Scottish Government, then the maximum Council Tax increase will still leave a funding gap to be closed by the Council when it meets on 12 March.
- 5.3 However, there are savings proposals which are currently being considered by Members which would deliver savings of £3.639 million in 2020/21. In addition, the Council has £3.0million in the Budget Smoothing Reserve plus £3.14 million projected to be available in Free Reserves. Therefore there are sufficient options available to the Council to set a legally balanced budget for 2020/21 irrespective of the level of Council Tax agreed at the meeting today.
- 5.4 Having considered the options to balance the budget in 2020/21, the Members' Budget Working Group (MBWG) would recommend that the Council agrees a 3.0% increase from 1 April 2020 which would increase the Band D Council Tax to £1,331.84 and raise an extra £948,000.

#### 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

#### 6.1 Finance

The projected amounts raised from differing levels of Council Tax are as follows:

	£m
1%	0.316
2%	0.632
3%	0.948
4%	1.264
4.84%	1.529

Appendix 3 illustrates the annual and weekly increases based on a 3% increase in Council Tax.

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
Council Tax	Income	2020/21	(948)		Based on a 3.0% increase & a 97.0% collection rate.
Various	Various	2020/21	(1071)		See Appendix 2

#### 6.2 **Legal**

There is a legal requirement of the Council arising from the Local Government Finance Act 1992 Paragraph 93 for the Council to determine its level of Council Tax for the following financial year no later than 11 March. Approval of this report will fulfil that legal requirement. Council Tax must be set in relation to the total estimated expenses to be incurred by the Council for the relevant year and Appendix 1 specifies the key financial information for 2020/21 in terms of the 1992 Act. The report specifies the relevant current issues affecting the timescales for the Council's financial planning and the information which is awaited and reasonable provision has been made to deal with these circumstances.

#### 6.3 Human Resources

There are no HR issues arising from this report.

# 6.4 Equalities

(a)	Has a	Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?						
		Yes	See attached appendix					
	X	No	This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.					

#### (b) Fairer Scotland Duty

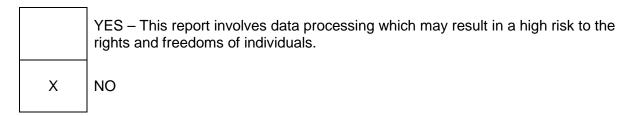
If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
Χ	NO

# (c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?



# 6.5 Repopulation

There are no repopulation issues arising from this report albeit the level of Council Tax can be a factor which is considered when moving to, from or within an area.

#### 7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 The contents of this report are supported by the Members' Budget Working Group.

#### 8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None



# Appendix 1

# 2020/21 Revenue Budget - Current Position

	£m
Funding Gap as at 04.02.20 P&R Committee	1.999
Impact of Draft 2020/21 Settlement	0.971
Further Adjustments/Savings (Appendix 2)	(1.071)
2019/20 Funding Gap as at 12.02.20	1.899
Funding Options - 2020/21	
Savings (20/21 Impact)	3.639
Council Tax - 4.84% Increase	1.527
	5.166

Reserves - At the February Policy & Resources Committee it was reported that there is projected to be £3.14 million of unallocated Reserves at 31.03.20

Note 1 - There remains £3.0 million in the 2020/23 Budget smoothing reserve.

AP/LA 13/2/20



#### 2020/23 Budget Savings & Adjustments for February 2020 Council

F00	Savings 2020/21	Savings 2021/22	Savings 2022/23	20	FTF
ERR 1/	£000	£000	£000	Comments	FTE
2/					
ECOD					
1/					
2/					
HSCP					
1/ Alcohol & Drugs Service Redesign- Reduction in sessional budgets	21	21	21	Reduced need for sessional resources as a result of the integration of the Alcohol and Drugs teams. Detailed report to the 27.2.20 Health & Social Care Committee	0
2/					
Corporate					
Reduction in the non- pay Inflation     Contingency	750	750	750	Now that the draft settlement has been advised, officers have reviewed the inflation contingencies in line with an outstanding audit action	
2/ Reduction in the Pay Inflation Contingency	300	300	300	Now that the draft settlement has been advised, officers have reviewed the inflation contingencies in line with an outstanding audit action	
3/					
4/					
Total	1071	1071	1071		0

AP/LA 13 February 2020



# Council Tax Impact of a 3% Increase in 2020/21

Band	Chargeable Properties*	Band Value	Multiplier	Annual Increase	Weekly Increase	2020/21 Council Tax
A*			200/360	£21.55	£0.41	£739.91
А	18,908 (48.44%)	£0 - £27,000	240/360	£25.86	£0.50	£887.89
В	5,971 (15.30%)	£27,001 - £35,000	280/360	£30.17	£0.58	£1,035.88
С	3,571 (9.15%)	£35,001 - £45,000	320/360	£34.48	£0.66	£1,183.86
D	3,392 (8.69%)	£45,001 - £58,000	360/360	£38.79	£0.75	£1,331.84
E	3,620 (9.27%)	£58,001 - £80,000	473/360	£50.97	£0.98	£1,749.89
F	1,923 (4.93%)	£80,001 - £106,000	585/360	£63.04	£1.21	£2,164.25
G	1,435 (3.67%)	£106,001 - £212,000	705/360	£75.97	£1.46	£2,608.19
Н	217 (0.55%)	£212,0001 +	882/360	£95.04	£1.83	£3,263.01

Note - Estimated to be 39,037Chargeable Properties

AP/LA 3/2/20



**AGENDA ITEM NO: 5** 

Report To: Inverclyde Council Date: 20 February 2020

Report By: Corporate Director Environment, Report No: SL/LP/025/20

**Regeneration & Resources** 

Contact Officer: Sharon Lang Contact No: 01475 712112

Subject: Environmental Impact – Notice of Motion by Councillor Curley

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Council of the receipt of a Notice of Motion by Councillor Curley, countersigned by Councillor MacLeod, submitted in terms of Standing Order 22 in the following terms:

# 1.2 "Inverclyde Council notes that:

- The First Minister of Scotland declared a climate emergency on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2019 followed by the Parliament of the United Kingdom on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2019 and endorses the need, as outlined in these declarations, to act now to mitigate the damage caused by humans to our planet's environment to avoid catastrophic climate change, loss of habitat and mass extinction;
- ii) Young people across the planet are leading the way in pressing their respective governments to address global climate change.

Accordingly, the Council resolves that an environmental overview will be contained in all reports presented to the Council and Council Committees to enable Elected Members to take due cognisance of the environment when making decisions and to enable the public to hold Elected Members to account on the environmental impact of their decisions".

#### 2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Council is asked to consider the Notice of Motion by Councillor Curley.

Gerard Malone Head of Legal & Property Services



**AGENDA ITEM NO: 6** 

Report To: Inverclyde Council Date: 20 February 2020

Report By: Corporate Director Environment, Report No: SL/LP/018/20

**Regeneration & Resources** 

Contact Officer: Sharon Lang Contact No: 01475 712112

Subject: The Campaign to Save Inchgreen Dry Dock – Request by Councillor

**McCabe** 

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Council of a request received from Councillor McCabe that consideration be given to the motion, attached at Appendix 1, received from the Campaign to Save Inchgreen Dry Dock.

#### 2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Council is asked to consider the request by Councillor McCabe.

Gerard Malone Head of Legal & Property Services

# THE CAMPAIGN TO SAVE INCHGREEN DRY DOCK

Inchgreen Dry Dock motion

Inverclyde Council supports the need to return Inchgreen dry dock to a fully operational facility providing work and skilled jobs and thereby contribute towards the regeneration of our marine engineering industries providing improved prospects for our community.

We believe an opportunity exists for Ferguson Marine to use Inchgreen dry dock and enter the market to maintain and service the Scottish ferry fleet, build and assemble larger ships, enhance the workforce skills and create additional commercial opportunities for the long term success of the Shipyard and its workforce.

Inverclyde Council recognises that Inchgreen dry dock is in private ownership and under - utilised and calls on the Scottish Government to engage with the dock owners to facilitate the above positive proposals.



**AGENDA ITEM NO: 7** 

Report To: Inverclyde Council Date: 20 February 2020

Report By: Corporate Director Report No: IC/02/20/SA

Environment, Regeneration &

Resources

Contact Officer: Scott Allan Contact No: 01475 712764

Subject: Gourock – Dunoon Infrastructure and Vessels Project –

**Reference Group** 

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek an Elected Member nominee to be part of the Reference Group of Local Stakeholders which will have input into planning for the Gourock – Dunoon Infrastructure and Vessels.

#### 2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 The Scottish Government has commenced a project titled 'Gourock – Dunoon Infrastructure and Vessels Project'. Officers are investigating what the objectives and anticipated outcomes of the project will be. The Council has been advised that the Project will be governed through a Steering Group informed by a local Reference Group. The local Reference Group will be made of local stakeholders. An invitation has been issued by Transport Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Government for an Elected Member to join this Group. The Council is asked to nominate an Elected Member and a substitute to join the Reference Group.

#### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Council is asked to nominate an Elected Member representative and substitute to join the Reference Group associated with the Gourock – Dunoon Infrastructure and Vessels Project.

Scott Allan Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources

#### 4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Scottish Government has commenced a project titled 'Gourock – Dunoon Infrastructure and Vessels Project'. Officers are investigating what the objectives and anticipated outcomes of the project will be. The Council has been advised that the Project will be governed through a Steering Group informed by a local Reference Group. The local Reference Group will be made of local stakeholders. An invitation has been issued by Transport Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Government for an Elected Member to join this Group.

#### 5.0 PROPOSALS

5.1 It is proposed that the Council nominate an Elected Member and a substitute to join the Reference Group.

#### 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

#### 6.1 Finance

**Financial Implications:** 

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

6.2	Legal
U	_0ga:

N/A.

#### 6.3 Human Resources

N/A.

# 6.4 Equalities

**Equalities** 

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES
✓	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

	If this repo	ort affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-
	Has there of outcome	been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities e?
		YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
	✓	NO
(c)	Data Prote	<u>ection</u>
	Has a Dat	a Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?
		YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
	✓	NO
6.5	Repopula	tion
	N/A.	
7.0	CONSULT	TATIONS
7.1	N/A.	
8.0	BACKGR	OUND PAPERS
8.1	N/A.	



#### **AGENDA ITEM NO: 8**

Report To: Inverclyde Council Date: 20 February 2020

Report By: Head of Legal & Property Report No: GM/LP/024/20

Services

Contact Officer: Gerard Malone Contact No: 01475 712710

Subject: CoSLA: Family Leave Guidance for Councillors

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Council to consider the guidance now issued by CoSLA relative to family leave for Councillors.

#### 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 On 28 January 2020, CoSLA published new Family Leave Guidance for Councillors in Scotland. A special interest group chaired by the CoSLA President has identified the absence of family leave as a key barrier which prevents individuals for standing or re-standing for elected office within Scottish local authorities. As a result, guidance has been issued "Family Leave Guidance for Councillors" for periods of maternity, paternity, shared parental and adoption leave.
- 2.2 The guidance includes recommendations that Councillors on leave continue to receive both their basic and Special Responsibility Allowances in full, where appropriate. It is, however acknowledged that payment of Special Responsibility Allowances is not always possible within the constraints of the current framework for Councillor remuneration and separate proposals are being put forward to the Scottish Government to allow local authorities greater flexibility and decision-making on this aspect for periods of parental leave.
- 2.3 It is critical for the Council to recognise and to continue to affirm that Councillors are not employees of the Council and the guidance on family leave does not in any way suggest or infer that Councillors are employees. There is no legal right whatsoever to family leave of any kind for any persons in elected public office.

#### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council:

- 3.1 considers CoSLA's "Family Leave Guidance for Councillors" and approves the guidance in principle for consideration and implementation by the Chief Executive in any situation so arising; and
- 3.2 remits it to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Council's Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to apply these principles in practice for any applications that may be made and to review the implementation of the guidance from time to time, as accords, with the Leaders of all political groups.

#### 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 On 28 January 2020, CoSLA published its "Family Leave Guidance for Councillors" and this forms **Appendix 1.**
- 4.2 Following review by a special interest group chaired by the CoSLA President, the absence of family leave was identified as a key barrier which prevents individuals from standing or restanding for elected office within Scottish local authorities.
- 4.3 The guidance recommends principles for leave for Councillors relative to maternity, paternity, shared parental and adoption leave. It includes recommendations that Councillors on such leave continue to receive both their basic and Special Responsibility Allowances in full, where appropriate.

#### 5.0 FAMILY LEAVE GUIDANCE FOR COUNCILLORS

#### Leave

- 5.1 The guidance sets out key principles for consideration by the Council to support Elected Members during periods of maternity, paternity, shared parental and adoption leave. It specifically notes that there is no legal right whatsoever to family leave of any kind for persons in elected public office in Scotland.
- 5.2 Specifically, it must be noted that Elected Members are not employees of the Council and the guidance is to be implemented on a voluntary basis by local authorities and it confers no contractual employee status. The guidance can be amended locally at any time or withdrawn completely and no additional rights over and above the voluntary principles as set out in the guidance can apply to Elected Members.
- 5.3 The purpose of the guidance is to address the key issue that the absence of family leave is a key barrier which prevents persons from entering into or re-standing for elected office.
- 5.4 The guidance sets out the general principles relative to six months leave from duties in the situations as set out within the guidance. It also sets out that Members shall be entitled to take a maximum of two weeks paternity leave in the circumstances set out in the guidance. The principles address the issues of shared parental leave in those situations as described in **Appendix 1.** The guidance also applies to adoption leave.
- 5.5 It must be noted that any Member who takes such leave must continue to fulfil their legal duty in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to attend a meeting of the Council within that six month period in order to maintain their status as an Elected Member. There are provisions for extension of this period, as is currently permitted by legislation, in certain circumstances.

#### **Allowances**

- 5.6 The guidance sets out the principle that Members on such leave shall continue to receive their basic allowances in full. It is also suggested as a principle that Members entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance will continue to receive that allowance in full in the cases of such leave.
- 5.7 The guidance sets out the principle that any Member who is appointed as cover to undertake the special duties of the Member on parental leave will receive the special responsibility allowance appropriate for that role in the period of leave.
- 5.8 However, it is also recognised that the principle of paying remuneration for such cover of duties involves a separate constraint: currently, the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations limits both the numbers of Councillors that can receive a Special Responsibility Allowance and the maximum budget for any local authority to do this. This could prevent any local authority from implementing the principles of the guidance during a leave of absence for: (a) a continuity of Special Responsibility Allowance to the Member on

leave; and, (b) cover for duties to another Member. In view of this limited capacity that all local authorities have to manage Special Responsibility Allowances in the event of such leave, it is being proposed that a separate amendment to legislation could allow local authorities to have greater flexibility to manage these allowances for Councillors in the event of family leave to provide better support to the Member on leave and also to remunerate their interim cover.

5.9 Accordingly, if these proposals progress, any altered arrangements arising from the planned parliamentary attention in the coming year and their effects, if any, can be applied for future remuneration years.

#### 6.0 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 If the Council approves the principles set out in the "Family Leave Guidance for Councillors" it is suggested that the implementation of the general principles be remitted to the Chief Executive in consultation with relevant Officers.
- 6.2 Within this framework of general principles, there will be a need for review and discussion with political groups and, accordingly, it is suggested that the Chief Executive will review the implementation of the guidance with all political group leaders from time to time, dependent on the numbers of any applications made and also on the overall implementation of the process in the future.
- 6.3 It is entirely within the Council's discretion to implement the principles of the guidance or to modify any aspect of the guidance as it sees fit.

#### 7.0 IMPLICATIONS

#### 7.1 Finance

The budgets for Councillor remuneration are set yearly and current arrangements provide for limits on the numbers of those Councillors receiving Special Responsibility Allowances and limits on the overall total budget. It is noted that the cover arrangements as set out within the guidance may be receiving separate parliamentary consideration in order to permit greater flexibility in defined circumstances.

#### **Financial Implications:**

#### One off Costs

Cos	st Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A						

# Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
To be determined pending any application for leave					

#### 7.2 Legal

The current arrangements are set by regulation through the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations and all amendments. It is being proposed that for those Councillors who are granted a period of leave of absence by the local authority the

Regulations may be disapplied in the future so that the limits on the number of Councillors who can receive certain types of remuneration may be changed and thus provide a more flexible provision in certain, specifically defined circumstances. In this way, the proposed change of legislation would allow the Council to continue to remunerate the Councillor who is being granted leave but also pay that time of remuneration to another Councillor for undertaking the duties to which it relates. The legislation will require to be amended before any other arrangements can be implemented by this Council.

#### 7.3 Human Resources

There are no direct HR implications.

#### 7.4 Equalities

#### **Equalities**

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES
Х	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

It should be noted that the implementation of the guidance seeks to remove a barrier to those persons who may seek to stand for elected office or to re-stand for election.

# (b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
Х	NO

#### (c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
NO

#### 7.5 Repopulation

There are no direct repopulation implications.

#### 8.0 CONSULTATIONS

8.1 This report has been considered by the Corporate Management Team and is recommended for approval.

# 9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 None.



# **Family Leave Guidance for Councils**

#### Introduction

This Guidance sets out some key principles which Local Authorities may wish to adopt to support Elected Members during periods of maternity, paternity, shared parental and adoption leave. There is no legal right to family leave of any kind for people in elected public office.

The objective of this guidance is to ensure that insofar as is possible, Elected Members can take appropriate leave at the time of birth or adoption, that both parents are able to take leave, and that reasonable and adequate arrangements are in place to provide cover for portfolioholders and others in receipt of Special Responsibility Allowances (SRA) during any period of leave taken.

This Guidance is to be implemented on a voluntary basis and confers no contractual, nor worker / employment status. The Guidance can be amended or withdrawn at any time. Councillors continue to retain their status as office holders. The rights as set out in this Guidance extend to (1) maternity, paternity, shared parental and adoption leave and (2) pay during maternity, paternity, shared parental and adoption related leave only. Individuals who are employees or workers of the Local Authority will be entitled to any additional rights associated with family leave by virtue of their employment status and associated policies. No such additional rights, over and above what is set out in this Guidance, shall apply to Elected Members and nothing in this Guidance shall render Elected Members as employees or workers.

Improved provision for new parents will contribute towards increasing the diversity of experience, age and background of Local Authority councillors. It will also assist with retaining experienced councillors – particularly women – and making public office more accessible to individuals who might otherwise feel excluded from it.

#### 1. Leave Periods

- 1.1 Members giving birth are entitled to up to 6 months maternity leave from 28 days before their due date.
- 1.2 In addition, where the birth is premature, the Member is entitled to take leave during the period between the date of the birth and the due date in addition to the 6 months' period.
- 1.3 Members shall be entitled to take a maximum of 2 weeks paternity leave if they are the biological father or nominated carer of their partner/spouse following the birth of their child(ren).
- 1.4 A Member who has made Shared Parental Leave arrangements through their employment is requested to advise the Council of these at the earliest possible opportunity. Every effort will be made to replicate such arrangements in terms of leave from the Council.

- 1.5 Where both parents are Members leave may be shared up to a maximum of 26 weeks. Special and exceptional arrangements may be made in cases of prematurity.
- 1.6 A Member who adopts a child through an approved adoption agency shall be entitled to take up to six months' adoption leave from the date of placement.
- 1.7 Any Member who takes maternity, shared parental or adoption leave retains their legal duty under the Local Government Act 1973 to attend a meeting of the Council within a six month period unless the Council Meeting agrees to an extended leave of absence prior to the expiration of that six month period.
- 1.8 Any Member intending to take maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave will be responsible for ensuring that they comply with the relevant notice requirements of the Council, both in terms of the point at which the leave starts and the point at which they return. (It is recommended that a minimum of 28 days' notice is provided to take leave. A MatB1 form or an adoption matching certificate should be provided when applying for maternity and adoption leave respectively).
- 1.9 Any Member taking leave should ensure that they respond to reasonable requests for information from the Council as promptly as possible, and that they keep officers and colleagues informed and updated in relation to intended dates of return and requests for extension of leave.
- 1.10 In the event of an Elected Member taking family-related leave, Councils are encouraged to consider:
- how to ensure there is minimal impact on the relevant ward by arranging, where possible, reasonable and appropriate cover to ensure the needs of constituents continue to be met;
   and
- providing what additional support may be required to facilitate an Elected Member's return from family related leave to ensure they feel supported and ready to return to the Council.

#### 2. Basic Allowance

2.1 All Members shall continue to receive their Basic Allowance in full whilst on maternity, paternity or adoption leave.

#### 3. Special Responsibility Allowances

- 3.1 Members entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) shall continue to receive their allowance in full in the case of maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave where this is possible within the constraints of the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Renumeration) and amendments thereto. Where this is not possible local arrangements should be made that best support both the Elected Member on leave and their replacement.
- 3.2 The payment of SRA, whether to the primary SRA holder or a replacement, during a period of maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave shall continue for a period of six months, or until the date when the Member taking leave is up for election (whichever is soonest). At such a point, the position will be reviewed, and will be subject to a possible extension for a further six-month period.
- 3.3 Should a Member appointed to replace the Member on maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave already hold a remunerated position, the ordinary rules relating to payment of more than one SRA shall apply.
- 3.4 Unless the Member taking leave is removed from their post whilst on leave, or unless the Party to which they belong loses control of the Council during their leave period, they shall

return at the end of their leave period to the same post, or to an alternative post with equivalent status and remuneration which they held before the leave began.

# 4. Resigning from Office and Elections

- 4.1 If a Member decides not to return at the end of their maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave they must notify the Council at the earliest possible opportunity. All allowances will cease from the effective resignation date.
- 4.2 If an election is held during the Member's maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave and they are not re-elected, or decide not to stand for re-election, their basic allowance and SRA if appropriate will cease from the Monday after the election date when they would technically leave office.



**AGENDA ITEM NO: 9** 

Report To: Inverclyde Council Date: 20 February 2020

Report By: Corporate Director Environment, Report No: IC/01/20/MM

Regeneration & Resources

Contact Officer: Martin McNab Contact No: 4246

Subject: Housing to 2040 Consultation

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise members of a pending response to the Scottish Government's "Housing to 2040" consultation and to seek their views on the proposed response.

#### 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Scottish Government opened a consultation on outline policy options on Housing to 2040 on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 with the consultation closing on 28 February. As this is a consultation on strategy rather than a technical consultation it is appropriate to consult members on the Council's response.
- 2.2 The consultation is attached at Appendix 1 with further detail on the Scottish Government's Vision for Housing to 2040 attached at Appendix 2. A draft Inverclyde Council response to the consultation is attached at Appendix 3.
- 2.3 In the course of finalising the draft response, officers from Strategic Housing have consulted with the Health and Social Care Partnership, Planning Policy and Corporate Policy.

#### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That the Council approves the draft response to the "Housing to 2040" consultation together with any agreed changes or additions that members might wish to propose.

Martin McNab
Head of Environmental & Public Protection

#### 4.0 PROPOSALS

4.1	The propos	sed cons	sultat	ion respor	nse	is attached	at	Appen	dix 3	. <b>I</b> t i	is propo	sed	that	the
	Committee	agrees	this	response	for	submission	tog	gether	with	any	agreed	cha	nges	or
	additions th	nat memb	oers r	night wish	to pi	ropose.								

#### 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

#### 5.1 Finance

None

# **Financial Implications:**

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

# 5.2 **Legal**

N/A

#### 5.3 Human Resources

N/A

# 5.4 Equalities

# **Equalities**

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES
Х	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy o recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

# (b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

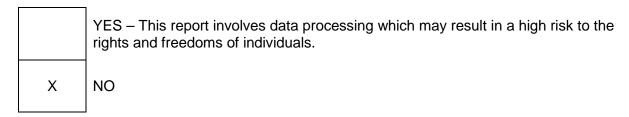
Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

I	YES - A wi	ritter	n stateme	nt showi	ng h	now this	report's	recommenda	tions	reduce
	inequalities	of	outcome	caused	by	socio-e	conomic	disadvantag	e ha	s been

	completed.
Х	NO

# (c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?



# 5.5 Repopulation

Issues around repopulation have been considered throughout the response.

# 6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Health and Social Care Partnership, Corporate Policy and Planning Policy have been consulted on the submission.

# 7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 N/A

# Housing to 2040

**Consultation on outline policy options** 



#### Dear stakeholder

# Housing to 2040: consultation on outline policy options

The Scottish Government's ambition is that everyone in Scotland should live in high quality, energy efficient homes that are affordable and that meet their needs. In last year's Programme for Government, we committed to work with you on a vision for how our homes and communities should look and feel by 2040 and the options and choices to get there. This year we reaffirmed that commitment. We want to publish our final vision and route map for 2040 in summer 2020, aligned with our new Infrastructure Investment Plan, and the Capital Spending Review, which will take account of recommendations from the Infrastructure Commission for Scotland on strategic priorities.

In July, we published a draft vision for our homes and communities in 2040, and supporting principles to guide policy development. This built on the wealth of material received in response to our stakeholder engagement in 2018 and I want to thank you for all your contributions to date. I am writing to you now to seek your views on the draft vision and principles and your suggestions for bold, imaginative and innovative proposals in order to deliver the housing to 2040 vision.

We would very much like this to be an open public debate so that we can work together towards building a consensus around the vision and route map. In support of this, we are running a programme of stakeholder events and I am planning to attend as many of these as possible so I can hear your views. These will provide a forum to explore your suggestions and some of the difficult choices that necessarily follow. As it may not be possible to engage with everyone with an interest, we are also inviting written submissions.

Now is the time to reimagine our housing system and we want to work together with the whole of Scotland to create a shared vision for 2040. Housing is embedded in so much that we want to achieve. It has a vital role to play in meeting many of our aspirations, including eradicating child poverty and homelessness, ending fuel poverty, tackling the global climate emergency and promoting inclusive growth. We face a number of challenges which mean that **business as usual is not an option**. We need to think open-mindedly about how to respond and **I am clear that nothing is off the table**.

You have asked us to work towards cross-party political consensus on the future direction of housing policy. If the vision and route map are to be long-lasting, then they need to be created by, and belong to, all of us. I have invited other political parties to work with us on this and I look forward to engaging with them once I have

heard from you about how you would like us to deliver the vision. We all know that house building, and housing systems don't fit neatly into a parliamentary cycle. I want to provide you with the long-term certainty you need to plan ahead, whether as an individual or organisation, and to invest in housing and housing services, in order to deliver and enjoy our shared vision for 2040.

Attached to this letter you will find: details of how to engage (**Annex A**); some guideline questions (**Annex B**); and some points to consider (**Annex C**). A copy of this letter is available on the Scottish Government website.

This is an exciting opportunity for housing policy for Scotland and I want everyone to play their part in creating the homes and communities of 2040. This period of consultation will continue until **28 February 2020** and I look forward to engaging with you.

**AILEEN CAMPBELL** 

#### **HOW TO ENGAGE**

Everything you need to know, including a copy of this letter, can be found at: www.gov.scot/publications/housing-2040/

Please consider using **social media** - twitter **#housing2040** - to make a public contribution and encourage debate.

If you want to make a **formal written submission**, please respond to this consultation using the Scottish Government's consultation hub, Citizen Space. Further details can be found within **Annex D** – Responding to the Consultation.

The Scottish Government will be organising a series of **engagement events**, some of which will be open and some of which by invitation only, and details of these will be made available on our website.

As part of this engagement, a **housing exhibition**, *Present Voices, Future Lives*, has begun touring twelve locations across Scotland. Exhibition events have been running since 4 November and will conclude on 16 December. The exhibition is travelling to urban, rural and island locations in order to hear from local communities and young people across Scotland about what matters to them. It aims to convey some of the challenges and themes such as liveability, adaptability, and accessibility, as well as providing an opportunity to better understand people's lived experiences of housing and place.

The exhibition spends a full day in each of the locations, and involves daytime workshops with young people to explore how we want to live in future, followed by a curated evening exhibition. The evening exhibition is open to all and showcases the findings collected from the workshops during the day. You are most welcome to attend any of the upcoming evening exhibitions and there will be other opportunities to view the full exhibition during the consultation period. The full list of exhibition dates and venues is signposted on the Scottish Government website.

Please also consider **arranging your own events** and discussions and using these to shape your contribution. We have produced a step-by-step guide for running your own Housing to 2040 consultation event or workshop. If you would like to do this, please get in touch with the Housing to 2040 team as they may be able to offer further advice and assistance.

You can **contact the Housing to 2040** team at: <a href="mailto:housing2040@gov.scot">housing2040@gov.scot</a> (but please note we may not be able to reply to each e-mail individually).

#### **GUIDELINE QUESTIONS**

Q1	Earlier this year we published our draft vision and principles. A short and longer version are available here: <a href="https://www.gov.scot/publications/housing-to-2040/">https://www.gov.scot/publications/housing-to-2040/</a> . Do you have any comments on the draft vision and principles?  Please be specific and identify what you would change and why.
Q2	Do you have any comments on the scenarios and resilience of the route map or constraints?  These are set out in sections 3 and 4 of <b>Annex C</b> .

For questions 3 to 7 below, when making proposals, please be as specific as you can about:

- Who needs to make it happen and what type of action is required? E.g. facilitation, regulatory, financial, infrastructure, training etc.
- How much it costs and who will pay?
- Who is needed to do the work (workforce)?
- How long the proposal would take to implement and whether it is a temporary or permanent measure?
- When in the period 2021 to 2040 should it begin and does anything need to be done first?
- Who will benefit (who is it for)? And who might lose out and how could this be mitigated? (Think about equality groups and different types of organisation and geography and the impact on the wider community.)
- How does it help deliver the draft vision? Does it align with the draft principles?

We recognise you may not be able to answer all of these questions – please do not let that put you off responding to us with your proposals.

Q3	Do you have any proposals that would increase the <b>affordability</b> of housing in the future?
Q4	Do you have any proposals that would increase the <b>accessibility</b> and/or functionality of existing and new housing (for example, for older and disabled people)?

Q5	Do you have any proposals that would help us respond to the global climate emergency by increasing the energy efficiency and warmth and lowering the carbon emissions of existing and new housing?
Q6	Do you have any proposals that would improve the quality, standards and state of repair of existing and new housing?
Q7	Do you have any proposals that would improve the <b>space around our homes</b> and promote connected places and vibrant communities?
Q8	Any other comments?

#### SOME POINTS TO CONSIDER

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. We are inviting views on the draft vision for 2040 and the underpinning principles as well as your suggestions for radical policy proposals to make the vision a reality.
- 1.2. This paper takes forward the commitment in the Scottish Government's 2018-19 Programme for Government<sup>1</sup> to work on a vision for how our homes and communities should look and feel by 2040 and the options and choices to get there.
- 1.3. We are adopting a whole-systems approach to housing and, for this to be effective, we need to make the most of connections between different policy areas across government. We want to align housing to 2040 with longer term planning already underway, for example around infrastructure investment and the Infrastructure Commission, the Scottish National Investment Bank, and Scotland's inclusive growth agenda.
- 1.4. The Scottish Government has already taken significant steps to improve the housing system in Scotland and people's experience of it. This includes: a renewed commitment to social housing through record investment and ending 'Right to Buy'; improving protections and standards for tenants in the Private Rented Sector: and alleviating poverty through full mitigation of the bedroom tax through Discretionary Housing Payments and the introduction of the Universal Credit Scottish choices. Since 2013, over 120,000 homes throughout Scotland have benefited from our Home Energy Efficiency Programmes, making them warmer, greener and more energy efficient, and we have set out an Energy Efficient Scotland route map to 2040 describing how we will improve the performance of all our buildings. We are taking action to ensure everyone has a home, ending homelessness and rough sleeping in Scotland. In addition, our Affordable Housing Supply Programme is on track to deliver our target of more than 50,000 affordable homes by 2021. For each policy affecting housing, we must make the right changes at the right time to help us converge on the 2040 vision.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 'Delivering for today, investing for tomorrow: the Government's programme for Scotland 2018-2019', September 2018 (page 98-99) <a href="https://beta.gov.scot/publications/delivering-today-investing-tomorrow-governments-programme-scotland-2018-19/">https://beta.gov.scot/publications/delivering-today-investing-tomorrow-governments-programme-scotland-2018-19/</a>

# 2. Vision and principles

- 2.1. Housing, and our approach to 2040, has a substantial role to play in contributing to the Scottish Government's Purpose, National Outcomes<sup>2</sup> and UN Sustainable Development goals. It can help us achieve many of our ambitions for Scotland, including eradicating child poverty and homelessness, ending fuel poverty and tackling the effects of climate change; housing must play its part in tackling the global climate emergency.
- 2.2. The draft principles we published in July 2019 are designed to provide a coherent framework for future housing policy development in Scotland. The advantages of setting out principles are that they help improve:
  - the consistency and focus of housing policies and actions; and
  - the connection between housing policy and other priorities, e.g. around inclusive growth, health and education.
- 2.3. Housing to 2040 is for all of Scotland. Rural communities face particular issues, for example with higher housing costs, both build costs and living costs, than in Scotland's towns and cities. The vision and principles are designed to work across Scotland and include important implications and protections for rural communities. As we develop the route map, we will be subjecting it to an islands impact assessment and considering how to ensure it is rural-proofed, in line with the recommendations of the National Council of Rural Advisers.

Development of the vision and principles

2.4. The Housing to 2040 draft vision and principles emerged as a result of extensive engagement which concluded on 30 November 2018, and attracted contributions from over 800 people representing more than 100 organisations. A Scottish Government report on this stakeholder engagement in 2018 was published in May 2019 and you can find a copy of the 2018 discussion document and the final report on the website.

# 3. Drivers of change

3.1. The high level policies to deliver the 2040 vision will, in due course, be included in a route map to 2040. For the route map to have lasting value, it has to be resilient around different possible futures. Some major influencers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Scotland's National Performance Framework.

- of the housing system include: population and health; political; economic; technology; transport; energy and climate change; and climate adaptation.
- 3.2. When suggesting your policy proposals, you might like to consider how resilient your proposals are against the following variables or "drivers of change", noting that change may come faster or slower than forecast or be altogether different. (Note that this is not an exhaustive list.)

#### Population and health

- More single person households
- Relatively smaller working age population
- Geographical shift in population areas of rising population and depopulation, especially in rural areas
- No natural growth in population falling birth rate and an increase in the number of deaths
- Need for inward migration to maintain population
- Ageing population
- The gap between life expectancy and healthy life expectancy

#### Political

- Increased devolution of powers or full independence for Scotland
- Relationship with the EU
- Role of local government
- Public appetite to pay to fund public services
- Public engagement in decision-making

#### Economic

- Relative economic performance between Scotland and rUK
- Negative impact of Brexit
- Greater financial innovation, especially "green finance"
- Exchange rates

- Scottish Government borrowing limits
- Balance of imports, exports and internal consumption, e.g. around timber and forestry

# Technology

- Increasing automation and artificial intelligence affecting the way we work
   different jobs, changing work patterns and skills requirements
- Technology as enabler for communications, care and longevity
- Data gathering and integration to improve policy-making and service delivery
- Balance between on-line and physical interaction, e.g. in retail, and the impact on urban planning
- Speed of technological development and regulatory lag
- Growing need for robust cyber security
- Rollout of 5G and superfast broadband
- Greater customisation and personalisation

#### **Transport**

- Increased use of electric vehicles could mean a way of storing energy for homes or, in the case of autonomous cars, the depot is a storage node on the grid
- More walking and cycling
- Smart public transport, responding to demand

#### Energy and climate change mitigation

- Growing public support for climate action
- More renewable energy generation and changes to energy infrastructure
- Improved energy performance for homes and businesses
- Future of the gas grid closed or repurposed?
- Carbon capture and storage

- Changing patterns of land use and farming methods, re-wilding, replanting forests, protecting peat lands
- Changing patterns of consumption of food and other goods

Climate change: adaptation

- Increased flood risk from sea level rise and excess rainfall
- Prolonged periods of low rainfall with increased drought and fire risk
- Higher temperatures and greater need for cooling measures
- Changes to land use

#### 4. Constraints: financial and labour market

**Financial** 

- 4.1. Scottish Government's capital budget of over £827 million for the Affordable Housing Supply Programme in 2019-20 represents 16% of the total capital budget<sup>3</sup>. The current level of funding, however, will be difficult to sustain, especially considering the number of demographic, societal and fiscal challenges we face.
- 4.2. In the course of this Scottish Parliamentary term (2016-2021), it is anticipated that the Scottish Government will spend over £4 billion on housing in Scotland, primarily through affordable housing supply, shared equity schemes, energy efficiency measures and mitigating UK Government welfare cuts. The UK Government will spend over £8 billion on housing in Scotland, primarily through housing benefits and energy efficiency measures. This brings the total government spend to around £13 billion. Householders and the private sector will have made significant investment in housing infrastructure over this period too; publicly-funded housing infrastructure also attracts at least 50% private finance.
- 4.3. There are four major areas of investment and activity required in housing infrastructure in the period to 2040:
  - delivering more homes across all tenures;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The total capital budget is £5,106 million, including Financial Transaction Capital.

- adaptations of (some) existing homes to make them more accessible for disabled persons and appropriate for an ageing population;
- delivering the Energy Efficient Scotland targets through retrofitting energy efficiency measures in our existing homes; and
- addressing the backlog of major improvements, maintenance and repairs to existing homes across all tenures, but especially owner occupied homes.
- 4.4. The total cost of all this work might be expected to be of *order of magnitude* £100 billion<sup>4</sup> over the 20 year period, apportioned between the public and private sectors and households. (By way of comparison, the total Scottish Government budget for 2019/20 is around £34.7 billion<sup>5</sup>.) One important constraint is the need to spread the cost of this work equitably across all sectors and distribute sensibly over time. In particular, public sector costs must be bearable and also take account of any revenue impact (positive or negative) from the policy options.
- 4.5. A whole systems approach to housing delivery needs to take account of all public sector housing-related costs and receipts. We need to bring more new and innovative forms of finance into the housing system and make sure that public investment complements, rather than displaces, private investment.

#### Labour market

- 4.6. Similarly, the work will need to be done by an evolving workforce and different skills will be required in different combinations for each activity. The planning and sequencing of the work in the route map will need to take account of the availability of people with the right skills in the different regions of Scotland. For example, there may be only so many electricians available at any given time in the Highlands and they cannot be overcommitted. This is a second important constraint.
- 4.7. Some important factors affecting availability include: the overall workforce size, shaped by demographic changes, including an ageing population and migration to, from and within Scotland; worker mobility across Scotland and between sectors of the economy; opportunities for training and re-training; the need for skills to evolve to suit new and emerging technologies; and the latency of the system recruitment and training take time.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This means closer to £100 billion than either £10 billion or £1 trillion.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> DEL only, i.e. excluding AME.

- 4.8. We also need to be active in shaping the future workforce to deliver the route map and the vision for 2040. For example, Scottish Government is already considering the future skills requirements to deliver new housing and more broadly<sup>6</sup>.
- 4.9. We need to think about efficient deployment too if a home needs adapting and retrofitting, then it might make better use of skilled workers to do this in a combined effort. This is in line with the Place Principle<sup>7</sup>, requiring a more joined-up, collaborative, and participative approach to services, land and buildings, across all sectors within a place.
- 4.10. When we consider the sequencing of options, both these constraints need to be borne in mind.

#### 5. Your policy suggestions

- 5.1. You might want to consider how your suggestions:
  - contribute towards delivery of existing commitments post-2021, such as those around child poverty and tackling the global climate emergency;
  - recognise the scale of the fiscal, demographic and climate challenges we cannot simply continue with business as usual;
  - facilitate an evolutionary approach, starting in 2021 and avoiding sudden shocks insofar as this is possible; and
  - focus on the "win-win" of delivering wider objectives, e.g. housing and health.
- 5.2. You might want to consider how your suggestions fit with the financial and workforce constraints and how resilient they are in the face of the possible drivers of change.
- 5.3. Finally, we received a wealth of material in response to our stakeholder engagement in 2018 and this can be found in the report on the website. You might like to develop one of your earlier suggestions, or someone else's, and, informed by the draft vision and principles, develop it into a more detailed policy proposal.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See the New Housing and Future Construction Skills Report, May 2019, and the Future Skills Action Plan, September 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See the Scottish Government's Place Principle.

#### RESPONDING TO THE CONSULTATION

We are inviting responses to this consultation by Friday 28 February 2020.

You can access and respond to this consultation online at: <a href="https://consult.gov.scot/housing-services-policy-unit/housing-to-2040">https://consult.gov.scot/housing-services-policy-unit/housing-to-2040</a>.

The response form takes you through the guideline questions (**Annex B**) and also allows space for your own views. You can save and return to your responses while the consultation is still open. Please ensure that consultation responses are submitted before the closing date of 28 February 2020.

If you are unable to respond using our online consultation hub, please complete the Respondent Information Form (**Annex E**) and send it:

- by email to <a href="mailto:housing2040@gov.scot">housing2040@gov.scot</a>; or
- by post to Housing to 2040 Team, Scottish Government, 2J North Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ

#### Handling your response

Please indicate how you wish your response to be handled and, in particular, whether you are content for your response to published. If you ask for your response not to be published, we will regard it as confidential, and we will treat it accordingly.

All respondents should be aware that the Scottish Government is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and would therefore have to consider any request made to it under the Act for information relating to responses made to this consultation exercise.

To find out how we handle your personal data, please see our privacy policy: https://beta.gov.scot/privacy/

#### **Next steps in the process**

Where respondents have given permission for their response to be made public, and after we have checked that they contain no potentially defamatory material, responses will be made available to the public at <a href="http://consult.gov.scot">http://consult.gov.scot</a>. If you use the consultation hub to respond, you will receive a copy of your response via email.

Following the closing date, all responses will be analysed and considered along with any other available evidence to help us. Responses will be published where we have been given permission to do so. An analysis report will also be made available.

#### **Comments and complaints**

If you have any comments about how this consultation exercise has been conducted, please send them to the contact address above or to <a href="https://example.com/housing2040@gov.scot">housing2040@gov.scot</a>.

#### **Scottish Government consultation process**

Consultation is an essential part of the policymaking process. It gives us the opportunity to consider your opinion and expertise on a proposed area of work.

You can find all our consultations online: <a href="http://consult.gov.scot">http://consult.gov.scot</a>. Each consultation details the issues under consideration, as well as a way for you to give us your views, either online, by email or by post.

Responses will be analysed and used as part of the decision making process, along with a range of other available information and evidence. We will publish a report of this analysis for every consultation. Depending on the nature of the consultation exercise, the responses received may:

- indicate the need for policy development or review;
- inform the development of a particular policy;
- help decisions to be made between alternative policy proposals; or
- be used to finalise legislation before it is implemented.

While details of particular circumstances described in a response to a consultation exercise may usefully inform the policy process, consultation exercises cannot address individual concerns and comments, which should be directed to the relevant public body.



# **ANNEX E**

# **RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM**

Please Note this form must be completed and returned with your response.					
Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?					
☐ Individual					
Organisation					
Full name or organisation's name					
Phone number					
Address					
Postcode					
Email					
	_				
The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:		Information for organisations:			
		The option 'Publish response only (without name) is available for individual respondents only. If this option is selected, the organisation name will still be published.			
Publish response with name		If you choose the option 'Do not publish response', your organisation name may still be listed as having responded to the consultation in, for example, the analysis report.			
Publish response only (without na	ame)				
Do not publish response		chample, the analysis report			

may be	I share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who e addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact ain in relation to this consultation exercise?
	Yes No



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www.gov.scot

HOUSING TO

# 2040



# A VISION FOR OUR FUTURE HOMES AND COMMUNITIES



# What is Housing to 2040?

Housing has a vital role to play in meeting many of our ambitions for Scotland, including eradicating child poverty and homelessness, ending fuel poverty, tackling the effects of climate change and promoting inclusive growth.

We want everyone in Scotland to have a home that is warm, affordable and accessible and that fits their needs. We also want to ensure we have a housing system that is dynamic and resilient enough to respond to future changes, and can help to address the number of challenges we are facing, including an ageing population and a global climate emergency. That is why we have now begun to consider our longer term aspirations for housing in Scotland and the opportunities for how we might achieve this.

In our 2018-19 Programme for Government, we made a commitment to plan together with stakeholders for how our homes and communities should look and feel in 2040 and the options and choices to get there. This new approach will encompass the whole housing system<sup>1</sup> – we want Housing to 2040 to be a lasting legacy that is not just about new homes, but that takes into account the people, place, environment and communities in which our homes, both new and old, are located.

Since making this commitment, we have been engaging extensively with a variety of stakeholders, including local government, businesses, the third sector, home owners, tenants and others to help shape a draft vision and principles for 2040.

This document sets out the Housing to 2040 draft vision and principles that emerged following our initial round of stakeholder engagement.

# What is the purpose of the vision and principles?

Our <u>National Performance Framework</u> provides the high-level vision for Scotland. Our draft housing vision for 2040 describes in more detail what we want the housing system to look and feel like in the future. It is meant to be ambitious and aspirational.

The vision is **person-centred**, and views the system from the citizen's perspective to reflect the diversity of people, homes and communities across Scotland. But the vision is also for all those involved in housing delivery and services - making the vision a reality will require action from Scottish Government, public, private and third sector partners and the people of Scotland.

The principles underpinning the vision are a high-level guide to how policy decisions might be made to make the vision a reality.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In this context, the "housing system" includes culturally appropriate accommodation for Gypsy/Travellers such as sites, for example, as well as more traditional forms of accommodation.

# What are some of the challenges we face?

#### We have an ageing population and people are living longer

This means that demands on health and social care will increase in the future. We want to think about our different housing options and promote greater adaptability to allow us to live independently at home for longer, reducing that demand.

#### The number of households is growing and more people are living alone

The number of households in Scotland is projected to increase and one person households are set to become the most common household type. This means we need to think strategically about how we design and build new homes and where, and how we can make the best use of our existing stock.

## We need to mitigate the impact of climate change

We must ensure our homes are energy efficient and are able to adapt to the effects of climate change We've set out the actions we'll take to reduce emissions from our homes in our Climate Change Plan and our Energy Efficient Scotland route map. We have also introduced a Climate Change Bill to strengthen our greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

#### We must act on homelessness

Nobody should be without a safe, warm place they can call home - that is why we are working hard to prevent homelessness in Scotland. We have published our Ending Homelessness and Rough Sleeping action plan to transform temporary accommodation and put an end to rough sleeping and homelessness.

#### We want to tackle child poverty

The Scottish Government is committed to ending child poverty and the housing system can help us to do this. We want to increase housing affordability and lower running costs to reduce poverty for households with children.

# We need to manage the impact of Brexit and the UK Government's welfare reforms

Brexit will have consequences for both housing supply and demand. The UK Government's welfare reforms have reduced the support it provides - the Scottish Government works to mitigate this, but this isn't sustainable in the long term.

# We want to hear your views...

The first phase of Housing to 2040 stakeholder engagement concluded on 30 November 2018, and attracted contributions from over 800 people representing more than 100 organisations. A Scottish Government report on stakeholder engagement in 2018 was published in May 2019 and is available here:

https://www.gov.scot/publications/housing-2040-report-stakeholder-engagement-2018/

We will continue to engage with a wide range of people across Scotland and will undertake further formal public consultation in the autumn on the draft vision and principles, themes and outline options for the route map.

The outputs from the next round of consultation will help us to create the final vision and a route map to 2040, which we intend to publish in spring 2020.

What you can do now:

- Discuss this with friends, family or in your communities/workplace or on twitter using the hashtag #Housing2040
- E-mail us your thoughts at <a href="mailto:Housing2040@gov.scot">Housing2040@gov.scot</a> (please note we won't be able to respond to each e-mail individually)

#### **HOUSING TO 2040 VISION**

#### A WELL-FUNCTIONING HOUSING SYSTEM

- Finding the right home I can quickly find a home that is right for me when I need one, for example when my circumstances change, and the process of moving is straightforward. I have a choice about where in Scotland I live and the type of home I live in. I can find suitable accommodation no matter what area I choose to live in, even though I am on a modest income. There are new ways to find homes through, for example, arranging swaps directly with other people who want to move.
- Affording a home I can afford a home that meets my needs. I find renting is affordable and allows me to make regular savings for my future, in order to buy a home, if I want to.
- Making the best use of our homes As an older person wanting to move, I
  can get help to move to a home which better meets my needs; my current
  home is no longer right for me but would be ideal for a family.

I live in a social rented home, and can move across Scotland to be nearer family without losing my right to a home.

As a parent on a low income, I can get help to move to home better suited to my children's needs.

- **Investing** There are a range of attractive forms of investment and savings products for me to consider beyond bricks and mortar and these will help me to fund my retirement.
- Fairness I know that help with housing is there for me if and when I need it, for example if I am struggling to pay my rent. I am assisted to keep my home at difficult points in my life.
- Rural and island communities I live in a remote area and it is great to know
  there are good housing options for everyone here, from farmers and crofters to
  young people and those seeking to move to the area to set up home and bring
  employment and new opportunities to the area. Housing supports muchneeded skilled workers living and staying in my community; and local people
  and businesses are building the new homes.

New homes in my rural community have supported a jump in population. The future of the primary school and local shop is secure. It's a comfort to know that our local circumstances are taken into account when government makes decisions about housing; it feels like we're on a level playing field with the big cities.

#### HIGH QUALITY SUSTAINABLE HOMES

- Design My home is well-designed and of a high standard, with enough space and flexibility to allow me to live well. I know that a lot of effort went into the design of my home, which has helped make it functional, attractive, flexible, resilient and energy efficient.
- **Equality of standards** You can't tell by looking at my home whether I own or rent my home; it's in a great place and meets all of my needs.
- Older homes My home is quite old but there are a range of innovative and affordable ways available to me to make it more comfortable and energy efficient without spoiling its appearance.
- New build homes When I bought my new home, any defects were rectified quickly. Defects are minimised because of the high level of quality control during the construction process. I am confident that my house builder is a fair and inclusive employer.
- **Empowered** I am not afraid to ask my landlord about changes or improvements to my home because I know they have to consider my request fully and I cannot be penalised for asking.
- **Good use** Every home on my street is occupied and no home is left empty for a significant period of time without good reason.
- **Maintenance** I find it easy to find high quality, reliable and cost effective tradespeople to make repairs and improvements to my home. Although I live in a block of flats, it is really straightforward to make improvements and repairs to communal areas. My property factor delivers a high quality service.
- Running costs I understand exactly how much it costs to run my home and what I can do to reduce costs and carbon emissions; it's great that fuel poverty is a thing of the past.
- Low carbon I know that my home is not damaging the planet having been retrofitted to be near zero carbon; it is heated using renewable energy, which is affordable and efficient. Every home in Scotland is energy efficient and we're all playing our part in tackling the global climate emergency.

#### SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

- Staying local There is a good mix of housing where I live, which means I have the option to stay in the area if my needs change. This means I know I can stay in contact with my neighbours and friends and can continue to access the services that my family and I use. The right homes are available across Scotland and in the right place to support both rural and urban communities; there are homes suitable for different cultures and for people who need extra help to be cared for in my community. This means my elderly relatives can live nearby too if they choose.
- Well-designed places –The place where I live is well-designed, distinctive and
  has a strong sense of identity. House builders are building homes that are high
  quality, fit well into the neighbourhood and are climate ready. The flooding
  issues that used to bother us have been resolved by, for instance, using living
  roofs or allowing space for wild areas; these help to soak up the rain.
- Connected places My local council and developers listen to me and my community. They pay attention to what we want and what makes my community special. We have the right infrastructure in place for new homes and we are well-connected. Open spaces are accessible and used by people of all ages. Good transport connectivity gives me easy access to the services I need, even though I live a long way from the nearest town.
- Health and well-being There is a strong sense of community pride where I live and people care about our surroundings and are supported to maintain them. The streets around me are clean, accessible and safe. It is a walking and cycle-friendly environment. The parks, play areas and green spaces are easily accessible and used by people of all ages. We all benefit from good physical and mental health from a clean environment, inspiring and well-maintained surroundings.
- Vibrant communities The centre of my community is a lively hub with shops, services and attractive places to meet. My community is digitally connected enabling me to work from home or hotdesk locally when I want to. People are attracted to live and work in my island community, and local businesses are thriving.

#### HOMES THAT MEET PEOPLE'S NEEDS

- My lifestyle My home supports my well-being, and the well-being of my family. My home supports my children in doing the best they can at school, and allows me to engage with my community and other people who matter to me, including my family, friends and neighbours. My home supports me in progressing my career. My home supports me through different stages of my life and can be easily adapted around me.
- **My rights** I know where to go to get information and advice about my rights to housing and housing services and I feel empowered. I know where to get the help I need to prevent me from losing my home.
  - As a former member of the Armed Forces, I receive support from my local authority including advice about the additional support to which I am entitled from veteran organisations. When I signed up to the Armed Forces, I was provided with information and advice on the housing options in Scotland which allowed me to plan for a better future in civilian life.
- Diversity Where I live, there are a variety of different homes that meet the differing needs of people in the community. Land is available to support further housebuilding and the community is engaged and involved with taking forward proposals for housing in new and innovative ways, for example through self-build projects. There are also options to live more communally, if that is what people want. When my illness became more severe and limited my mobility, I was able to find a home that allows me to stay in my community and had my independence supported.
- My services I get the help I need to live independently at home, supported by new and advancing technology. I can access health, welfare, education and other services, not least because my community is well-connected with good transport services. If I need an aid or adaptation to my home to allow to me to continue to live independently, it will be provided within a reasonable time. If I am no longer able to live independently at home, there is a good choice of retirement, sheltered or residential homes available to me close to my family.
- Self-build When I built my own home, I found it easy to access advice and support for my self-build project and I was able to work on it myself. This means I have a home which is just right for me.

# **HOUSING TO 2040 PRINCIPLES**

#### A WELL-FUNCTIONING HOUSING SYSTEM

#### **PRINCIPLE 1**

The housing system should supply high-quality affordable homes for living in, to shift the balance away from the use of homes as a means to store wealth.

One decent home per household takes priority over second homes and investment returns on property, i.e. investment in housing is not for asset growth. Commercial investment in the Private Rented Sector is based on rental income return (not capital appreciation). Housing promotes fairer wealth distributions and reduces inequality. Government actively shapes the market to make sure that there is a sufficient number of high-quality homes in urban and rural areas so that everyone has a reasonable choice of where they live and the type of accommodation they live in. Older and disabled people benefit from the increased availability of affordable and accessible housing to support them to live independent lives.

#### **PRINCIPLE 2**

Government policy (including taxes and subsidies, for example) should promote house price stability, to help underpin Scotland's standard of living and productivity and promote a Fairer Scotland.

House price inflation is broadly in line with wage growth and other living costs, i.e. the ratio between the cost of a house and the cost of a loaf of bread is more or less constant<sup>2</sup>. The cost of housing is under control, boosting productivity, because there is less pressure on wages and this increases Scotland's attractiveness as a place to invest. Policy is tailored to the different needs of urban, rural and island communities. Housing availability in rural areas is attracting inward investment and creating employment opportunities which, in turn, is attracting people to rural communities. People can live close to good quality schools for their children to attend.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> We may even need a period of static house prices in cash terms in order to increase affordability in some areas.

Everybody should be able to save for the future (as well as be secure in their home and make significant changes to it) whether they rent or own.

Renters share more of the benefits of owner occupation<sup>3</sup> as they have the capacity and mechanisms to save for the future, increased security of tenure and the discretion to make changes to their home. There are new and innovative financial products and tenancy agreements which combine aspects of renting with owning, for example actuarial products that offer lifetime tenure and a pension in return for the capital asset at end of life.

#### **PRINCIPLE 4**

Housing provision should be informed by whole life economic costs and benefits in the round and help to address inequalities in health, wealth and education.

The cost assessment of all new homes takes account, not only of the upfront build cost, but also the running costs of the home and its environmental impact. This applies both to the direct costs from utility bills, maintenance and repair and also to the indirect costs of developments which promote unhealthy lifestyles which are likely to have a health service cost later on (e.g. promoting car use over walking or cycling). Rules around, and investment in, housing takes account of the differing costs of delivery between rural and urban Scotland and also accounts for people with different needs. This includes adequate provision of culturally appropriate sites and accommodation for Gypsy/Travellers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Owner occupation is currently popular for three main reasons: repayment mortgages are a form of saving and, at the end of the mortgage, the homeowner has both a valuable asset and a rent-free home; they have more security of tenure (provided they keep up with their repayments); and they have greater discretion to make changes to their home.

# **HIGH QUALITY, SUSTAINABLE HOMES**

## PRINCIPLE 5

Tenure-neutral space and quality standards for new homes (and existing homes where possible) should be set specifically to improve and protect quality of living and of place.

Rooms are the right size for their purpose and the size of the household. The space in the home can be configured flexibly to meet the household's needs. For example, there is sufficient space for children to do their homework and for others to work at home if this option is available to them. This improves economic productivity as it helps bring new workers into the market, reduces the resources required to support work (travel time and costs of commuting) and reduces the adverse economic, environmental and health impacts of congestion.

#### PRINCIPLE 6

Government policy should promote a greater diversity of home builders and broader availability of land for development to reduce prices and improve building quality.

There is a larger number and a greater variety of house builders and developers, including Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, community and social enterprises, custom-build and self-build. Land zoned for housing or with planning permission is made available to whoever is willing to progress development and this happens rapidly. Better use of public sector land supports infrastructure provision, creates social, economic and environmental value and improves the quality of place. Lower land costs frees up more money to be spent on building design and quality; and greater competition helps ensure that is the case. People are well-informed about the importance of quality and design and the homes being built are the ones they want. Developers offer a real choice and new homes are customised to the first occupants' wants and needs. Government investment in new and existing homes across all tenures is not an isolated activity but is part of the development of the wider place and enhances the quality of life.

All tenures should apply the same high quality and safety standards and levels of consumer protection.

High standards are backed up through a system of incentives and penalties. All homes of all tenures are subject to the same high standards and with appropriate ways of enforcement, compliance and seeking speedy redress. The legislative and fiscal framework require and encourage households and businesses to meet the standards. Homes that cannot reasonably be adapted to meet the standards (taking account of technical feasibility and cost effectiveness) are considered for demolition or are repurposed. Good design is shared and reused, where appropriate.

# **PRINCIPLE 8**

New homes for sale should be built to high standards, defects should be identified and remedied quickly and all owners should be required to maintain the condition of their home.

Tougher inspection and, where required, enforcement is in place during the construction phase so that, for example, insulation is installed properly. Purchasers are confident that defects and snagging are remedied quickly, even after the site is completed and the developer has left. People maintain their outside space in a nature-friendly way to make their neighbourhood attractive and are encouraged, sometimes required, to cooperate over communal repairs.

Decisions around the quality, location and utilisation of existing stock and new build should be ambitious in enhancing biodiversity, promoting Scotland's energy security, and be consistent with the target for Scotland's emissions to be net zero carbon by 2045.

The existing housing stock is made more energy efficient, uses low carbon heat and is more efficiently allocated (e.g. so that people can live nearer their work, if that is what they want to do). New build homes are built so that they are net zero carbon (i.e. built to high standards of energy efficiency and use renewable heat or very low carbon heating), taking into account the natural resources consumed by the construction process too. Brownfield sites are prioritised and incentivised and the true value of green space is taken into account. There is more innovation in environmentally-friendly building and improvement techniques and materials, which are thoroughly tested before being implemented. All housing is resilient to the impacts of climate change, including minimising flood risk, and contributes to climate ready places and communities. Our homes, and the space around them, promote biodiversity by providing a variety of habitats and wildlife corridors. Fuel poverty has been eradicated.

#### SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

#### **PRINCIPLE 10**

New housing<sup>4</sup>, and the required community resources, should only be provided where they help to create safer, stronger, attractive, sustainable and integrated communities.

New housing is built to facilitate active or accessible travel to school, healthcare and employment opportunities, and enables residents to continue to be active in their community as they get older. There is a more organic approach to new housing, with the right number and type of homes placed in such a way as to strengthen the existing community, so that both incomers and existing residents benefit. Town centres are rejuvenated by more people living in them. The right housing supports rural and island economies to thrive.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Of whatever size or scale, from self-build to large developments.

Local communities should be empowered to respond to housing need in their area, as part of a coherent regional economic approach (creating and maintaining jobs) and supported by provision of the right infrastructure.

Young people have the choice to stay in their community if they want to, and key workers can live locally, because local communities take action to meet that housing need. Communities do this by getting suitable homes built and having a say about how the homes are used in their area (e.g. numbers of second homes). New housing for working age people is planned in anticipation of employment opportunities. Local communities get assistance linking to transport or utility infrastructure, for example. Conversely, employment is attracted and directed to places where there is underutilised good housing. Rural communities are getting the relatively modest number of homes that make a big difference to them planned and built quickly.

#### **PRINCIPLE 12**

Government intervention should help existing and new communities to be physically, digitally, culturally and economically connected within a coherent geographic region; this includes retaining and attracting vibrant communities in areas facing depopulation.

Settlements do not exist in isolation and have strong inbound and outbound connections (e.g. bus, rail and ferry links and broadband). Settlements "make sense" in their regional context, in terms of where people live, work, relax and access services. There are strong local connections that see the local café supplied by the butcher who buys his meat from the local farmer, for example. People are attracted to live and work in rural communities through a range of supply of affordable housing options and good public transport links; this also boosts local business and attracts inward investment.

#### HOMES THAT MEET PEOPLE'S NEEDS

#### PRINCIPLE 13

Government should ensure that there are affordable housing options across Scotland for households at all income levels.

Households at the lower end of the income distribution are offered assistance with housing and housing costs and households at the higher end can afford the home of their choice. Those in the middle can also afford housing appropriate for their needs, wherever they live in Scotland. Social housing is available across Scotland for people who need it and they can easily move home for work or personal reasons; nationally, we make best use of our social housing stock. The Private Rented Sector is the right size to provide quality, affordable and secure options for the households who want or need a rented home. Service personnel are provided with the right support upon resettling in their community by local authorities and veteran organisations. Homelessness has been eradicated; people needing homes are found homes quickly.

# **PRINCIPLE 14**

Housing and the housing market should be highly flexible to enable people to meet their changing needs.

There are enough accessible or adaptable homes across Scotland suitable for older people, disabled people, or anyone else in need of specialist accommodation, making it easy to move to be nearer family or work. Ex-service personnel are well looked after. There are no fiscal barriers or disincentives to people moving to a more suitable home for their needs. Government shows leadership but social housing development is progressed in partnership between local authorities, housing associations, developers and communities, with government intervention only if required. The state has an enabling role and communities know their rights and are more empowered. Government mediation balances individual and public good.

Housing supports, enables and reflects the diverse people of Scotland – people of all protected characteristics and other vulnerable or disadvantaged groups live in the right homes for them. They are well-represented in the workforce delivering housing and housing services. The housing system supports innovation, new models of housing and service delivery and the provision of other types of less traditional forms of accommodation: for example, culturally appropriate accommodation for Gypsy/Travellers that meets their needs and aspirations.

# Everyone has a right to an adequate home<sup>5</sup>.

#### This includes:

- legal security of tenure
- availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure
- affordability
- habitability
- accessibility
- location; and

• cultural adequacy (including for Gypsy/Travellers, for example).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The UK has ratified seven core United Nations human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). Article 11 of ICESCR states that everybody has the right to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families, including adequate food, clothing and housing.

#### Housing to 2040 Consultation: Inverciyde Council Response

**Q1** Earlier this year we published our draft vision and principles. A short and longer version are available here:

https://www.gov.scot/publications/housing-to-2040/.

Do you have any comments on the draft vision and principles? Please be specific and identify what you would change and why.

#### A well-functioning housing system

Inverclyde Council is supportive of the vision to create a well-functioning housing system and our aspiration is to deliver this outcome for the tenants and residents of Inverclyde. This is underpinned by the principle of creating high quality homes for living in, and to shift the balance away from the use of a home as a means to store wealth. Inverclyde Council is supportive of prioritising one decent home per household rather than enabling second home ownership and investment returns on property which has a detrimental effect on the availability of affordable housing.

There needs to be caution with regards to this however, particularly in relation to the demographic challenges Inverclyde faces in relation to depopulation. In Inverclyde there could be a risk of over investment in new build housing given the current housing policy context to meet the Scottish Government's 50,000 affordable homes target. Whilst Inverclyde Council should strive to ensure everyone has easy access to an affordable home, preventing undesirable, low demand housing stock in communities should also be a focus and is a potential risk given the current economic conditions.

There is a fine balance to be struck and housing delivery needs to be focused on the right type of housing in the right area. There is also a need for clear strategies on the regenerative interventions made in an area. Should money be invested in existing stock to improve and maintain it or should it be demolished to ensure excessive supply levels don't have a negative impact on the housing market. Nevertheless, investment in existing stock is essential in the sustainability of the local housing supply.

This means that policy interpretation in local areas is crucial in developing a well-functioning housing system and there needs to be further consideration towards the divergent issues evident within urban areas out with the city authorities in Scotland. Inverclyde has its own unique issues with depopulation and an increase in older residents. The housing supply is not as pressurised in Inverclyde as it is in other authorities but there has been large scale investment in general needs social housing to align with housing investment elsewhere in Scotland.

According to poverty figures published by End Child Poverty, Inverclyde has the sixth highest level of child poverty in Scotland, after housing costs. It is estimated that just over 1 in 4 (25.7%) children and young people in Inverclyde are living in poverty. Inverclyde Council is committed to eradicating child poverty; our efforts to achieve this outcome are outlined within the Inverclyde Alliance Child Poverty Action Report 2018/19. Inverclyde Council believes that developing a well-functioning housing system, investing in creating high quality sustainable homes and eradicating fuel poverty can positively contribute towards reducing both poverty and child poverty in Inverclyde.

# Q2 Do you have any comments on the scenarios and resilience of the route map or constraints?

The Housing to 2040 paper outlines how this approach will encompass the whole housing system. For this to be effective the vision highlights a need to make the most of connections between different policy areas across government. This focus on systems thinking aligns with future work planned on strategic housing priority areas in Inverclyde. As part of work to address the issues of depopulation within the region, it is Inverclyde Council's view that the regeneration of a community/strategic area must be treated holistically.

Consideration is therefore required on the appropriate improvements needed in an area to create vibrant and sustainable communities with equitable access to housing across tenures and inclusive of both existing and new build housing stock. Inverclyde Council's approach to strategic housing priority areas is with an emphasis towards repopulation in the area. This work will be a development strategy to formulate a joined up vision for an area taking a holistic view of multiple key sites located within the study. This is with a view of encouraging multi-tenure development. The projects will assess the wider housing system focusing on land use to determine what housing is required in the area across all tenures, examine required infrastructure and review access to services and amenities for existing stock and access to green space. Existing housing stock condition and low demand housing will also be evaluated to determine the correct regenerative interventions.

Following stock transfer in 2007, Inverclyde Council no longer has housing to rent but still functions as the strategic housing authority. Operating within the context of stock transfer creates challenges in relation to housing delivery and achieving the outcomes and targets set within the Local Housing Strategy (LHS). These challenges will ultimately define how Inverclyde Council achieves the aspirations set within the Housing to 2040 vision. The positive relationships forged by Inverclyde Council with our Registered Social Landlord (RSL) partners and the Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) are therefore essential in developing a shared will to deliver on these outcomes.

Cooperation with stakeholders is fundamental to delivering the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP), Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP) and the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board's Housing Contribution Statement. Agreed workloads, outcomes and priorities can sometimes be difficult to attain across organisations which makes realising the aspirations of the Housing to 2040 vision as well as the ongoing strategic priorities more complex and time consuming in a stock transfer authority.

Both Inverclyde Council and the Inverclyde HSCP are committed to implementing Inverclyde's Vision for a transition towards rapid rehousing and introducing the housing first model.

RRTP funding for 2019/20 and 2020/21 was allocated based on a three year average of homelessness assessments. The Scottish Government has reiterated previous commitments to work with COSLA around developing proposals for the remaining £8m for 2021/22 aligned to a plan-based approach to the distribution of funding.

Both Inverclyde Council and the Inverclyde HSCP support a plan-based approach to the distribution of the RRTP funding and believe the previous two years allocations should have been distributed in this manner, ensuring a fair and appropriate distribution. Allocating funding based on a three year average of homelessness assessments penalises Local Authority areas where efforts have been proactive in homelessness prevention. Funding allocations should be evaluated on their merit and the required support to implement the transition.

Current funding allocations have meant compromises and adjustments have had to be made to the initial Inverclyde RRTP due to a lack of resources to achieve what was initially proposed, based upon the aspirations of the Scottish Government. A greater commitment is required to the Ending Homelessness and Rough Sleeping agenda if the aim of the next 20 years is to realise the Housing to 2040 vision and develop a housing system which works for everyone.

In light of the Sustainable Housing on Release for Everyone (SHORE) standards, the RRTP process can play a crucial role in supporting people involved in the justice system sustain tenancies. Generally, the current housing offer for people involved in the justice system is via a homelessness assessment. The four local RSL's have developed service level agreements with HMP Greenock; however, these are open to anyone leaving HMP Greenock with no local connection required. The qualifying criteria are fairly high with RSL's finding it difficult to fill the tenancies. Being able to provide the appropriate support through the RRTP process will support Inverclyde Council and Inverclyde HSCP effectively deliver the SHORE standards.

How Inverclyde Council prepares our housing supply to meet the needs of an ageing population is also crucial in the coming years. The health issues associated with loneliness and isolation can significantly impact on an individual's quality of life so consideration is needed about how we create a more connected society in our local communities. Housing has a role to play in that whether it is facilitating social networks, signposting support or through creating social spaces in our estates and properties.

In view of the projected demographic changes, specialist housing provision and physical disability should be a central focus of the Housing to 2040 vision in the coming years. Wheelchair accessibility and housing provision for older people may become more of an issue with people living longer and the increased likelihood of impairments and frailty in old age. However, the living conditions of younger age groups with physical and learning disabilities are crucial also. The housing sector needs to consider what interventions are required to ensure new build development delivers the required volume of wheelchair accessible properties and building/space standards of properties are adequate across all tenures to meet the specialist needs of all groups.

Q3 Do you have any proposals that would increase the affordability of housing in the future?

Given the context of depopulation in Inverclyde, Inverclyde Council and the Inverclyde Alliance understand that access to affordable housing has a significant role to play in

encouraging population growth in Inverclyde. This is recognised within the Inverclyde Alliance Repopulation Strategy and Action Plan with outcome 2 of the action plan focusing on growing the housing market in Inverclyde.

There should be a selection of housing options for households at different household income entry points. The Housing to 2040 principle makes reference to the 'middle' being able to afford housing appropriate for their needs wherever they live in Scotland. This aspiration aligns with Inverclyde Council's vision for the local housing market as the Local Housing Strategy endeavours to promote a supply of good quality affordable housing solutions across all tenures.

Historically, intermediate housing products have been an unpopular option in Inverclyde with developers viewing the Inverclyde market to have unfavourable conditions making products such as mid-market rent difficult to stack up financially. This is in relation to the relatively insignificant differences between private and social rents. This is something which needs to be further examined in Inverclyde and will be a focus of future studies examining strategic housing priority areas and contributing towards meeting the shared vision and aspirations of Inverclyde Council and the Scottish Government.

The Inverciyde Local Housing Strategy reports that the average house price is lower than the Scottish average, indicating owner occupation is a more affordable option within Inverciyde than in other areas of Scotland. Affordability must be viewed relatively to the local economy and household incomes. In that respect average annual household incomes are lower in Inverciyde than Scottish averages as reported within the Scottish House Condition Survey 2015-2017. To create a well-functioning housing system, affordable housing, a good economy and employment opportunities are essential to ensure people can afford a home should they wish to and have choice in the market in relation to housing size, type and location.

Furthermore, whilst housing may be affordable, the potential concern is the knock on consequences of depopulation contributing towards the availability of the housing supply and subsequently the housing market. The associated issues with low demand areas may contribute towards a negative effect on house price stability. Voids, empty homes, vandalism and anti-social behaviour are potential side effects of an excess housing supply. These side effects, should they occur, contribute towards creating negative perceptions of areas to live in affecting the housing market in a negative way. House prices are likely to be stagnant or decrease should these problems arise.

Subsequently, the continued spotlight on tackling empty homes is important in delivering the Housing to 2040 vision and creating a well-functioning housing system. Making the best use of existing housing stock, bringing empty properties back into use and investing in disrepair is crucial in Inverclyde given the issues of depopulation. Ongoing work to bring empty properties back into use is anticipated to encourage retention of Inverclyde residents and in-migration based on an improved housing supply offer which meets the needs of current and prospective residents. This is further supported by contributing towards creating aesthetically attractive and sustainable places.

Q4 Do you have any proposals that would increase the accessibility and/or functionality of existing and new housing (for example, for older and disabled people)?

One of the Housing to 2040 visions is to create 'homes that meet people's needs,' This is crucially important particularly in relation to space, providing specialist housing for all tenants and residents in Inverclyde. Inverclyde Council shares this vision with the current Local Housing Strategy stating that the outcome to address health and housing in Inverclyde is 'to ensure that people are supported to live independently for as long as possible in their own homes and communities.' It is evident that current workload in Inverclyde is aligned to work towards meeting the strategic aspirations of the Scottish Government.

Demographic projections estimate a growing older population over the years. As people live longer, to ensure people can live independently at home, adequate levels of 'care at home' support is required and homes need to be appropriately adapted. Both of these factors are reliant on appropriate levels of funding and are at risk to constrained Council budgets. To achieve the aspirations set within the Housing to 2040, appropriate financial settlements from the Scottish Government to support Local Authorities to deliver fundamental services is vital. It is acknowledged that with the uncertainty over Brexit and UK Government's Welfare Reforms, managing the available resources will be vital in developing the Housing to 2040 vision.

Inverclyde Council believe that standards should be set so that it is a requirement that new homes are built to easily accommodate future adaptations. As technology advances it is becoming more critical that homes are digitally enabled to keep people connected and the issue of digital exclusion amongst the growing older population needs to be mitigated against. The analogue to digital transformation creates the opportunity for housing to embrace emerging assistive technologies enabling people to live independently in their own home and increase accessibility. Instead of a focus on unit delivery within the affordable housing supply programme (AHSP) building digitally enabled homes and embracing innovation should be a focus of the Scottish Government to achieve the Housing to 2040 vision that 'homes meet people's needs.'

A Fairer Scotland For Disabled People Delivery Plan contains an action "to work with local authorities, disabled people and other stakeholders to ensure that each local authority sets a realistic target within its LHS for the delivery of wheelchair accessible housing across all tenures and reports annually on progress". This policy is further echoed within both SHIP and LHS guidance, published in 2019, stating that there is a requirement for local authorities to set targets across all housing tenures for the delivery of wheelchair-accessible homes.

Inverclyde Council acknowledges that with the projected demographic changes we face it is important to ensure new build housing promote and enable independent living. Homes should be adaptable and accessible to meet the changing needs of tenants and owners. The social housing sector cannot be expected to provide all the solutions to an ageing and disabled population particularly if providing choice is valued within a well-functioning

housing system. To address the long-term needs of older and disabled people in Inverclyde and across Scotland, a cross tenure approach is therefore required.

Currently, Inverciyde Council sets a 3% target for all new build social housing to be wheelchair housing across the lifetime of the LHS based on evidence within the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA). In the context of the current 50,000 affordable homes target by 2021, Inverciyde Council has found that a focus on unit delivery has compromised efforts to deliver specialist housing locally and in particular hampered efforts to meet and exceed the 3% wheelchair housing target set within the LHS.

The nature of operating as a stock transfer authority means that Inverclyde Council is reliant on both the Scottish Government and RSL partners to meet the strategic objectives of the strategic housing authority in relation to new build housing in the social rented sector. Inverclyde Council believes there should be greater RSL accountability for the delivery of specialist housing via the AHSP.

Inverclyde Council could be supported to meet both its own strategic housing outcomes as well as contributing to attain the Housing to 2040 vision with the introduction of a legislative requirement for RSLs to provide specialist housing. This requirement would be to adhere to targets set for wheelchair accessible housing when developing new build housing funded by the AHSP. Inverclyde Council believes this would positively contribute towards providing accessible homes that people need now and over the next 20 years. Inverclyde Council acknowledges that the costs associated with developing specialist housing are greater than developing general needs housing, a factor which can be influential in site delivery for RSLs and their sustainability. To address this discrepancy there needs to be greater fluidity in the social rent grant subsidy benchmarks grant funding rates for new build social housing. To incentivise development, benchmark rates for wheelchair accessible housing should be greater than the standard RSL rates to factor in the greater development costs.

With reference to the private sector, creating cross tenure targets, whilst welcomed, is perhaps an unrealistic aspiration for areas tackling depopulation, such as Inverclyde. Attracting private developers to an area which is depopulating and is in low demand provides a challenging environment to evoke the change required. Barriers such as the affordable housing policy have already been removed across the majority of Inverclyde to incentivise private developers to the area and encourage population growth. A policy enforcing minimum size specifications or a quota of wheelchair accessible/amenity properties upon private homebuilders are likely to further deter any development/investment within the region. There are therefore conflicting policy priorities within Inverclyde which creates a challenging landscape to ensure new build development provides housing which meets the needs of Inverclyde residents.

The Scottish Government should consider how it makes private sector house builders accountable and deliver on these issues in an equitable way to their counterparts in the social rented sector. Private Sector housing is profit driven and will therefore not develop to the housing requirements of an area. The added development costs and perceived lack of demand for amenity bungalows and wheelchair accessible homes make them

undesirable house types to private developers, placing area such as Inverclyde at an unintentional disadvantage by attempting to influence private sector development.

Inverclyde Council supports priority 5, tenure neutral space and quality standards for new homes (and existing where possible) should be set specifically to improve and protect quality of living and of place. Encouraging private sector house builders to deliver these homes could perhaps be achieved by introducing design/building standards for new build housing across all tenures, respective of wheelchair accessibility. This policy would compel private sector developers to build private sector housing that is of an adequate size for wheelchair users as well as being easily adapted. The Housing for Varying Needs (HfVN) standard used in social housing is now more than 20 years old. There is perhaps a need to review these standards and assess whether improvements could be made to enhance accessibility and adaptability. To provide 'homes that meet people's needs' and provide 'high quality, sustainable homes it would be appropriate to set these standards for space, quality and accessibility for new build housing across all tenures.

Therefore, Inverciyde Council proposes that a revised HfVN or a new standard should be introduced which is tenure neutral to improve housing quality standards and subsequently supports principle 5 of the Housing to 2040 vision focused on 'high quality, sustainable homes.'

Do you have any proposals that would help us respond to the global climate emergency by increasing the energy efficiency and warmth and lowering the carbon emissions of existing and new housing?

Inverclyde Council recognises the significant impact that improving house condition and standards can have in reducing emissions and contributing towards our response to the climate emergency. In Inverclyde as across Scotland, many people do not live in a house that is warm, dry and affordable, with people on low incomes being disproportionately affected. By improving the condition of property in Inverclyde we make our homes more efficient whilst contributing positively to addressing the climate change emergency. Local Councils, COSLA and the Scottish Government are all working hard to deal with fuel poverty, and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to tackle the threat of climate change.

To reach the target of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045 with Scotland becoming carbon neutral by 2040 however, a lot of work is still required. Current standards for social housing are significantly higher than in the private sector and innovations in new build housing are constantly emerging. New regulations to improve energy efficiency within the private rented sector are set to be introduced and it will take time to measure how effective these changes are enforced and to then ramp up quality standards further to meet these targets.

To achieve these goals and in particular the Housing to 2040 vision of 'high quality, sustainable homes,' and principle 7, the housing system will need to start embracing net zero energy retrofitting, or the 'energiesprong' approach and passivhaus technology in new build development. These innovations are not yet commonplace within the social rented sector let alone private sector homebuilding and renovation. There will undoubtedly

be added investment costs to build these homes to a higher specification which will require grant funding support to build and retrofit social housing to these higher standards.

There would be a hope that the scaling up of these techniques will help to reduce costs in time and bring this technology to the mainstream. Addressing the global climate emergency and achieve the Housing to 2040 vision will also be reliant on the funding available for retrofitting programmes in the private sector and engaging with owners to invest in their properties to ensure their homes are 'net-zero.'

Q6 Do you have any proposals that would improve the quality, standards and state of repair of existing and new housing?

The current Scottish Government consultation on improving energy efficiency in owner occupied homes proposes that energy efficiency standards should be introduced for owner-occupied housing, and that they should be legally binding. The proposals outline that an Energy Efficiency Rating of C is the targeted mandatory standard which would come into effect in 2024. These proposals align with the forthcoming private rented sector (PRS) regulations which set out the minimum level of energy efficiency for properties in the PRS similarly using EPC ratings as the method to measure this standard.

It is noted that the implementation of the proposed standards for owner occupiers will be triggered by the point of sale without a backstop date whilst PRS regulations will be introduced at a change of tenancy with backstop dates to catch properties which may not have been previously triggered. This approach may cause issues for homeowners who wish to move from an inefficient and unsuitable property and are unable to do so due to a lack of resources to bring their property up to the appropriate standards. This is of particular concern to elderly or disabled owners who may require selling their property to improve their standard of living and enable them to live independently. The proposals mitigate for these issues and factor in the potential for the buyer to undertake the necessary upgrades reflected within the conveyancing process. This may, however, place the equality groups outlined at a competitive disadvantage in the housing market as a result.

Nevertheless, Inverclyde Council is supportive of increased regulation within the private sector and appreciate the efforts to tackle the least energy efficient properties. Intervention to address poor property condition within existing housing stock and improve housing quality remains a priority of the Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy. There are concerns regarding the implementation of these regulations particularly in relation to potential disrepair and factoring arrangements in mixed tenure buildings and tenement properties potentially leading to abeyances. Without consensus amongst owners and landlords in private sector mixed tenure blocks, some necessary energy efficiency improvements may stall. Potential resistance from owners and landlords to invest in their properties to bring them up to the required standards is the most significant threat in achieving the strategic housing outcomes set within the LHS and working towards the Housing to 2040 vision.

Inverclyde Council agree with the findings of the GWSF's 2019 report into tenement disrepair in the private sector and their calls for the Scottish Government's to implement a

radical new funding system to enable poor private housing to be properly tackled across Scotland. The issue of mixed tenure blocks are particularly pronounced in tenements and pre 1919 buildings. The lack of investment from private landlords or owners is of particular concern in areas of deprivation. Inverclyde Council are acutely aware of the threat of disinvestment in tenement buildings and are currently undertaking a regeneration plan in the Clune Park area of Port Glasgow where the existing tenemental stock has fallen into a state of disrepair and will be demolished.

To achieve the housing to 2040 vision and principles, improving the energy efficiency and stock condition of existing homes will be crucial. Finding solutions, financial support and incentives to implement energy efficiency improvements for owners and landlords will be required to ensure that the homes which we live in are of a high quality and are sustainable.

# Q7 Do you have any proposals that would improve the space around our homes and promote connected places and vibrant communities?

Good infrastructure is vital in the coming years as the housing sector works towards achieving the Housing to 2040 vision and principles. Improved digital access and road networks are essential to promoting a thriving and fairer Scotland. If we aspire to create 'vibrant communities' consideration into the surrounding services is crucial. Creating targets for housing delivery needs to be supported by the correct level of investment on 5g superfast broadband, road networks, leisure facilities, public transport, access to amenities and employment opportunities should also be considered and weighed into that line of thinking.

As previously highlighted, the Housing to 2040 paper outlines the approach will encompass the systems thinking and for this to be effective the vision highlights a need to make the most of connections between different policy areas across government. To promote connected places and vibrant communities long term strategic thinking is required in relation to whole areas rather than specific development sites. Consideration of how site A connects with site B and the impacts this has on education, health and social care, transport, services etc. is essential.

Inverclyde Council therefore supports the Housing to 2040 proposals to promote whole systems thinking in policy making, interventions and decision making rather than solely considering housing and its delivery in isolation. Inverclyde Council believe this will contribute towards improving the space around our homes and promote connected places and vibrant communities.

#### **Q8** Any other comments?

The following points outline and summarise the key concerns for Inverclyde Council in the future and what the current and future focus is in relation to Housing Strategy and creating sustainable and equitable communities.

Inverciyed is currently suffering from the effects of a declining population which has implications for the future of services within Inverciyed. In particular, the projected decline in the numbers of young people and working age population, coupled with the substantial

increase in the numbers of over 60s will place additional pressures on those services required by an ageing population.

Furthermore, stimulating the private sector new build market in Inverclyde remains a challenge for Inverclyde Council. The market has struggled to recover since the economic recession in 2008 with limited new build housing developments and new build completions have been consistently low and below the private sector housing supply targets set within the LHS and LDP.

This does not mean that there is no demand for new owner-occupied homes in Inverclyde, but that the market has not recovered enough to provide these at scale within the region. The subsequent effect of this means that families with aspirations to own a new build private home have limited choices in Inverclyde and in some instances will be leaving to meet their demands elsewhere, further contributing to depopulation. Inverclyde Council propose that support for the private market in poor market areas should form a strand of government housing policy.

The Inverclyde Alliance's repopulation action plan has targeted regeneration and attracting private sector housing/investment as a priority with a particular focus on developing regeneration proposals for the 'Eastern Gateway' area of Port Glasgow in the first instance. Inverclyde Council is therefore supportive of principles outlined within the Housing to 2040 vision as we embark on a journey to attract and retain people within the region. However, it is imperative that areas such as Inverclyde are not left behind with adequate support and funding provided to realise the aspirations of creating 'vibrant communities.'

In 2019, North Star Consultancy were commissioned to conduct research on behalf of Inverclyde Council and partnering local Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) analysing the effect of new build affordable housing on existing housing stock. Inverclyde Council are conscious that delivering new housing is not always the most appropriate method of meeting housing need, improving stock condition and ensuring the housing supply offers adequate choice. The research identified potential low demand areas which could be affected by the development of new build social housing. In 2020, Inverclyde Council along with its strategic partners are going to assess Inverclyde's existing social housing stock and develop a strategic approach towards investment in existing social housing.

It is understood this work can have a beneficial effect on health and wellbeing outcomes in the area and is included within the Inverclyde Housing Contribution Statement to 'assess whether a buyback programme assisted by the Affordable Housing Supply Programme (AHSP) might better address health inequalities & build stronger communities.' The premise of this action is to seek opportunities for partner RSLs to acquire former Council housing sold off through the now abolished 'Right to Buy' policy.

To achieve the Scottish Government's Housing to 2040 vision in Inverclyde, rationalisation of the Inverclyde housing stock is required to address problematic mixed tenure housing and poor stock condition. Bringing properties and mixed tenure blocks back into full ownership of RSLs ensures there is ongoing investment on the condition of the property, energy efficiency improvements and an increase of affordable homes within the region.

An Acquisition and Refurbishment strategy will be prepared in partnership with local RSLs to demonstrate a requirement for continued investment in existing housing beyond 2021, to purchase existing properties rather than focus solely on new build housing. Reprovisioning of current RSL stock across Inverclyde could also address the specialist housing requirements and provide a more suitable allocation of homes to further streamline the Rapid Rehousing process.



**AGENDA ITEM NO: 10** 

Report To: Inverclyde Council Date: 20 February 2020

Report By: Head of Legal & Property Report No: LP/014/20

Services

Contact Officer: Gerard Malone Contact No: 01475 712710

Subject: Administrative Arrangements: Determination of Planning

**Applications Subject to a Pre-Determination Hearing** 

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to: (1) advise of legislative changes relative to the determination of those planning applications which are subject to a Pre-Determination Hearing (PDH); and, (2) request the Council to approve the proposals set out in section 6.4 and the consequent changes to the Scheme of Administration.

#### 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 A PDH is necessary for any planning application for any national or major development which is significantly contrary to the Development Plan.
- 2.2 It has been an explicit legislative requirement that planning applications subject to a PDH are determined by the full Council. However, Section 27 of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 will remove the requirement for determination of such applications by the full Council.
- 2.3 The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 (Commencement No. 3) Regulations 2019 bring the above section into force on 1 March 2020 and, so, the change applies to all relevant applications that fall to be determined on or after 1 March.
- 2.4 The recommended proposal for PDH-relevant applications is set out in paragraph 6.4 of this report and other arrangements are also outlined for Members' consideration.

#### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That the Council considers the proposals for determining those planning applications subject to a PDH set out in section 6.4 of the report and, if so agreed, approves the consequent changes to the Scheme of Administration set out in Appendix 1.

Gerard Malone Head of Legal & Property Services

#### 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 introduced a hierarchy of developments. The 2006 Act defines the three categories in the hierarchy of developments to which all applications for planning permission will be allocated. The three categories are national development, major development and local development.
- 4.2 Before determining an application for planning permission for a development within the classes of national developments and major developments which are significantly contrary to the Development Plan, the planning authority must give to the applicant and also to those persons who submit representations in respect of that application an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a committee of the authority. This hearing is known as a Pre-Determination Hearing (PDH) and arrangements for such are made in accordance with Regulations made by Scottish Ministers. As Members know, apart from these specific circumstances, it is not otherwise the case that any hearing of applicants for planning permission or hearing of representations from parties is undertaken at the Planning Board.
- 4.3 The specific purpose of a PDH is to make the planning system more inclusive, allowing the views of applicants and those who have made representations to be heard before a planning decision is taken for these types of large developments. The planning authority has discretion over how PDHs operate in its area. This Council agreed procedures for PDHs at the meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Committee on 17 January 2013.
- 4.4 However, it was a specific legislative requirement of this PDH process that the planning application be determined by the full Council. This specific legislative requirement meant that all such major and national developments which are significantly contrary to the Development Plan had to be decided on by the Council and not the Planning Board. The legislation is now, however, about to change.

#### 5.0 PRESENT POSITION

- 5.1 Section 27 of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 now removes the requirement for determination of those planning applications subject to a PDH to be made by the full Council.
- 5.2 This part of the Act will be brought into force on 1 March 2020 and will apply to all applications that fall to be determined on or after 1 March.
- 5.3 This new legislative requirement specifically addresses the concerns that the decision-makers involved in the determination by the full Council had not had the benefit of hearing the evidence presented at the PDH. It is an established principle that all of those persons involved in making a decision on a quasi-judicial application, such as any planning application, should be involved at every stage of the decision-making process. This legislative change addresses concerns that some of those persons involved in the determination by the full Council may have not had the benefit of hearing all of the evidence as presented to the PDH.
- 5.4 It is also explained in the background to the legislation that the change from the mandatory full Council consideration will assist to expedite applications and to assist in the timescales taken for consideration of these significant developments.

#### 6.0 PROPOSALS

- 6.1 As a result of the new legislation, it is proposed firstly that there be no alteration to the initial step of the Council's current arrangements and any planning application subject to a PDH will be considered at a special meeting of the Planning Board.
- 6.2 This ensures there is a clear and comprehensible process which allows Elected Members to hear those wishing to present evidence and enables the Planning Board to consider and discuss the planning application, the report by the Head of Regeneration & Planning and the evidence presented, all without time pressures.

- 6.3 However, it is the next stage of the process which requires Council consideration. It is now not necessary for the full Council to determine the planning application and the reasons for this include concerns, as set out in 5.3 above, that some of those involved in determination by the full Council had not had the benefit of hearing the evidence presented at the PDH. This is a critical issue. It is essential for purposes of a sound legal approach to the determination of any quasi-judicial or regulatory decision by Members of this Council, including those decisions following upon a PDH, that any decision-maker is fully involved and engaged at all key stages of its consideration.
- 6.4 For this reason, it is proposed in this report that the process for national and major developments which are significantly contrary to the Development Plan shall be as follows:-
  - Special meeting of the Planning Board for the purpose of the PDH;
  - Period of no fewer than 10 working days to allow Elected Members a period for proper consideration and reflection on the PDH; and
  - Thereafter, report on outcome of PDH submitted to the next scheduled meeting of the Planning Board for determination.
- 6.5 Authority is sought for these changes to be reflected in the Scheme of Administration set out in italicised text in the extract of the Scheme of Administration at Appendix 1 to the report (and shown coloured on the electronic version).
- 6.6 The above proposal secures the key principle that all of the decision-makers on a quasijudicial application shall be thoroughly involved in each stage of the process whether in relation to any site visit, any Pre-Determination Hearing meeting itself and the report on the outcome of the PDH. The above process minimises the risk of challenge to the Council on the basis that all of the Elected Members determining an application on that basis will have heard all of the evidence presented at a PDH and this is an especially relevant point now given the very purpose of the amendment to the legislation as noted above.
- 6.7 However, it has to be recognised that the new legislation does not explicitly prohibit the full Council from determining planning applications which are subject to a PDH. It is, again, critical that any decision on a planning application, including those decisions following upon a PDH, is taken with regard only to relevant planning considerations and not to any other factor. An alternative means to secure a wider forum for the determination of PDH applications would be to require those Members who participate in that wider forum to (a) obtain and maintain their specialist certificate of training relative to planning determinations; and (b) ensure they fully attend (even though they are not a Member of the Planning Board) the PDH meeting itself and any relative site visit in connection with the application. Otherwise, it would now be wholly imprudent for any Member to seek to determine a PDH-relevant application without meeting these two, definite criteria. It has to be recognised that arrangements would be required to demonstrate and evidence compliance with these criteria. If the Council prefers this alternative to paragraph 6.4 above, then Standing Orders and the Scheme of Administration will be amended suitably.

#### 7.0 IMPLICATIONS

#### 7.1 Finance

There are no financial implications.

#### Financial Implications:

#### One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### 7.2 **Legal**

The legal implications are as set out in the report.

#### 7.3 Human Resources

There are no HR implications arising from this report.

### 7.4 Equalities

#### **Equalities**

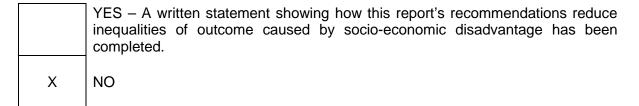
(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES
Х	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

#### (b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?



#### (c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
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# 7.5 **Repopulation**

There are no direct repopulation implications arising from this report.

### 8.0 CONSULTATIONS

8.1 This report has been endorsed by the Corporate Management Team.

# 9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 None.

#### INVERCLYDE COUNCIL

#### 1. SCHEME OF ADMINISTRATION

1.1 This Scheme of Administration is within the Council's Standing Orders.

#### 2. PURPOSE OF SCHEME

- 2.1 These terms of reference and delegated functions (Scheme of Administration) set out the powers delegated by the Council to its Committees, Sub-Committees and Boards in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and shall regulate:
- (a) the allocation of the functions of the Council to the Committees, Sub-Committees and Boards of the Council; and
- (b) the delegation to Committees, Sub-Committees and Boards, where appropriate, of authority to exercise the functions of the Council.
- 2.2 The Scheme of Administration is to be read with the Council's Standing Orders, Standing Orders Relating to Contracts and Financial Regulations.

#### 3. PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COMMITTEES

- 3.1 Committees shall consider only matters within their terms of reference.
- 3.2 Where the Council has delegated any class of functions to a Committee, it shall retain the power to delegate any one of those functions to another Committee on a particular occasion when, by reason of the nature of the matter, in the opinion of the Council, it ought to be so referred.
- 3.3 All functions listed as delegated functions and any further additional such functions which may be delegated by the Council are also delegated to the respective Committee.

#### 4. DELEGATED FUNCTIONS

- 4.1 The following functions shall be delegated to Committees:
- (a) The powers required to carry out their functions provided that the decisions made by any Committee shall comply with the terms of policy and budget approved by the Council.
- (b) All Boards and the Local Review Body, being quasi-judicial bodies, shall have full powers and no decisions taken shall be referred to the Council except in the case of the Planning Board relative to those applications for major and national developments which are statutorily subject to pre-determination hearings.

#### 5. **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 5.1 The following general provisions shall apply:
- (a) A Committee may further delegate authority to an officer of the Council to undertake or discharge any function which is delegated to that Committee. The Local Review Body may delegate authority to an officer of the Council to undertake or discharge

any function delegated to it, where it is so enabled by the Town and Country Planning (Schemes of Delegation and Local Review Bodies) (Scotland) Regulations 2013;

5.5(b) The Member who is unable to attend and who is appointing a substitute must inform the Proper Officer as soon as possible of the appointment of the substitute. When a substitute attends, the substitution applies throughout the duration of the meeting including any adjournment to a time later the same day and the appointing Member shall not be entitled to revoke the substitution or vote at the meeting or its same day adjournment. Only the substitute intimated by the appointing Member to the Proper Officer prior to the commencement of the meeting is entitled to attend and vote. The appointment of a substitute can be revoked by the appointing Member only prior to the commencement of the meeting.

#### 6. FUNCTIONS RETAINED BY THE COUNCIL

- 6.1 The Council has overall responsibility for the Council Budget, the Chief Officer Management Structure and oversight of all political decision-making processes.
- 6.2 The following are reserved to the Council:
- (a) All functions reserved by law to the Council;
- (b) The determination of the strategic objectives of the Council;
- (c) The annual review of the revenue budget and the fixing of Council Tax;
- (d) The annual review of the Capital Programme and the approval of annual budgets of capital and revenue expenditure;
- (e) Approval of the Annual Treasury Strategy and Annual Report;
- (f) The consideration of the Annual Report to Members by the Council's External Auditors;
- (g) The making of Standing Orders and a Scheme of Administration, Standing Orders Relating to Contracts, a Scheme of Delegation to Officers and Financial Regulations;
- (h) The making of an order for the compulsory acquisition of any land or interest in land;
- (i) The making of any formal resolution to co-operate or combine with other local authorities in the provision of services;
- (j) The appointment of the Provost and Depute Provost of the Council;
- (k) The establishment of Committees of the Council and their terms of reference and the delegations of function thereto;
- (I) The appointment of Members to Committees and the appointment of Conveners and Vice-Conveners:
- (m) The appointment of Members of the Council to Joint Committees, Joint Boards and outside bodies;
- (n) The approval of Schemes for the establishment of Community Councils;
- (o) The approval of Polling Schemes for elections and referendums;
- (p) The promoting or the opposing of the making of private legislation;

- (q) The promotion of byelaws, management rules and any necessary orders;
- (r) The appointment of the Chief Executive and all matters relating to disciplinary procedures for the Chief Executive;
- (s) The making of resolutions for Housing Renewal Areas;
- (t) The consideration of Members' remuneration;
- (u) The formal adoption of the Local Plan;
- (v) The determination of an application for planning permission for a development of a class specified in Section 38A(1) of the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

#### 7. FUNCTIONS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEES

#### 7.1 POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

- 7.1.1 Power is delegated to the Policy and Resources Committee:
- (a) To advise the Council on outcomes, strategic objectives and key priorities;
- (b) To develop and approve Council policies, including community planning and partnership working;
- (c) To adopt and implement the management framework for planning, implementing, reporting and reviewing corporate service delivery;
- (d) To ensure the Council meets its statutory responsibilities in terms of best value:
- (e) To monitor implementation of the Council's Corporate Statement;
- (f) To facilitate and encourage any public consultation, engagement and participation with the community, partners and key stakeholders;
- (g) To instruct such performance information as the Committee requires to fulfil its remit and monitor overall performance in the delivery of services and the Council's financial performance;
- (h) To determine any reviews of community asset transfer requests;
- (i) To take all decisions which are not reserved to the Council or delegated to another Committee of the Council;
- (j) To have responsibility for the directorate planning, performance management reporting and financial monitoring for the following service areas:
  - Chief Executive's Office
  - Finance
  - Organisational Development, Human Resources and Corporate Communications
  - Legal and Property Services
  - Performance Management

- (d) To exercise the functions of the Council in respect of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act 1933 and Poisons Act 1972:
- (e) To exercise the functions of the Council in respect of permits in terms of Section 19 of the Transport Act 1985 (minibus permits);
- (f) To exercise the functions of the Council in respect of the Radioactive Substances Act 1993:
- (g) To exercise the functions of the Council in respect of the legislation relating to the control of diseases of animals;
- (h) To exercise the functions of the Council in respect of the safety of sports grounds;
- (i) To approve charges as required by statute and determine licence fees;
- (j) To exercise the Council's functions regarding notification of parades and processions insofar as not delegated to officers.

#### 7.8 HUMAN RESOURCES APPEALS BOARD

- 7.8.1 Power is delegated to the Human Resources Appeal Board to be the internal Council appeal body for the purposes of the Council's role as an employer, in relation to workforce matters:
- (a) To hear and decide disciplinary appeals and grievances by employees on their conditions of employment and working arrangements;
- (b) To hear and decide appeals from teaching staff in regard to the application and interpretation of Schemes and Conditions of Service for Education staff.

#### 7.9 PLANNING BOARD

- 7.9.1 Power is delegated to the Planning Board:
- (a) To undertake and discharge the development control and building standards functions of the Council as Planning Authority, Buildings Authority and as Verifier and Enforcer in terms of the relevant legislation;
- (b) The determination of an application for planning permission for a development of a class specified in Section 38(A)(i) of the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

#### 7.10 **LOCAL REVIEW BODY**

- 7.10.1 Power is delegated to the Local Review Body:
- (a) To review applications for planning permission or for consent, agreement or approval which have been refused, granted subject to conditions or which have not been determined within the prescribed period by the appointed officer under the Scheme of Delegation prepared in terms of the relevant legislation;
- (b) To carry out all other functions as a Local Review Body, as described in the relevant legislation.

#### 7.11 **GRANTS SUB-COMMITTEE**

7.11.1 Power is delegated to the Grants Sub-Committee:



**AGENDA ITEM NO: 11** 

Report To: Inverclyde Council Date: 20 February 2020

Report By: Corporate Director, Environment, Report No: LP/16/020

Regeneration and Resources

Contact Officer: Lindsay Carrick Contact No: 01475 712114

Subject: Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverciyde Council, Disabled

Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 4 2019

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to request the Council to consider a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

#### 2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 The Environment & Regeneration Committee held on 16 January 2020 after consideration of a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council, Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 4 2019 recommended that the Inverclyde Council be asked to make the Traffic Regulation Order and to remit it to the Shared Head of Service Roads and the Head of Legal and Property Services to arrange for its implementation.

#### 3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 That the Inverclyde Council approves the making of the Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council, Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 4 2019 and that the Shared Head of Service Roads and the Head of Legal and Property Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

Appendix

Gerard Malone Head of Legal and Property Services

#### 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Local Authorities are empowered to make Orders under the Road Traffic Regulation and Roads (Scotland) Act 1984.
- 4.2 The provision of on-street parking places for use by disabled drivers, who are the holders of a Disabled Person's Badge, is regulated by the Disabled Persons' Parking Places (Scotland) Act 2009. Inverclyde Council is required to promote a Traffic Regulation Order to regulate the use of such parking places.
- 4.3 The Council is asked to note that, if approved, the Order may not be implemented until the making of the Order has been advertised to allow any persons who so wish a period of six weeks to question the validity of the Order in terms of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

#### 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

#### 5.1 Finance

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

#### 5.2 Legal

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

#### 5.3 Human Resources

There are no HR implications arising from this report.

#### 5.4 Equalities

#### **Equalities**

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

YES (see attached appendix)

NO – This report does not introduc

NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

#### (b) Fairer Scotland Duty

X

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

	Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?						
	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.						
X	NO						
Data Prote	<u>ection</u>						
Has a Dat	Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?						
	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.						
Х	NO						

#### 5.5 Repopulation

(c)

There are no repopulation implications arising from this report.

#### 6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The proposals have been advertised in the Greenock Telegraph and full details of the proposals have been made available for public inspection during normal office hours at the offices of the Shared Head of Service Roads, the Customer Contact Centre and at Central, Port Glasgow, Southwest and Gourock Libraries.

### 7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None

# THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL

# DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACES (ON-STREET) ORDER NO.4 2019

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

# THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACES (ON-STREET) ORDER NO.4 2019

The Inverciyde Council in exercise of the powers conferred on them by Section 32(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the Act") and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Constable of Police Scotland in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act hereby make the following Order.

- 2. In this Order the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them:-

"Council" means The Inverclyde Council or its successors as Roads Authority;

"disabled person's badge" means:

- (a) a badge issued under Section 21 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970 (as amended);
- (b) a badge issued under a provision of the law of Northern Ireland corresponding to that section; or
- (c) a badge issued by any member State other than the United Kingdom for purposes corresponding to the purposes for which badges under that section are issued:

and which has not ceased to be in force;

"disabled person's vehicle" means a vehicle lawfully displaying a disabled person's badge;

"parking attendant" means a person employed in accordance with Section 63A of the Act to carry out the functions therein;

"parking place" means an area of land specified by number and name in Columns 1 and 2 in the Schedule to this Order:

"traffic sign" means a sign prescribed or authorised under Section 64 of the Act; and

"vehicle" unless the context otherwise requires, means a vehicle of any description and includes a machine or implement of any kind drawn or propelled along roads whether or not by mechanical power.

- 3. The Schedule titled "Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On Street) Order No. 4 2019" forms the Schedule to this Order.
- 4. Each area of road which is described in the Schedule Part 1 to this Order and the plans relative to this Order is hereby designated as a parking place.
- 5. The parking places shall only be used for the leaving of disabled persons' vehicles displaying a valid disabled person's badge.

- 6. The limits of each parking place shall be indicated on the carriageway as prescribed by The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016, as amended.
- 7. Every vehicle left in any parking place shall stand such that no parking place is occupied by more than one vehicle and that every part of the vehicle is within the limits of the parking place provided that, where the length of a vehicle precludes compliance with this paragraph, such vehicle shall be deemed to be within the limits of a parking place if:-

the extreme front portion or, as the case may be, the extreme rear portion of the vehicle is within 300mm of an indication on the carriageway provided under this Order in relation to the parking place; and

the vehicle, or any part thereof, is not within the limits of any adjoining parking place.

- 8. Any person duly authorised by the Council or a police officer in uniform or a traffic warden or parking attendant may move or cause to be moved in case of any emergency, to any place they think fit, vehicles left in a parking place.
- 9. Any person duly authorised by the Council may suspend the use of a parking place or any part thereof whenever such suspension is considered reasonably necessary:-

for the purpose of facilitating the movement of traffic or promoting its safety;

for the purpose of any building operation, demolition, or excavation in or adjacent to the parking place or the laying, erection, alteration, removal or repair in or adjacent to the parking place of any sewer or of any main, pipe, apparatus for the supply of gas, water electricity or of any telecommunications apparatus, traffic sign or parking meter;

for the convenience of occupiers of premises adjacent to the parking place on any occasion of the removal of furniture from one office or dwellinghouse to another or the removal of furniture from such premises to a depository or to such premises from a depository;

on any occasion on which it is likely by reason of some special attraction that any street will be thronged or obstructed; or

for the convenience of occupiers of premises adjacent to the parking place at times of weddings or funerals or on other special occasions.

10. A police officer in uniform may suspend for not longer than twenty four hours the use of a parking place or part thereof whenever such suspension is considered reasonably necessary for the purpose of facilitating the movement of traffic or promoting its safety. 11. This Order insofar as it relates to the parking places to be revoked (R) and amended, as specified in the Schedule Part 2 to this Order, partially revokes and amends The Inverclyde Council Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Order Nos.02/1999, 02/2007, 03/2013, 04/2013, 03/2014, 04/2014, 02/2015, 01/2016 and 01/2017 respectively.

Sealed with the Common Seal of The Inverclyde Council and subscribed for them and on their behalf by #######, Proper Officer, on the ########## day of ########, Two Thousand and #########.



# **INVERCLYDE COUNCIL**

# DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACES (ON-STREET) ORDER No.4 2019

Rev D

# SCHEDULE (Part 1)

All and whole that area of ground as described in Column 2 in the table below:

Column 1	Column 2
Ref No.	Address of Disabled Person's Parking Place to be created "ex-adverso"
1932	36 Oxford Road, Greenock
1935	39 Blairmore Road, Greenock
1937	29 Cumbrae Avenue, Port Glasgow
1938	88 Fancy Farm Road, Greenock
1941	30 Neil Street, Greenock
1942	42 Lincoln Road, Greenock
1947	28c Ardgowan Street, Greenock
1950	86 Cloch Road, Gourock
1953	47 Westmorland Road, Greenock
1956	32 Ardgowan Square, Greenock
1958	14 Iona Road, Port Glasgow
1959	70 Wallace Street, Greenock

# **INVERCLYDE COUNCIL**

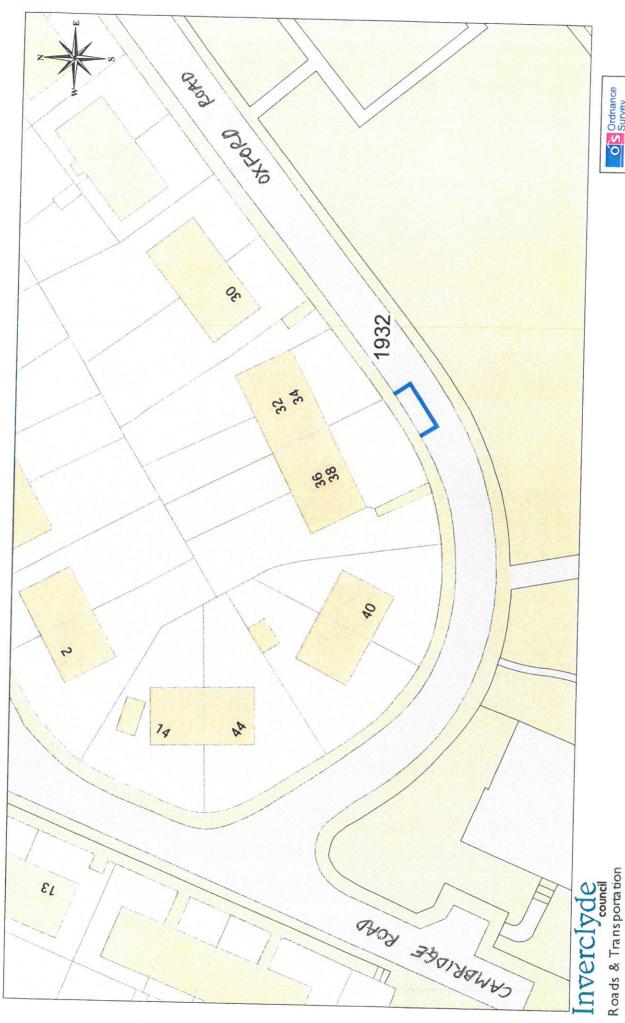
# DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACES (ON-STREET) ORDER No.4 2019

Rev D

# SCHEDULE (Part 2)

All and whole that area of ground as described in Column 2 in the table below:

Column 2
Address of Disabled Person's Parking Place to be revoked ® "ex-adverso"
3 Watt Street, Greenock ®
75 Westray Avenue, Port Glasgow ®
46A Newton Street, Greenock ®
2 Shaw Place, Greenock ®
16 Northfield Avenue, Port Glasgow ®
1 Larkfield Grove, Greenock ®
36 Shore Street, Gourock ®
58 Pennyfern Road, Greenock ®



DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 36 OXFORD ROAD, GREENOCK

Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Director: Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E

Municipal Buildings Clyde Square Greenock, PA15 1LY Tet. 01475 71273 Fax: 01475 712731 scott allan@inverclyde.gov.uk

PLACE No. 1932



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DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE PLACE No. 1935

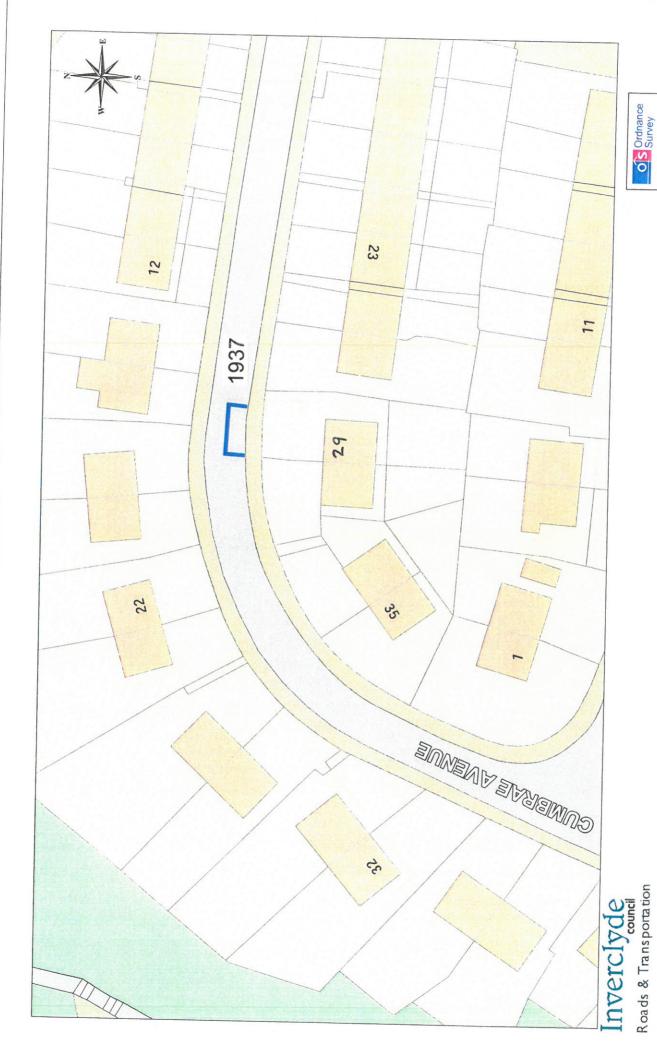
39 BLAIRMORE ROAD, GREENOCK

Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Director: Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E

Municipal Buildings Clyde Square Grenock, PA15 1LY Tel: 01475 712712 Fax: 01475 712731 scott allan@inverclyde.gov.uk

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DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 29 CUMBRAE AVENUE, PORT GLASGOW

PLACE No. 1937

Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Director: Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E

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PLACE No. 1938

DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 88 FANCY FARM ROAD, GREENOCK

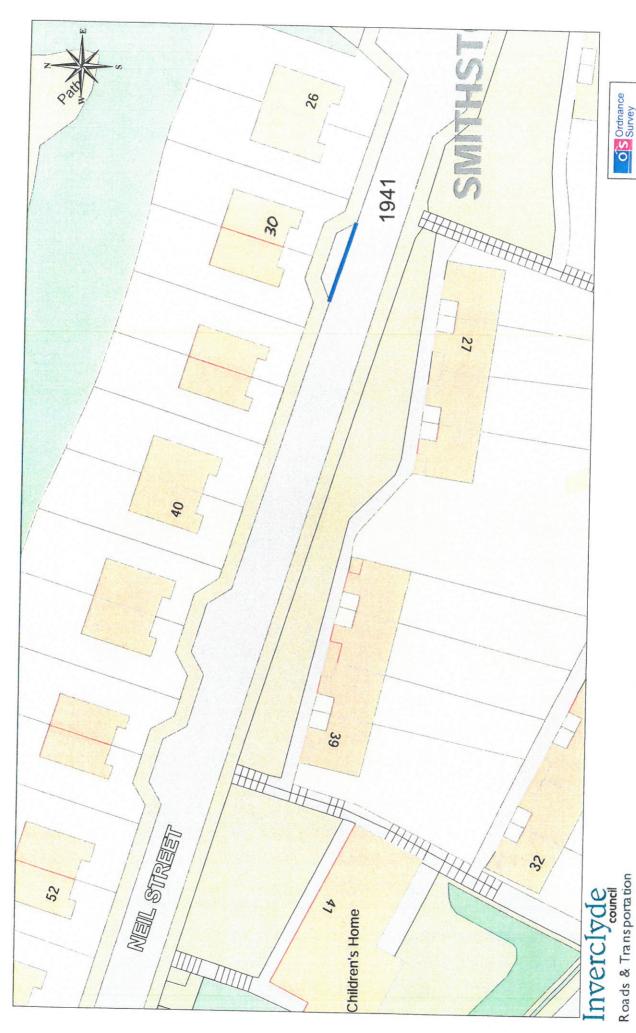
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DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 30 NEIL STREET, GREENOCK

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Municipal Buildings Clyde Square Greenock, PA15 1LY Tet. 01475 712731 Fax: 01475 712731 scott.allan@inverctyde.gov.uk

PLACE No. 1941



42 LINCOLN ROAD, GREENOCK

Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Director: Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E

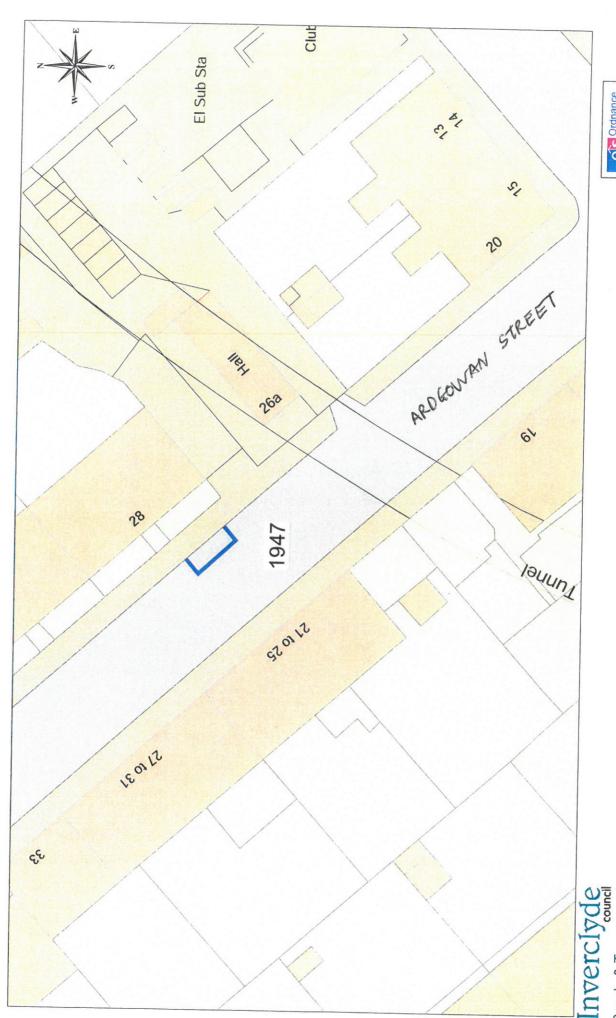
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DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE PLACE No. 1942

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28C ARDGOWAN STREET, GREENOCK DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE

Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Director: Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E. Roads & Transportation

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PLACE No. 1947





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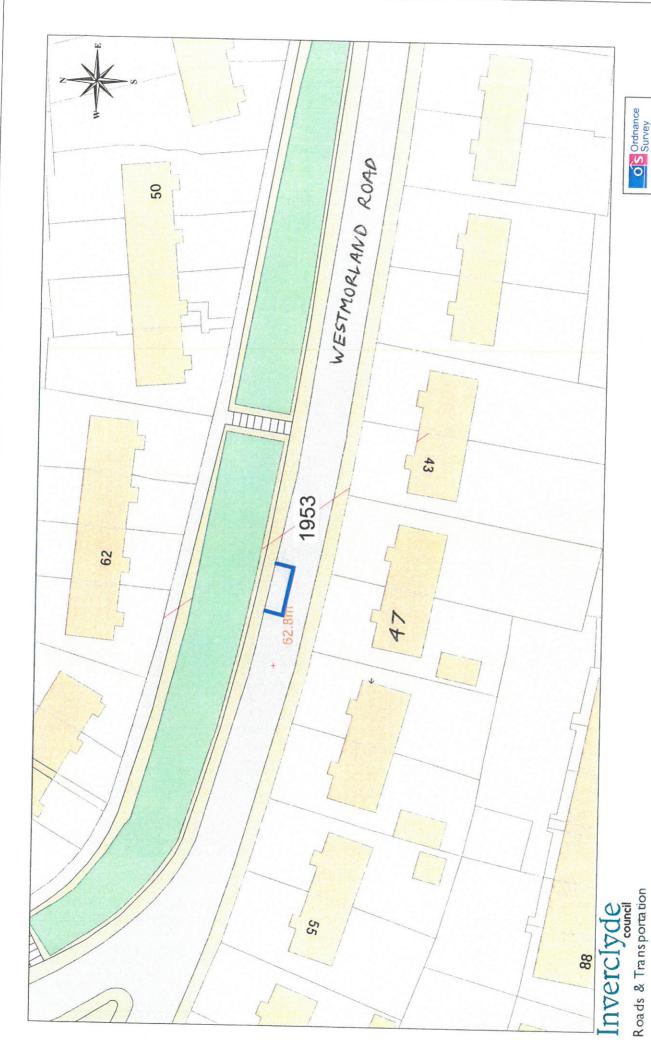
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> DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 86 CLOCH ROAD, GOUROCK

Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Director; Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E. Roads & Transportation

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PLACE No. 1950



DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE

47 WESTMORLAND ROAD, GREENOCK PLACE No. 1953

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Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Director: Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E.



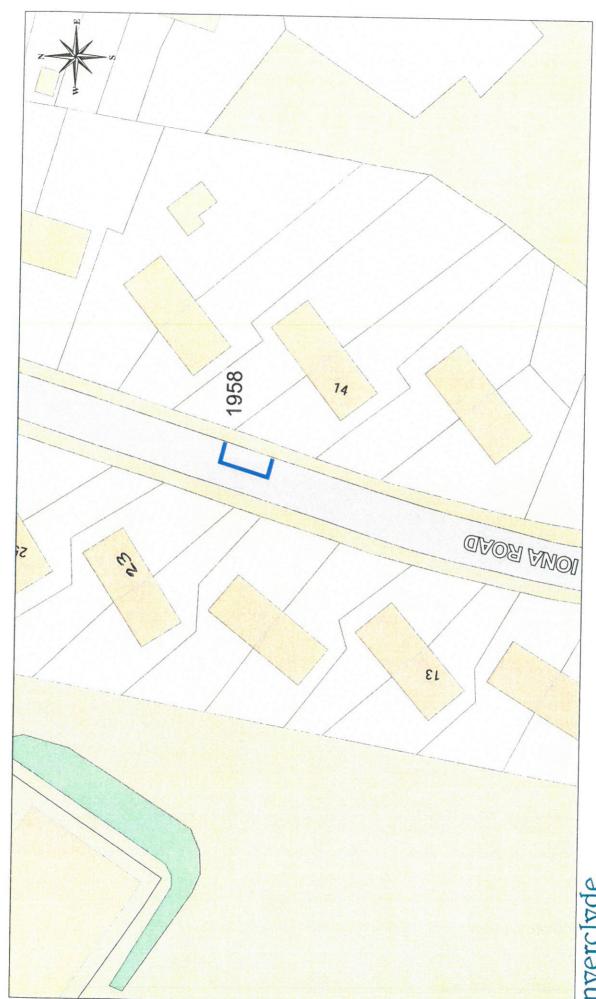
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DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 32 ARDGOWAN SQUARE, GREENOCK PLACE No. 1956

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Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Director: Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E Roads & Transportation



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DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 14 IONA ROAD, PORT GLASGOW PLACE No. 1958

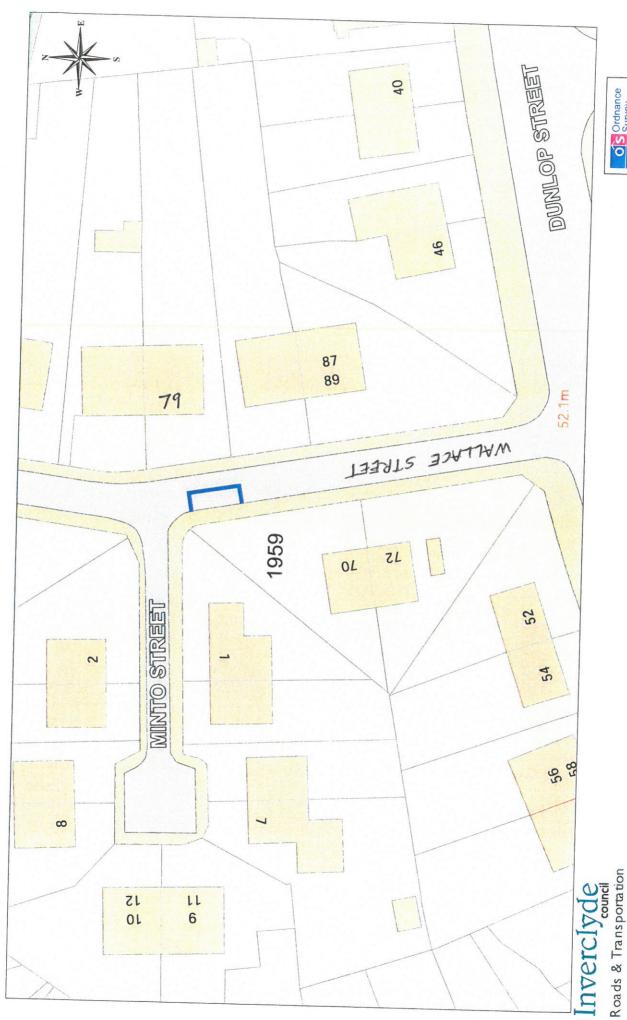
Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Director: Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E Roads & Transportation

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DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 70 WALLACE STREET, GREENOCK PLACE No. 1959

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DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 3 WATT STREET, GREENOCK

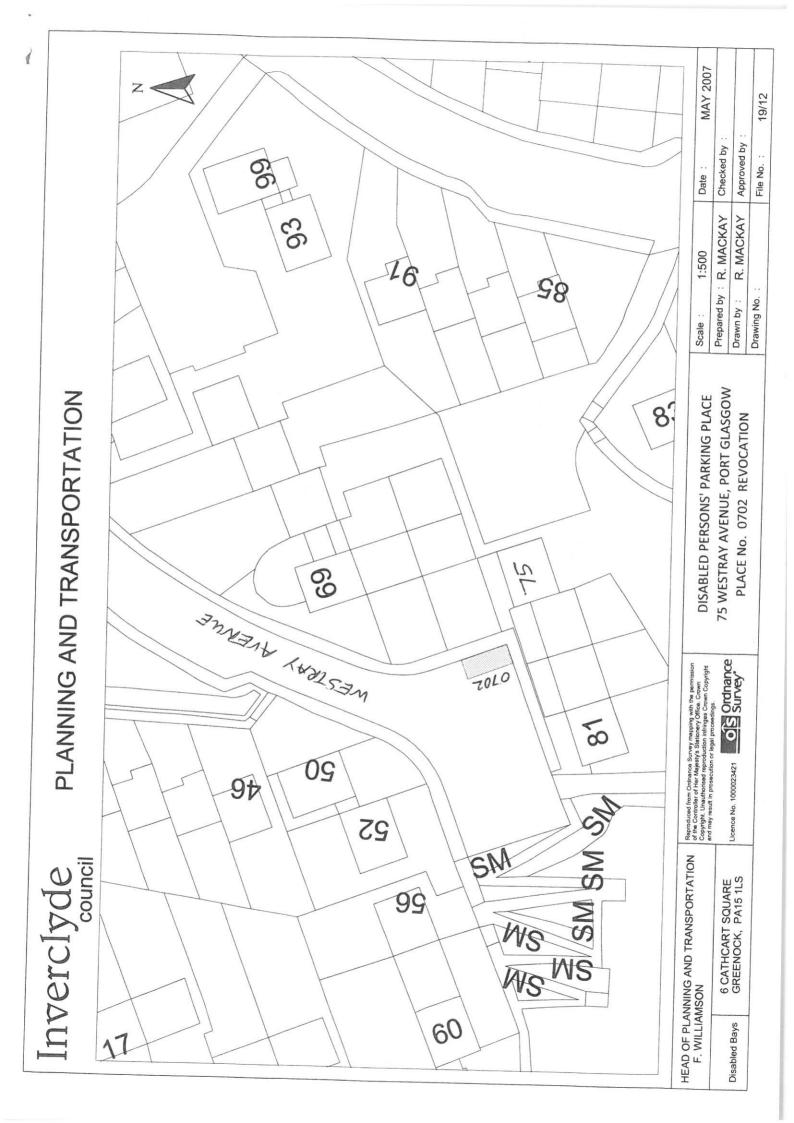
Environment, Regeneration & Resources Corporate Director: Scott Allan BSc., C.Eng., M.I.C.E.

Municipal Buildings Clyde Square Greenock, PAT5 1LY Tei: 01475 712742 Fax: 01475 712731 scott allan@inverclyde, gov.uk

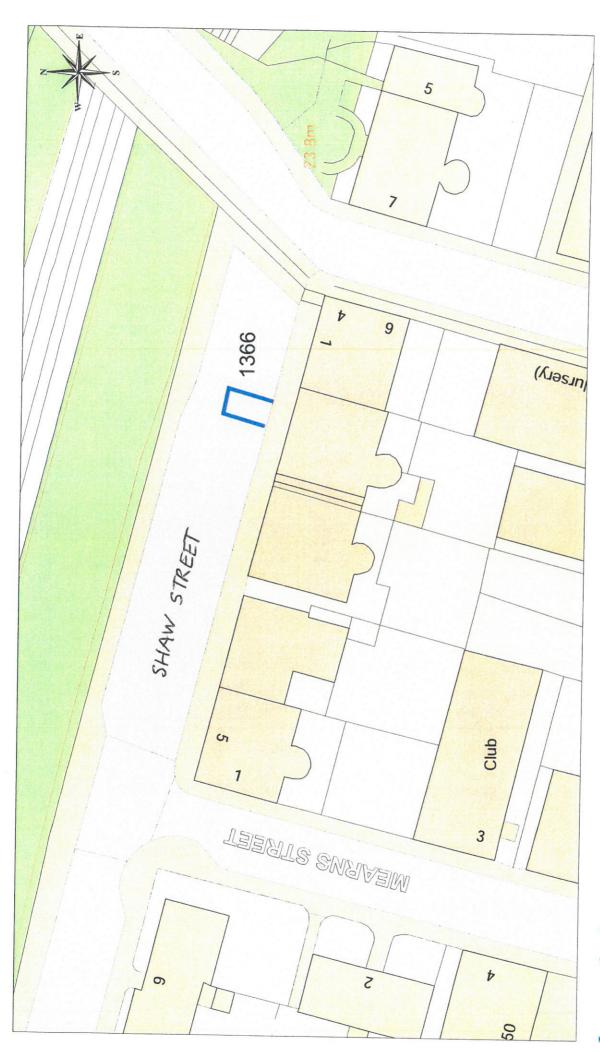
PLACE No. 9915 REVOCATION

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**APRIL** 2013 19/12 Approved by Checked by File No. Date: 0 Lillidy S NOS Latita Oct Prepared by : R. MACKAY R. MACKAY 1:500 5 3 Drawn by: Drawing No. ENVIRONMENTAL & COMMERCIAL SERVICES Scale : 4 5 DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 46A NEWTON STREET, GREENOCK PLACE No. 1314 REVOCATION 000 Reproduced from Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of the Majesty Satisforay Office, Crown Copyright, Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may result in prosecution or legal proceedings. OS Ordnance Survey 1314 28 Licence No. LA03097L NEWTON STREET Inverciyde 71 EAST HAMILTON STREET GREENOCK, PA15 2UA 2 HEAD OF SERVICE IAN MOFFAT 10 S Disabled Bays 20





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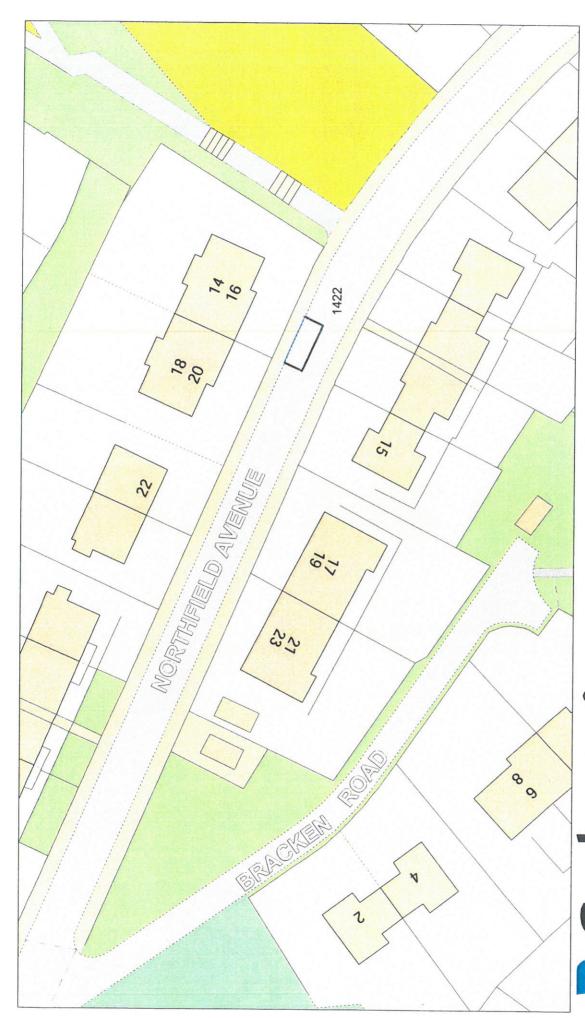
Environmental Services

Regeneration & Environment Corporate Director: Aubrey Fawcett

Municipal Buildings Clyde Square Clyde Square Greenock PA15 1LY Tel: 01475 712712 Fax: 01475 712731

112712

DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 2 SHAW PLACE, GREENOCK PLACE No. 1366 REVOCATION





Cadcorp®

DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE
16 NORTHFIELD AVENUE, PORT GLASGOW
PLACE No. 1422 REVOCATION

Tel: +44 (0)1438 747996 Fax: +44 (0)1438 747997 E-mail: info@cadcorp.com

Sterling Court Norton Road Stevenage Herts SG1 2JY UK



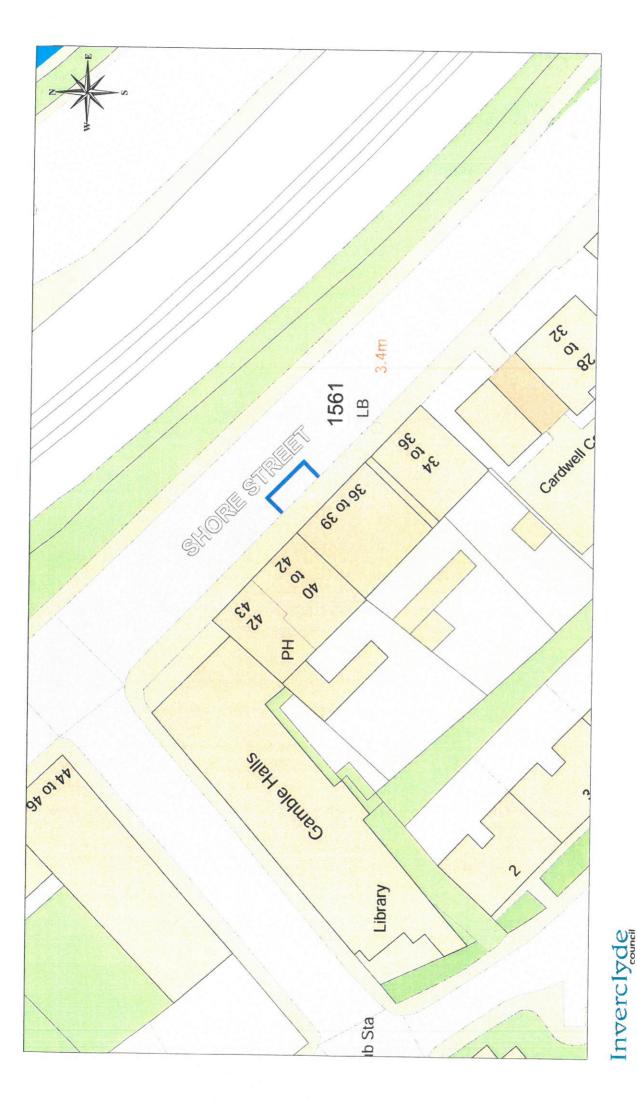


DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACE 1 LARKFIELD GROVE, GREENOCK PLACE No. 1476 REVOCATION

Municipal Buildings Clyde Square Greenock PA15 IL Y 12717 Tel: 01475 71273 Fax: 01475 712731

Environmental Services

Regeneration & Environment Corporate Director: Aubrey Fawcett



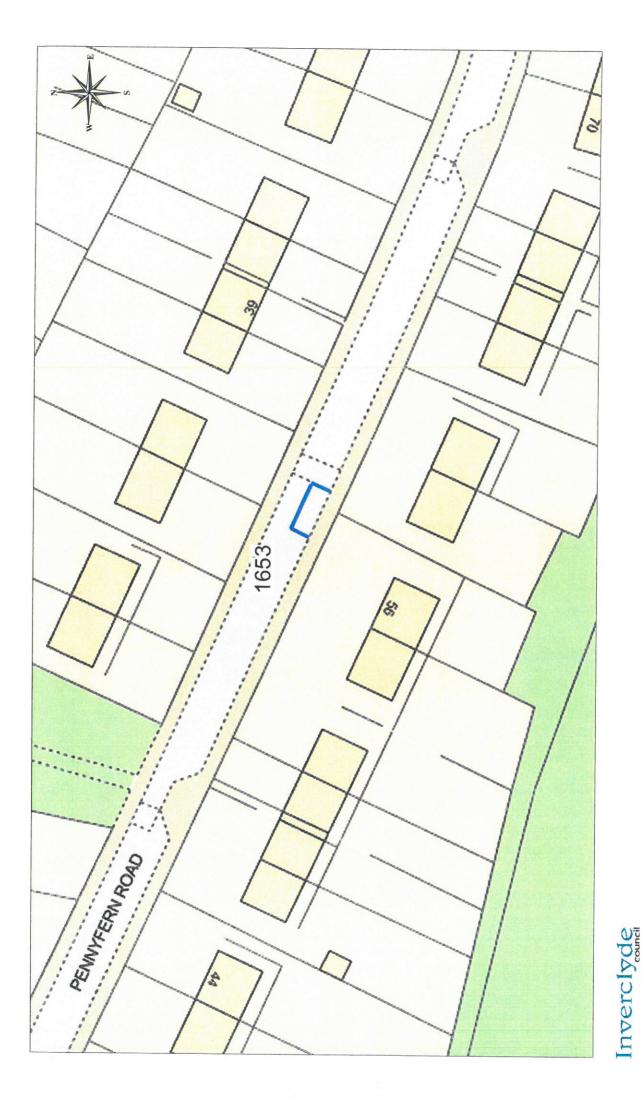






Regeneration & Environment Corporate Director: Aubrey Fawcett Municipal Buildings Clyde Square Greenock PA15 1LY Tel: 01475 712712 Fax: 01475 712731

Environmental Services









Municipal Buildings Clyde Square Greenock PA15 1LY Tel: 01475 712712 Fax: 01475 712731

**Environmental Services** 

Regeneration & Environment Corporate Director, Aubrey Fawcett

#### THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL

# DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PLACES (ON-STREET) ORDER NO. 4 2019

# Statement of Reasons for Proposing to Make the above Order

It is considered necessary, in order to comply with Section 5 of The Disabled Persons' Parking Places (Scotland) Act 2009, to make the above Order to provide assistance for disabled persons who hold a badge under the Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) (Scotland) Regulations 2000 as amended and to revoke those parking places no longer required to maximise street parking capacity.

Gail MacFarlane Shared Head of Service Roads 8 Pottery Street GREENOCK PA15 2UH



**AGENDA ITEM NO: 13** 

Report To: Inverclyde Council Date: 20 February 2020

Report By: Corporate Director Report No: IC/03/20/SA

Environment, Regeneration &

Resources

Contact Officer: Scott Allan Contact No: 01475 712764

Subject: George Wyllie Foundation – Elected Member Representation

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek an Elected Member nominee to be a Trustee on the George Wyllie Foundation.

#### 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The George Wyllie Foundation (GWF), exists to protect and promote the works of local artist George Wyllie. The GWF has worked closely with the Council on the development of Ocean Terminal which includes a permanent gallery to display George Wyllie works. As reported previously, the GWF has substantial capital contributions to the project.
- 2.2 The GWF has requested that an Elected Member join the Foundation as a Trustee. The Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources already sits on the group as an advisor. The Council is asked to nominate an Elected Member to become a Trustee of the GWF.

#### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Council is asked to nominate an Elected Member to be a Trustee on the George Wyllie Foundation.

Scott Allan Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources

#### 4.0 IMPLICATIONS

#### 4.1 Finance

**Financial Implications:** 

One off Costs

C	Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
١	I/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

42	Legal

N/A.

#### 4.3 Human Resources

N/A.

### 4.4 Equalities

#### **Equalities**

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES
✓	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

#### (b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
✓	NO

### (c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
<b>✓</b>	NO

# 4.5 Repopulation

N/A.

# 5.0 CONSULTATIONS

5.1 N/A.

# 6.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 N/A.