

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL

**Minutes of Meetings of the Inverclyde Council,
Committees, Sub-Committees and Boards to be submitted
to the Meeting of The Inverclyde Council on**

Thursday 22 April 2021

APPOINTMENT PANEL – HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES

Appointment Panel – Head of Legal Services**Wednesday 3 February 2021 at 3pm**

Present: Councillors M McCormick, L Quinn and E Robertson, Mr A Fawcett, Chief Executive, Mr S Allan, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and Ms R Binks, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development.

Present also: Mr S McNab, Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications and Mr G Malone, Head of Legal & Property Services (Advisers to Panel).

Chair: Mr Fawcett presided.

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

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 the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

64 Shortlisting and Arrangements for Interview of Applicants – Post of Head of Legal Services 64

There were submitted copies of applications received from five candidates for the post of Head of Legal Services.

The Panel decided to call a shortlist of two candidates for interview and thereafter to make an appointment, all as detailed in the appendix.

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 18 FEBRUARY 2021

The Inverclyde Council

Thursday 18 February 2021 at 4pm

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

Chair: Provost Brennan presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership, Chief Financial Officer, Head of Legal & Property Services, Ms S Lang and Ms D Sweeney (Legal & Property Services), Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications, Interim Head of Service – Covid Response, Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection, ICT Services Manager and Service Manager, Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

The meeting was held by video-conference.

65 Apologies and Declarations of Interest 65

An apology for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Jackson.

Councillors Clocherty, C McEleny, Moran and Murphy declared an interest in Agenda Item 6 (Campaign to Keep the £20 a Week Universal Credit Increase – Notice of Motion by Councillor C McEleny).

**Minutes of Meetings of
The Inverclyde Council, Committees, Sub-Committees and Boards**

66 Appointment Panel – Head of Legal Services – 25 November 2020 66

Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.

Councillor Nelson entered the meeting at this juncture.

67 The Inverclyde Council – 3 December 2020 67

Approved on the motion of Provost Brennan.

68 General Purposes Board – 9 December 2020 68

Approved on the motion of Councillor Dorrian.

69 Environment & Regeneration Committee (Special) – 17 December 2020 69

Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 18 FEBRUARY 2021

70	Appointment Panel – Head of Legal Services – 18 December 2020	70
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
71	Planning Board – 6 January 2021	71
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
72	Policy & Resources Committee (Special) – 7 January 2021	72
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.	
73	Health & Social Care Committee – 7 January 2021	73
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Moran.	
74	Audit Committee – 12 January 2021	74
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Rebecchi.	
75	Environment & Regeneration Committee – 14 January 2021	75
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.	
76	Education & Communities Committee – 19 January 2021	76
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
77	Human Resources Appeals Board – 26 January 2021	77
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
78	Policy & Resources Committee – 2 February 2021	78
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.	
79	Planning Board – 3 February 2021	79
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Wilson.	
80	Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Committee – 4 February 2021	80
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McVey.	
81	General Purposes Board – 10 February 2021	81
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Dorrian.	

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 18 FEBRUARY 2021

82 Budget Update and Approval of the 2021/22 Band D Council Tax

82

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) providing an update regarding the 2021/22 Scottish Government Draft Budget Settlement and the latest position of the Council's 2021/23 Budget and (2) seeking approval of the Band D Council Tax for the year 2021/22.

Decided:

- (1) that the Draft Scottish Budget Settlement and in particular the update provided regarding the draft Local Government funding position be noted;
- (2) that the timescales for finalising the Scottish Budget and the potential for the detail of the Budget to change in the coming weeks be noted;
- (3) that approval be given to the proposals in Appendix 1 and that it be agreed to note the 2021/23 Revenue Budget position in Appendix 2, in light of the draft Local Government grants figures;
- (4) that it be agreed to freeze the Council Tax for 2021/22 and access the £1.198m Council Tax Freeze grant; and
- (5) that, after considering the advice from the Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer regarding separating the Council Tax approval and budget setting dates, agreement be given to the setting of the level of Band D Council Tax for Inverclyde in 2021/22 at this meeting.

83 Resolution: Setting of Band D Council Tax for 2021/22

83

Arising from the foregoing paragraph Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor Clocherty moved that there be no increase in the Council Tax for the financial year 2021/22 and accordingly resolved to set the Band D Council Tax at £1,331.84.

Decided: that the Band D Council Tax for 2021/22 be set at £1,331.84.

84 Strathclyde Pension Fund – Notice of Motion by Councillor J McEleny

84

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising of the receipt of a Notice of Motion by Councillor J McEleny, countersigned by Councillor Crowther, submitted in terms of Standing Order 22 in the following terms, as amended at the meeting:

“The Strathclyde Pension Fund (SPF) is known to hold shares in 11 of the world's 20 biggest arms manufacturers, including some involved in the production or maintenance of nuclear weapons or their delivery systems. Any investments in nuclear weapons producers are at odds with the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Council calls on Strathclyde Pension Fund to work towards eliminating current and future financial exposure to companies that are involved in arms manufacturing, giving due regard to fiduciary duty.

Council also calls on Strathclyde Pension Fund:

- (1) to adopt a statement of investment principles that explicitly set out the pension fund position on key Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) issues including climate change, human trafficking, child labour, the arms industry, tax avoidance and workers' rights;
- (2) to systematically assess the risks associated with their investments concerning ESG policies;
- (3) to set targets for positive, responsible investment in specific sectors, including low-carbon infrastructure, housing and low emission transport.”

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As an amendment Councillor Wilson seconded by Councillor Brooks moved:

“The UK is a signatory to the 1970 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, is a member of NATO and not a signatory to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Under those circumstances we should support the committee and trustees of Strathclyde Pension Fund to invest where they consider best for the financial health of the fund.”

Following a roll call vote, 2 Members, Councillors Brooks and Wilson, voted in favour of the amendment and 19 Members, Provost Brennan, Councillors Ahlfeld, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Dorrian, MacLeod, McCabe, McCormick, C McEleny, J McEleny, McKenzie, McVey, Moran, Murphy, Nelson, Quinn, Rebecchi and Robertson, voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

Decided: that the Notice of Motion by Councillor J McEleny as set out above be agreed.

**85 Campaign to Keep the £20 a Week Universal Credit Increase –
Notice of Motion by Councillor C McEleny**

85

Councillors Clocherty, C McEleny, Moran and Murphy declared a non-financial interest in this item as member of Unite the Union. All four Members formed the view that the nature of their interest and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence at the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process.

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising of the receipt of a Notice of Motion by Councillor C McEleny, countersigned by Councillor MacLeod, submitted in terms of Standing Order 22 in the following adjusted terms:

“This Council notes:

- In April 2021 the Government plan to cut the benefit level for millions of claimants by ending of the time limited increase to the basic rate of Universal Credit (and the tax credit equivalent) announced by the Chancellor on 20 March as part of his pandemic response package.
- The £20 a week boost reflected the reality that the level of benefits was not adequate to protect the swiftly increasing number of households relying on them as the crisis hit. Exactly because that increase was a very significant and welcome move to bolster low income and middle income families’ living standards, its removal will be a huge loss.
- Pressing ahead would see the level of unemployment support fall to its lowest real-terms level since 1990-91, and its lowest ever relative to average earnings. Indeed, the basic level of out-of-work support prior to the March boost was – at £73 a week (£3,800 a year) – less than half the absolute poverty line.
- The increase in benefits has had a positive effect on the lives of thousands of local claimants who are better able to pay for life’s essentials such as food, clothing and utilities.
- The local economy has also benefited from the increase in benefit levels as claimants spend their money locally thereby supporting local businesses and jobs.

This Council resolves to:

- Write to the Chancellor, Rishi Sunak and to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson demanding that the £20 increase to Universal Credit is made permanent and extended to claimants on legacy benefits.
- Work with other local government organisations to form a coalition to pressure the government to make the £20 increase to Universal Credit permanent.”

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As an amendment, Councillor Brooks seconded by Councillor Wilson moved:

“This Council resolves to:

Write to the Chancellor, Rishi Sunak and to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson:

- (1) acknowledging that the Universal Credit £20 a week increase from 6 April 2020 means that claimants will be up to £1,040 better off during the year;
- (2) that this sum of money has made, and will continue to make, a huge difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of Scots;
- (3) urging them to commit to retaining the £20 increase for the foreseeable future; and
- (4) accept that the Commons Work and Pension Committee have advised keeping the higher rate until April 2022.”

Following a roll call vote, 2 Members, Councillors Brooks and Wilson, voted in favour of the amendment and 19 Members, Provost Brennan, Councillors Ahlfeld, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Dorrian, MacLeod, McCabe, McCormick, C McEleny, J McEleny, McKenzie, McVey, Moran, Murphy, Nelson, Quinn, Rebecchi and Robertson, voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

Decided: that the Notice of Motion by Councillor C McEleny as set out above be agreed.

**86 Lee Jeans Factory Sit-In 40th Anniversary –
Notice of Motion by Councillor C McEleny**

86

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising of the receipt of a Notice of Motion by Councillor C McEleny, countersigned by Councillor Quinn, submitted in terms of Standing Order 22 in the following terms:

“Council notes that February 2021 marks the 40th Anniversary of the Lee Jeans factory sit in – an event that is widely regarded as a highly significant event in the history of the Scottish Labour movement. The event, which began on 5th February 1981, saw the mainly female workforce barricade themselves into the Lee Jeans plant, beginning a sit-in which lasted seven months.

In August 1981, after almost seven months, a management buy-out saved the Lee Jeans factory – and the 140 workers still occupying it won back their jobs. However, although the factory was not successful in securing a long-term future, the ingenuity and dedication of the workforce in saving the factory from closure forty years ago is an important part of Inverclyde’s late 20th century history.

Council agrees to commend everyone that took part in the sit-in and the dedication they showed to protect employment in Inverclyde.

Council agrees to promote the actions of the sit-in, paying tribute to those involved, and delegates the promotion of an appropriate commemoration to the Corporate Communications Manager.”

Decided: that the Notice of Motion by Councillor C McEleny as set out above be agreed.

87 COVID-19 Update Report

87

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources providing an update on actions taken to mitigate the risks around the COVID-19 outbreak.

Decided:

(1) that the actions taken to date to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak in Inverclyde be noted; and

(2) that Standing Order 16.2 of the Standing Orders for Contracts be amended to read:

“Tenders in excess of £1m shall be opened by two Procurement Officers (Grade 7 or above) using the date and time stamp element of the Public Contracts Scotland Portal to record offers received. All other tenders shall be opened by one Procurement Officer (Grade 7 or above) using the date and time stamp element of the Public Contracts Scotland Portal to record offers received.”

88 COVID-19 (Coronavirus): Administrative Arrangements – Online Committee Cycle 2021 88

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services seeking continuation of the Committee Cycle for 2021 on the basis of expedited business only for the duration of the current COVID-19 emergency, as set out in the First Minister’s January 2021 statement.

Decided: that approval be given to the next cycles of Committee and Board meetings continuing on the basis of expedited business only until there is a significant reduction in the local protection levels.

89 Administrative Arrangements: (1) Scheme of Delegation (Officers) and (2) Scheme of Administration 89

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services setting out (1) a number of necessary changes to the Council’s Scheme of Delegation (Officers) following its decision on 29 October 2020 to approve interim management arrangements during COVID Recovery and (2) a necessary change to the Scheme of Administration following upon the decision of the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 14 January 2021 to review Traffic Regulation Order procedure.

Decided:

(1) that approval be given to the changes to the Scheme of Delegation (Officers) set out in Appendix 1 to the report subject to the inclusion of the word “emergency” at paragraph 15 of page 11 of the Scheme under the powers delegated to the Head of Education Resources, Culture & Communities; and

(2) that approval be given to a change to paragraph (e) of page 23 of the Scheme of Administration (Environment & Regeneration Committee) to read as follows:

(e) to consider and determine Traffic Management Orders and Traffic Regulation Orders where there are maintained objections.

Councillor Curley left the meeting at this juncture.

90 Withdrawal from the European Union - Update 90

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources providing an update on the issues experienced thus far in Inverclyde as a result of the UK’s withdrawal from the European Union.

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

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Decided:

- (1) that the report be noted; and
- (2) that a report be submitted to Members in due course on the long-term implications for Inverclyde of withdrawal from the European Union.

91 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council, Disabled Persons’ Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 3 2020 – Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee 91

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 14 January 2021 requesting approval of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council, Disabled Persons’ Parking Places (On-Street) Order No. 3 2020.

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 2020 and that the Head of Roads & Environmental Shared Services and the Head of Legal & Property Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

92 Proposed Redetermination Order – The Inverclyde Council, A78 Inverkip Road, Branchton Road and Gleninver Road, Greenock (Redetermination of Means of Exercise of Public Right of Passage) Order 2020 – Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee 92

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 14 January 2021 requesting approval of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council, A78 Inverkip Road, Branchton Road and Gleninver Road, Greenock (Redetermination of Means of Exercise of Public Right of Passage) Order 2020.

Decided: that approval be given to the making of the Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council, A78 Inverkip Road, Branchton Road and Gleninver Road, Greenock (Redetermination of Means of Exercise of Public Right of Passage) Order 2020 and that the Head of Roads & Environmental Shared Services and the Head of Legal & Property Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

93 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council, A78 Inverkip Road and Branchton Road, Greenock (One Way, Prohibition of Entry and Prohibition of Right and Left Turns) Traffic Regulation Order 2020 – Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee 93

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 14 January 2021 requesting approval of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council, A78 Inverkip Road and Branchton Road, Greenock (One Way, Prohibition of Entry and Prohibition of Right and Left Turns) Traffic Regulation Order 2020.

Decided: that approval be given to the making of the Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council, A78 Inverkip Road and Branchton Road, Greenock (One Way, Prohibition of Entry and Prohibition of Right and Left Turns) Traffic Regulation Order 2020 and that the Head of Roads & Environmental Shared Services and the Head of Legal & Property Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

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- 94 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council, Bruce Street, Greenock (One Way and Prohibition of Entry) Traffic Regulation Order 2020 – Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee 94**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 14 January 2021 requesting approval of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council, Bruce Street, Greenock (One Way and Prohibition of Entry) Traffic Regulation Order 2020.

Decided: that approval be given to the making of the Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council, Bruce Street, Greenock (One Way and Prohibition of Entry) Traffic Regulation Order 2020 and that the Head of Roads & Environmental Shared Services and the Head of Legal & Property Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

- 95 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council (Off-Street Parking Places) (Variation No. 11) Order 2020 – Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee 95**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 14 January 2021 requesting approval of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council (Off-Street Parking Places) (Variation No. 11) Order 2020.

Decided: that approval be given to the making of the Traffic Regulation Order - The Inverclyde Council (Off-Street Parking Places) (Variation No. 11) Order 2020 and that the Head of Roads & Environmental Shared Services and the Head of Legal & Property Services be authorised to take all necessary action in connection therewith.

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 (Joint Collaboration – Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire Councils – Service Manager (Corporate Policy, Performance and Partnership) on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act and for the item thereafter (Business in the Appendix) 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 detailed in the relevant minute.

- 96 Joint Collaboration – Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire Councils – Service Manager (Corporate Policy, Performance and Partnership) 96**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) on the position of Service Manager (Corporate Policy, Performance and Partnership) following the resignation of the current postholder and (2) setting out proposed future arrangements for the role which is currently shared between Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire Councils on a trial basis.

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Decided:

- (1) that it be agreed not to continue with the shared service arrangement with West Dunbartonshire Council in respect of the position of Service Manager (Corporate Policy Performance and Partnership); and
- (2) that it be noted that an internal arrangement will be put in place with an experienced officer taking on the role up to March 2022.

Appendices to Minutes

97	Appointment Panel – Head of Legal Services – 25 November 2020	97
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
98	Environment & Regeneration Committee (Special) – 17 December 2020	98
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.	
99	Appointment Panel – Head of Legal Services – 18 December 2020	99
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
100	Environment & Regeneration Committee – 14 January 2021	100
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McCormick.	
101	Human Resources Appeals Board – 26 January 2021	101
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
102	General Purposes Board – 10 February 2021	102
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Dorrian.	

AUDIT COMMITTEE – 23 FEBRUARY 2021

Audit Committee**Tuesday 23 February 2021 at 3pm**

Present: Provost Brennan, Councillors Brooks, Curley, McCabe, McCormick, J McEleny, McVey, Murphy, Nelson, Quinn 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 D Sweeney and Ms L Carrick (Legal & Property Services) and Mr M Thomson (for Chief Financial Officer).

The meeting was held by video-conference.

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

103 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 103

No apologies for absence were intimated.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

104 Internal Audit – Annual Strategy and Plan 2021-2022 104

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources presenting for approval the Internal Audit Annual Strategy and Plan for 2021-2022.

Decided: that approval be given to the Internal Audit Annual Strategy and Plan for 2021-2022.

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 23 FEBRUARY 2021

Policy & Resources Committee

Tuesday 23 February 2021 at 4pm

Present: Councillors Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, McCabe, McCormick, McKenzie (for Ahlfeld), McVey, Moran, Rebecchi, Robertson and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor McCabe presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Mr A Stevenson (for Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership), Head of Legal & Property Services, Ms A Sinclair, Ms D Sweeney and Ms L Carrick (Legal & Property Services), Chief Financial Officer, Principal Revenues & Benefits Officer, Interim Head of Service, Public Protection & Covid Recovery, Team Leader Community Safety and Resilience, Team Leader Public Health and Housing Environmental & Public Protection, ICT 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.

105 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 105

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Ahlfeld, with Councillor McKenzie substituting.

Councillors Curley, Crowther and Wilson declared interests in Agenda Item 2 (Council Tax: Long Term Empty Levy – Internal Review).

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 ground 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.

106 Council Tax: Long Term Empty Levy – Internal Review 106

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services seeking the Committee's view, in terms of its existing Long Term Empty Property and Second Homes Policy, on the outcome of the Officers' Internal Review completed for certain properties.

The following Members declared non-financial interests in this item:

Councillor Crowther as a family member owns a home that is currently empty;

Councillor Curley as a Board Member of River Clyde Homes; and

Councillor Wilson as a former Director of the Link Group.

All three Members formed the view that the nature of their interests and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed that (1) the terms of the Internal Review and the written submissions from the Property Owners be noted and that the Officers'

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 23 FEBRUARY 2021

interpretation and implementation of the Long Term Empty Property and Second Homes Policy for certain properties as set out in full in the Internal Review be upheld; and (2) the effectiveness of the Long Term Empty Property and Second Homes Policy be reviewed at a future meeting of the Committee following appropriate and full public consultation, all as detailed in the appendix.

APPOINTMENT PANEL – HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES

Appointment Panel – Head of Legal Services**Wednesday 24 February 2021 at 9.35am**

Present: Councillors M McCormick, L Quinn and E Robertson, Mr A Fawcett, Chief Executive, Mr S Allan, Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and Ms R Binks, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development.

Present also: Mr G Malone, Head of Legal & Property Services and Mr S McNab, Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications (Advisers to Panel).

Chair: Mr Fawcett presided.

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

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 the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

107 Appointment of Head of Legal Services**107**

The Panel interviewed two candidates and agreed not to make an appointment to the substantive post at this time and to re-advertise the position for interview by the end of December 2021, all as detailed in the Appendix.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE COMMITTEE – 25 FEBRUARY 2021

Health & Social Care Committee

Thursday 25 February 2021 at 3pm

Present: Councillors Brooks, Dorrian, Murphy (for 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, Head of Children's Services & Criminal Justice, IJB Chief Financial Officer and Interim Head of Strategy & Support Services, Interim Head of Homelessness, Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Recovery Services, Ms A Edmiston (for Chief Financial Officer), Mr P MacDonald (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms S Lang and Ms D Sweeney (Legal & Property Services), Technical Services Manager, ICT Services Manager and Service Manager, Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

The meeting was held by video-conference.

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

108 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 108

(Councillor Quinn entered the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Jackson, with Councillor Murphy substituting.

Councillors Brooks, MacLeod and Robertson declared interests in Agenda Item 2 (Health & Social Care Committee: Expedited Business, Relevant Updates and Operational Log).

109 Health & Social Care Committee: Expedited Business, Relevant Updates and Operational Log 109

There were submitted updated report and replacement Appendix 1 of Appendix C to the report providing an update on Health & Social Care Services including the current service response to COVID-19, related interim changes to services, governance of external providers and the Social Care financial position at Period 9.

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

Councillor Brooks declared a non-financial interest in this item as a member of the Board of River Clyde Homes and Councillor MacLeod declared a non-financial interest as a Non-Executive Director of Parklea Branching Out. Both Members formed the view that the nature of their interest and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence at the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process. During the course of discussion on this item, Councillor Robertson declared a financial interest in Section 4.9 of the report (Winter Grant) as a foster carer, one of the groups of potential recipients of direct grants and support packages. She did not take part in

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE COMMITTEE – 25 FEBRUARY 2021

any consideration of this section of the report and left the meeting prior to any decision-making in relation to the recommendation on Winter Grant funding.

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 Appendix E to the report (Governance of Externally Commissioned Social Care Services) on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

Following consideration of Appendix E, the Committee returned to public session to consider Section 4.13 (HSCP Senior Management: Interim Strategic Arrangements) and the recommendations set out in the report.

Decided: that the Committee note the report and in particular:

- (a) the update on the COVID-19 Recovery Plan and the new Workplace Wellbeing Plan;
 - (b) that the previously agreed HSCP Recovery Plan has been paused while services deal with current lockdown implications for services across the HSCP;
 - (c) that significant progress has been made in the vaccination programme for HSCP staff, care home residents and staff within care homes and other providers;
 - (d) the update on the new Learning Disability (LD) Hub programme and that the LD Day Centre remains open to 20% of current clients, based on a risk assessment, with outreach being offered to others;
 - (e) the River Clyde Homes (RCH) tenant consultation regarding the proposed change within Glebe Court and Monkton Place moving to a retirement housing model;
 - (f) the Mental Health update including the introduction of the new Mental Health Assessment Unit model (MHAU) in Greater Glasgow & Clyde and the introduction of the Distress Brief Intervention (DBI) Programme commissioned by Inverclyde HSCP;
 - (g) the Alcohol and Drug Recovery Service (ADRS) update including the introduction of a new Drug and Alcohol information System (DAISy) to replace the current database and improve reporting on recovery; and
 - (h) the update on the Promise;
- (2) that an annual report on Inverclyde HSCP's contribution to delivering The Promise be submitted to the Committee;
 - (3) that it be agreed to ratify the decisions made, as outlined in the HSCP log, including the reduction of some services to essential only visits in response to demands for the service and capacity issues;
 - (4) that it be noted that the projected revenue outturn for Social Work as at 31 December 2020 is an overspend of £690,000 which is an increase of £454,000 in the overspend reported at Period 7;
 - (5) that it be agreed to note the governance report for the period 28 November 2020 to 28 January 2021, with Members acknowledging 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;
 - (6) that it be agreed to note the ongoing discussions on revised senior management team arrangements which will be reported back as soon as possible to the Committee for information;
 - (7) that approval be given to the temporary alteration to the Council financial

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE COMMITTEE – 25 FEBRUARY 2021

reporting arrangements and that it be agreed to note the new post of Head of Finance, Planning & Resources who will also be the IJB Chief Financial Officer on a full-time basis, funded through the additional professional leadership recurrent funding approved by the IJB in March 2020, together with the creation of a Finance Manager to support budgeting and financial planning across Social Care and Health;

(8) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership to carry out an evaluation of the new arrangements for financial monitoring and to report back to the Committee in the summer of 2022;

(9) that it be noted that there is no financial impact on the Council relative to the proposed new structure and that the finalised structure will be reported back to the Committee as soon as possible; and

(10) that approval be given to the use of the Children's Services Winter Grant funding comprising £80,000 to residential care, £179,800 for children's hearings recovery impact and £127,800 for vulnerable children and young people, it being noted that this funding is still subject to clarification from the Scottish Government on carry forward arrangements.

Councillor Robertson left the meeting prior to the Committee taking a decision in relation to recommendation 10 above.

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 26 FEBRUARY 2021

General Purposes Board

Friday 26 February 2021 at 10am

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

Chair: Councillor Dorrian presided.

In attendance: Mr D Keenan (for Head of Legal & Property Services), Ms L Carrick and Ms F Denver (Legal & Property Services).

The meeting was held by video-conference.

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

110 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 110

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

No declarations of interest were intimated.

111 Taxi Fares Review 2020/21 111

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Property Services on the annual review of taxi fare scales for the purpose of public advertisement as the first formal stage of the statutory process.

Mr Keenan advised that the matter had been continued from a previous meeting of the Board to allow for officers to provide clarification on fares in terms of tables in a percentage form. This information was shown in Appendix 4 of the report.

Following discussion, Councillor Brooks moved an increase as outlined in paragraph 4.8 of the report which refers to proposals submitted by the trade. This increase refers to a 20p increase on the initial flag fall across all tariffs.

As an amendment, Councillor McEleny moved a 1% increase on the initial flag fall and the yardage across all tariffs.

Following a roll-call vote, 4 Members, Councillors Ahlfeld, Brooks, Curley and Quinn voted in favour of the motion and 6 Members, Provost Brennan, Councillors Crowther, Dorrian, MacLeod, J McEleny and Moran, voted in favour of the amendment which was declared carried.

Decided:

- (1) increase the initial flag fall across all tariffs by 1%;
- (2) increase each additional yardage after the initial flag fall by 1% across all tariffs; and
- (3) remit to the Head of Legal & Property Services to advertise the proposals determined and report on the outcome once the statutory period for representations has lapsed.

PLANNING BOARD – 3 MARCH 2021

Planning Board

Wednesday 3 March 2021 at 3pm

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

Chair: Councillor Wilson presided.

In attendance: Interim Director Environment & Economic Recovery, Mr D Ashman (Planning Services), Mr G Leitch and Ms E Provan (Roads & Transportation), Mr J Kerr (for Interim Head of Legal Services), Ms D Sweeney and Ms L Carrick (Legal & Property Services), ICT Service Manager and Service Manager, Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

The meeting was held by video-conference.

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

112 APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 112

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

Councillors Clocherty, Moran and Dorrian declared an interest in agenda item 2b (Proposed change of use of ground floor offices to performing arts academy at 7 Union Street, Greenock (20/0228/IC)).

113 PLANNING APPLICATIONS 113

There were submitted reports by the Head of Regeneration & Planning on applications for planning permission as follows:-

- (a) Erection of 6 detached dwellinghouses/house plots (planning permission in principle):
Land adjacent to 24 Rosemount Place, Gourock (20/0186/IC).**

The report recommended that planning permission be granted subject to a number of conditions, it being noted that condition 10.v) should read 'All roads within the site shall be a minimum of 4.8m wide'.

After discussion, Councillor Nelson moved that consideration of the application be continued for a site visit to be arranged by the Interim Head of Legal Services in consultation with the Chair.

As an amendment, Councillor McKenzie moved that planning permission be granted subject to the conditions detailed in the report as adjusted above.

Following a roll call vote, 4 Members, Councillors Clocherty, Dorrian, McKenzie and McVey, voted in favour of the amendment and 6 Members, Councillors Crowther, J McEleny, Moran, Nelson, Rebecchi and Wilson voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

PLANNING BOARD – 3 MARCH 2021

Decided: that consideration of the application be continued for a site visit to be arranged by the Interim Head of Legal Services in consultation with the Chair.

**(b) Proposed Change of Use of Ground Floor Offices to Performing Arts Academy:
7 Union Street, Greenock (20/0228/IC)**

Councillors Clocherty, Moran and Dorrian declared a non-financial interest in this matter as the local Labour Party currently use the premises as meeting rooms. They also formed the view that the nature of their interest and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence at the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process.

Decided: that planning permission be granted subject to the following condition:-

(1) the classes and activities associated with the performing arts academy use hereby permitted shall only be held between 9.00am to 9.00pm daily and all patrons shall vacate the premises by 9.30pm each evening.

114 PLANNING APPEAL

114

Timber deck to rear (in retrospect) at Flat 1, 113 Albert Road, Gourock

There was submitted a report by the Head of Regeneration & Planning advising that following the decision of the Board on 2 September 2020 to refuse planning permission in retrospect for a timber deck at Flat 1, 113 Albert Road, Gourock and a subsequent appeal to the Scottish Government against that refusal, the appointed Reporter found the timber deck to be erected to accord with the relevant provisions of the development plan and there to be no material considerations which would justify refusing to grant planning permission. The appeal was allowed and planning permission was granted. No conditions were attached to the planning permission.

Decided: that the position be noted.

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 4 MARCH 2021

Environment & Regeneration Committee

Thursday 4 March 2021 at 3pm

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

Chair: Councillor McCormick presided.

In attendance: Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery, Mr P MacDonald (for Interim Head of Legal Services), Ms S Lang and Ms D Sweeney (Legal Services), Interim Head of Property Services, Technical Services Manager, Ms A Galloway (Property Services), Ms M McCabe (for Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery (Section 95 Officer)), Interim Head of Public Protection & Recovery, Head of Roads and Environmental Shared Services, Mr PJ Coulter (Corporate Communications) and ICT Services Manager.

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

115 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 115

No apologies for absence were intimated.

Councillors Brooks and Curley declared an interest in Agenda Item 2 (Expedited Business and Relevant Updates).

116 Expedited Business and Relevant Updates 116

There was submitted a report by the Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery requesting that consideration be given to expedited business and relevant updates for the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

Councillors Brooks and Curley declared a non-financial interest in this item as Members of the Board 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 at the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process.

(Councillors Jackson and Nelson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

During the course of discussion on the report, the Head of Roads and Environmental Shared Services confirmed that following confirmation of external funding, she would provide Members with an update on the planned Active Travel projects for the year ahead, aligned to the Active Travel Strategy and National Transport Strategy.

In relation to the item at paragraph 7.1 (Drumshantie Road, Gourrock – Car Park – Acquisition of a Small Section of Ground) Councillor Ahlfeld moved:

- (1) that having regard to the responses to the public consultation detailed in the report, approval be granted for the change of use of the site for use as a car park; and
- (2) that delegated authority be granted to the Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery to acquire the area of land shown cross-hatched on the plan at Appendix 1 from Darroch Estates on the terms and at the price specified in Appendix 2 and otherwise on terms acceptable to the Head of Legal Services and the Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery (Section 95 Officer).

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 4 MARCH 2021

As an amendment, Councillor Curley moved that the change of use of the site for use as a car park and the proposal to acquire the area of land from Darroch Estates be rejected at the present time and that a further report be submitted to the Committee on the scale of the proposed project.

On a vote, 3 Members, Councillors Crowther, Curley and J McEleny, voted in favour of the amendment and 6 Members, Councillors Ahlfeld, Brooks, Clocherty, McCabe, McCormick and McKenzie, voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

Decided:

- (1) that the information contained in the report, including the update in respect of Clyde Muirshiel Park be noted;
- (2) that the recommendations as set out in paragraph 5.1.5 in respect of the Revenue Budget and Capital Programme be agreed, namely:
 - (a) that approval be given to the virement of £250,000 from the Parks, Cemeteries and Open Spaces Asset Management Plan (AMP) to Cemeteries Development across financial years 2021/22 and 2022/23;
 - (b) that the estimated cost of the Knocknairshill Cemetery Extension project of £1.6m be noted;
 - (c) that approval be granted for the issue of tenders for the Knocknairshill Cemetery Extension project and for delegated authority to the Head of Legal Services to accept the most economically advantageous tender for the project, provided the cost is within the budget allocation;
- (3) that in relation to the Core Property Services allocation at paragraph 5.1.6:
 - (a) the allocation of £100,000 to address ventilation improvements to the internal office space adjacent to the Grand Corridor, Greenock Municipal Buildings be noted;
 - (b) the allocation of a further £290,000 to the Boglestone Community Centre Roofing project to accelerate the phased approach and complete the priority areas in a single contract at a revised estimated cost of £570,000 be noted;
 - (c) approval be granted for the issue of tenders for the Boglestone Community Centre Roofing project and for delegated authority to the Head of Legal Services to accept the most economically advantageous tender, provided the cost is within the revised budget allocation;
 - (d) it be noted that further Core Property Services projects will be identified throughout the 2021/22 financial year as part of the ongoing review and that work will be prioritised based on property condition surveys;
- (4) that in relation to the item at paragraph 6.4.19 (City Deal Projects – Inchgreen) delegated authority be granted to the Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery to accept the Clyde Mission Funding Award in respect of the Platers' Shed Inchgreen Marine Project;
- (5) that in relation to the item at paragraph 7.1 (Drumshantie Road, Gourrock – Car Park Acquisition of a Small Area of Ground)
 - (a) having regard to the responses to the public consultation detailed in the report, approval be granted for the change of use of the site for use as a car park;
 - (b) that delegated authority be granted to the Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery to acquire the area of land shown cross-hatched on the plan at Appendix 1 from Darroch Estates on the terms and at the price specified in Appendix 2 and otherwise on terms acceptable to the Head of Legal Services and the Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery (Section 95 Officer);
- (6) that in relation to the item at paragraph 7.2 (Inverkip Community Facility – Lease), delegated authority be granted to the Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery to vary the terms of the lease to ICI so that it includes the new extension on the east gable, as detailed on the plan at Appendix 4, and to amend the sub-lease plan so that it also takes account of this additional area;

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 4 MARCH 2021

- (7) that in relation to the item at paragraph 7.4 (Gourock Park Bowling Club – Lease Variation), delegated authority be granted to the Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery to vary the lease so that it includes the tennis courts to the rear of the current pavilion and to deal with the other matters detailed, including landlord's consent for the proposed works;
- (8) that in relation to the item at paragraph 8.1 (Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park), it be recommended to the Inverclyde Council that, subject to the two Members' agreement, Councillors Nelson and Wilson be nominated to serve on the newly-established Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park Liaison Group;
- (9) that in relation to the Roads Assets Management Plan projects for 2021/22 (paragraphs 10.1 to 10.14), approval be granted to the programme of expenditure as detailed in the report and that delegated authority be granted to the Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery to substitute projects if necessary to achieve a full spend of funding allocations; and
- (10) that it be noted that a report will be submitted to a future meeting on a proposed solution to the technical issues associated with the live-streaming of funerals from Greenock Crematorium.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 9 MARCH 2021

Education and Communities Committee

Tuesday 9 March 2021 at 1pm

Present: Provost Brennan, Councillors Clocherty, Curley, MacLeod, McCabe, McVey, Murphy, Quinn, Robertson and Wilson, Mrs F Gilpin, Church 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 Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery (Section 95 Officer)), Ms G Murphy (for Interim Head of Legal Services), Ms S Lang and Ms D Sweeney (Legal Services), Interim Head of Property Services, Service Manager, Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety, Mr PJ Coulter (Communications) and ICT Services Manager.

The meeting was held by video-conference.

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

117 **Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest** 117

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor C McEleny, Rev. D Burt and Ms A McMillan.

Councillors Clocherty, MacLeod and Quinn declared non-financial interests in Agenda Item 3 (Education & Communities Committee: Expedited Business, Relevant Updates and Operational Logs for the Communities part of the Committee).

118 **Education & Communities Committee: Performance Report for the Communities Part of the Committee** 118

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing performance information for the Communities part of the Education & Communities Committee.

Decided: that the report be noted.

119 **Education & Communities Committee: Expedited Business, Relevant Updates and Operational Log for the Communities Part of the Committee** 119

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on expedited business, relevant updates and the operational log for the Communities part of the Education & Communities Committee.

Councillors Clocherty and Quinn declared a non-financial interest in this item as Members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure and Councillor MacLeod declared a non-financial interest as a Non-Executive Director of Parklea Branching Out. All 3 Members

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 9 MARCH 2021

formed the view that the nature of their interests and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence at the meeting or their participation in the decision-making process.

Decided:

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted;
- (2) that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development after consultation with the Interim Head of Legal Services and Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery (Section 95 Officer) to accept the Regeneration Capital Grants Fund (RCGF) on behalf of Inverclyde Council;
- (3) that the Annual Report on Community Learning & Development (CLD) Services be approved and that the Committee's appreciation for the work undertaken by CLD during the COVID-19 pandemic be extended to all staff involved;
- (4) that approval be given to the grant of £10,000 to Fort Matilda Tennis Club through the Grants to Voluntary Organisations Budget and that Elected Members be provided with a list of the various GTVO and Under 19s Sports grant applications approved, rejected or deferred under the delegated powers arrangement;
- (5) that the proposals for Under 16s Swimming as outlined in paragraph 4.5 of the report be agreed as follows:
 - (a) that Inverclyde Council be requested, as part of the 2021/23 Budget consideration, to defer the saving of £100,000 agreed in December 2020 until March 2022, subject to the suspension of Standing Orders;
 - (b) that during the year 2021/22, Inverclyde Leisure be paid for each swim rather than a set annual sum;
 - (c) that in order to access a subsidised swim, young people under 16 register free of charge for an Under 16 Residents' Swim Card on the basis set out in the report;
 - (d) that a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee on proposals for the implementation of the allocated £80,000 per annum to subsidise swimming; and
 - (e) that approval be given to the Inverclyde Leisure Strategic Plan.

The Communities business concluded at 1.20pm.

The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4pm with Mrs Gilpin and Ms McEwan joining the meeting.

120	Education & Communities Committee: Performance Report for the Education Part of the Committee	120
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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing performance information for the Education part of the Education & Communities Committee.

Decided:

- (1) that the report be noted; and
- (2) that it be agreed to note and approve the temporary allocation of future years' lifecycle funding to contain the expenditure within the current funding model and that the overall position be reviewed, including potential allocation from the COVID contingency and re-allocation of current complete on site allowances.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 9 MARCH 2021

121 Education & Communities Committee: Expedited Business, Relevant Updates and Operational Log for the Education Part of the Committee 121

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development on expedited business, relevant updates and the operational log for the Education part of the Education & Communities Committee, together with a separate addendum providing updated information in relation to the opening of schools.

Decided:

- (1) that the report be noted;
- (2) that agreement be given to the use of the Educational Recovery funding as outlined in paragraph 5.6 of the report;
- (3) that agreement be given to the Education Equality Outcomes as outlined in paragraph 5.7; and
- (4) that the Committee's appreciation be extended to the Head Teachers and all those involved in supporting in-school and remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

122 S1 Intake for Port Glasgow High School for Academic Year 2021/22 122

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development requesting the Committee to agree to an increase in the S1 intake for Port Glasgow High School from 100 to 120 for academic year 2021/22.

Decided: that agreement be given to an increase in the S1 intake for Port Glasgow High School from 100 to 120 for the academic year 2021/22.

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 10 MARCH 2021

General Purposes Board**Wednesday 10 March 2021 at 10am**

Present: Provost Brennan, Councillors Ahlfeld, Brooks, Crowther, Dorrian, J McEleny and Quinn.

Chair: Councillor Dorrian presided.

In attendance: Mr D Keenan (for Interim Head of Legal Services), Ms F Denver and Ms L Carrick (Legal & Property Services), and Sergeant Robertson (Police Scotland).

The meeting was held by video-conference.

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

123 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 123

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

No declarations of interest were intimated.

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

124 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence 124

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal Services on an application for a Taxi Driver's Licence which was refused, all as detailed in the Appendix.

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 16 MARCH 2021

Environment & Regeneration Committee

Tuesday 16 March 2021 at 1pm

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

Chair: Councillor McCormick presided.

In attendance: Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery, Mr P MacDonald (for Interim Head of Legal Services), Ms D Sweeney, Ms S Lang and Ms E Peacock (Legal Services), Mr M Thomson (for Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery), ICT Services Manager and Service Manager Communications, Tourism & Health & Safety.

The meeting was held by video-conference.

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

125 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 125

No apologies for absence or declarations of interest were intimated.

The Convener being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery was relevant, competent and urgent, moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to allow compliance with City Deal submission timescales. This was agreed unanimously.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) or 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 2, 6, 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

126 City Deal Update 126

There was submitted a report by the Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery providing an update on the three Inverclyde City Deal projects: Greenock Ocean Terminal, Inchgreen and Inverkip, and seeking authority to award the contract for the Greenock Ocean Terminal, Terminal Buildings, subject to City Deal approval. Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.

Following consideration of this item, the Committee returned to public session.

127 **Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Outer Greenock) (Waiting Restrictions) (Variation No. 11) Order 2020** 127
The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999

There was submitted a report by the Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery further to the statutory consultation process undertaken in terms of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 on the Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Outer Greenock) (Waiting Restrictions) (Variation No. 11) Order 2020 (the Proposed TRO), (1) requesting that the Committee adopt the Rules of Procedure for the purposes of the special meeting, (2) advising, in relation to the Proposed TRO, of the discussion between Council Officers and the person who has, as part of the public consultation, objected to the Proposed TRO (the Objector) and (3) making proposals to facilitate the effective, fair and proper hearing by the Committee of the Objector who has not withdrawn their objection in order that the Committee can consider their objection (the Objection) and come to a formal recommendation on the Proposed TRO.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the Rules of Procedure as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
- (2) that the terms of Appendix 2 in relation to the Objection be considered and noted; and
- (3) that it be agreed to allow the Objector an opportunity to be heard at the special meeting in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

In this regard, the Committee noted that the Objector was not present in relation to the Objection.

Ms G MacFarlane, Head of Roads & Environmental Shared Services, Mr G Leitch and Ms E Provan, Roads and Transportation, were present and the Committee heard Mr Leitch in support of the Proposed TRO.

The Committee, having considered and having had regard to the Objection and the oral representation made by Mr Leitch at the meeting, further decided:

- (4) that the Objection be dismissed and the Proposed TRO as detailed in Appendix 3 be approved and referred to the next meeting of The Inverclyde Council recommending that The Inverclyde Council formally approve the Proposed TRO and that it be remitted to the Head of Roads & Environmental Shared Services and the Interim Head of Legal Services to arrange for its implementation in accordance with the statutory procedures, all in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 16 MARCH 2021

Environment & Regeneration Committee

Tuesday 16 March 2021 at 2.30pm

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

Chair: Councillor McCormick presided.

In attendance: Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery, Mr P MacDonald (for Interim Head of Legal Services), Ms D Sweeney, Ms S Lang and Ms E Peacock (Legal Services), ICT Services Manager and Service Manager Communications, Tourism & Health & Safety.

The meeting was held by video-conference.

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

128 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 128

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor McCabe.
No declarations of interest were intimated.

129 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – The Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Gourock, Inverkip & Wemyss Bay) (Waiting Restrictions) (Variation No. 7) Order 2020 129

The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999

There was submitted a report by the Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery further to the statutory consultation process undertaken in terms of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 on Inverclyde Council (Various Roads) (Gourock, Inverkip & Wemyss Bay) (Waiting Restrictions) (Variation No. 7) Order 2020 (the Proposed TRO), (1) requesting that the Committee adopt the Rules of Procedure for the purposes of the special meeting, (2) advising, in relation to the Proposed TRO, of the discussions between Council Officers and the persons who have, as part of the public consultation, objected to the Proposed TRO (the Objectors) and (3) making proposals to facilitate the effective, fair and proper hearing by the Committee of those Objectors who have not withdrawn their objections (the Remaining Objectors) in order that the Committee can consider their objections (the Remaining Objections) and come to a formal recommendation on the Proposed TRO.

The Committee decided:

- (1) that the rules of procedure as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
- (2) that the terms of Appendix 2 in relation to the Remaining Objections be considered and noted; and
- (3) that it be agreed to allow the Remaining Objectors an opportunity to be heard at the special meeting in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

In this regard, the Committee noted that the Remaining Objectors were not present in relation to the Remaining Objections.

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 16 MARCH 2021

Ms G MacFarlane, Head of Roads & Environmental Shared Services, Mr G Leitch and Ms E Provan, Roads & Transportation were present and the Committee heard Mr Leitch in support of the Proposed TRO.

The Committee having considered and having had regard to the Remaining Objections and the oral representation made by Mr Leitch at the meeting, further decided:

(4) that the Remaining Objections be dismissed and the Proposed TRO as detailed in Appendix 3 be approved and referred to the next meeting of The Inverclyde Council recommending that The Inverclyde Council formally approve the Proposed TRO and that it be remitted to the Head of Roads & Environmental Shared Services and the Interim Head of Legal Services to arrange for its implementation in accordance with the statutory procedures, all in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 18 MARCH 2021

The Inverclyde Council

Thursday 18 March 2021 at 4pm

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

Chair: Provost Brennan presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership, Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery, Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery, Interim Head of Legal Services, Interim Head of Public Protection & Recovery, Head of Roads & Environmental Shared Services, Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications, Ms D Sweeney, Ms S Lang, Ms L Carrick and Ms S MacMaster (Legal Services), Ms A Edmiston and Mr C Given (Finance Services), ICT Services Manager and Service Manager, Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

The meeting was held by video-conference.

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| 130 | Apologies and Declarations of Interest | 130 |
| | <p>An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor C McEleny.</p> <p>No declarations of interest were intimated.</p> | |
| 131 | 2021/23 Revenue Budget and 2021/24 Capital Programme | 131 |
| | <p>There was submitted a report by the Interim Service Director Corporate Services and Organisational Recovery seeking approval of the Revenue Budget, 2021/24 Capital Programme and a number of other associated matters.</p> <p>(Councillors Wilson and Jackson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business)</p> <p>Decided:</p> <p>(1) that the latest position of the 2021/23 Revenue Budget advised by the Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery be noted;</p> <p>(2) that approval be given to the proposals from the Members' Budget Working Group and that:</p> <p>(a) the savings as detailed in Appendix 2 be approved;</p> <p>(b) the use of £1.049million Reserves to balance the 2021/22 Revenue Budget be approved and the allocation of £4.0million of Reserves towards the 2022/23 estimated funding gap be agreed;</p> <p>(c) the contribution of £53.971million to the Integrated Joint Board for 2021/22 as detailed in Appendix 3 plus the allocation of £700,000 from Reserves to meet demographic pressures be approved;</p> <p>(d) it be noted that further allocations to the Integrated Joint Board during 2021/22 to meet inflationary pressures will be considered by the Policy & Resources Committee once greater clarity on these matters is available;</p> <p>(e) the use of Reserves as detailed in Appendix 4 be approved;</p> | |

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- (f) the proposal to credit the 2021/22 Council Tax accounts of approximately 4,000 Council Tax Reduction recipients with £100 as detailed in Appendix 5 be approved;
 - (g) the 2021/24 Capital Programme as detailed in Appendix 6 be approved and it be noted that officers will report back to Members over the next 12 months on how to ensure a sustainable level of capital investment in the context of reduced Capital Grant;
 - (h) the 2021/22 Common Good Budget as detailed in Appendix 7 be approved; and
 - (i) the latest estimated funding gap for the period 2020/23 as detailed in Appendix 8 be noted.
- (3) that the 2021/22 Revenue Budget be approved;
 - (4) that it be noted that officers will prepare a report to the relevant Committee outlining the financial and practical implications of advancing the implementation of universal free school meals for Primary 5 to August 2021; and
 - (5) that it be agreed that the Members Budget Working Group continue to meet over the next 12 months with a view to bringing back proposals in respect of the Revenue and Capital Budgets for the Council to consider no later than March 2022.

132 Temporary Variation of Standing Orders Relating to Contracts

132

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal Services seeking approval to amend the Council's Contract Standing Orders to permit the Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the Corporate Procurement Manager as set out in the Contract Standing Orders on a 12 month basis pending review of the interim management arrangements previously approved by the Council.

Decided:

- (1) that approval be given to the Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery assuming the duties and responsibilities of the Corporate Procurement Manager as set out in the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts for a period of 12 months pending the review of the interim management arrangements previously approved by the Council; and
- (2) that it be remitted to the Interim Head of Legal Services to amend the Contract Standing Orders accordingly.

133 Ms Sharon Lang

133

At the conclusion of business the Provost referred to the imminent retirement of Ms Sharon Lang, Senior Committee Officer, Legal Services. The Provost thanked Ms Lang for her service and on behalf of the Council wished her a long and happy retirement.

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 23 MARCH 2021

Policy & Resources Committee**Tuesday 23 March 2021 at 3pm**

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

Chair: Councillor McCabe presided.

In attendance: Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Mr A Stevenson (for Corporate Director (Chief Officer), Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership), Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery, Interim Service Director Environment & Economic Recovery, Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications, Interim Head of Public Protection & Recovery, Interim Head of Legal Services, Ms D Sweeney and Ms L Carrick (Legal Services), Ms A Hunter and Ms K Barclay (Corporate Policy Officers), ICT Service Manager, and Service Manager, Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

The meeting was held by video-conference.

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

134 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 134

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Wilson, with Councillor Brooks substituting.

Councillors Clocherty and Moran declared an interest in Agenda Item 3 (Finance Update including Capital Strategy 2021-31 and Treasury Strategy 2021/25).

Prior to the commencement of business, the Convener acknowledged the national day of reflection to mark the anniversary of the United Kingdom's first COVID lockdown, and all present observed a minute's silence.

135 COVID-19 Update 135

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Economic Recovery (1) providing an update on actions taken to mitigate the risks around the COVID-19 outbreak and (2) requesting that consideration be given to expedited business and relevant updates.

During the course of discussion on this item, the Interim Head of Public Protection and Recovery provided an update on local vaccination figures, advising that as of the date of the meeting 51.2% of the Inverclyde adult population had received a first dose and 6% had received a second dose.

In relation to the item at paragraph 13.0 (Locality Planning), Councillor Robertson moved that the Committee approve ward based representation as proposed in the report, with relevant Councillors attending meetings as observers rather than ex-officio members.

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As an amendment, Councillor Brooks moved that the Committee approve the model of ward based representation and participation in meetings as detailed in the report, with relevant councillors attending meetings as ex-officio members.

Following a roll-call vote 4 Members, Councillor Ahlfeld, Brooks, McCabe and McCormick voted for the amendment and 7 Members, Councillors Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, McVey, Moran, Rebecchi and Robertson voted for the motion which was declared carried.

Decided:

- (1) that the actions taken to date to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak in Inverclyde be noted;
- (2) that the Committee notes the Annual Procurement Report 2019-20 and approves its publication on the Council website;
- (3) (a) that the information contained within the report in relation to Equalities and the publication of the Mainstreaming Report be noted and (b) that approval be given to the Proposed Equality Outcomes for 2021/25;
- (4) (a) that the extended approach to implementation of Locality Planning Groups and the consolidation of support arrangements within the Council's Community Learning & Development team be noted and (b) that ward based representation as outlined in the report be approved with relevant Councillors attending meetings as observers rather than ex-officio members; and
- (5) that the progress on the Inverclyde Jobs Recovery Plan be noted and it be remitted to Officers to provide regular update reports to the appropriate Committee on this matter.

136 Finance Update including Capital Strategy 2021/31 and Treasury Strategy 2021/25

136

There was submitted a report by the Interim Service Director, Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery providing an update on a range of financial matters and seeking decisions as appropriate, specifically providing an update on the Council's Capital and Treasury Strategies which require to be considered by the Inverclyde Council.

Councillors Clocherty and Moran declared a non-financial interest in this item, all as detailed in the Appendix. 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 meeting or their participation in the decision-making process.

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 Appendix 7 to this report on the ground that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 and 8 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

Following consideration of this item, the Committee returned to public session.

Decided:

- (1) that the projected underspends in the Policy & Resources Committee budget and 2020/21 General Fund Budget as at 31 January 2021 be noted;
- (2) that the current position of the 2020/23 Capital Programme be noted;
- (3) that the current estimated unallocated contingency of £951,000 within the COVID Fund be noted and that it be agreed that this should be retained until the situation regarding further costs and funding from COVID is clearer;

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 23 MARCH 2021

- (4) that the purchase of the property in Kilblain Street, Greenock be approved and it be remitted to the Interim Head of Legal Services in consultation with the Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery and the Interim Head of Property Services to conclude the purchase on the terms as detailed in Appendix 7 to the report, all as detailed in the Appendix;
- (5) that the following be remitted to the Inverclyde Council for approval:-
- (a) Capital Strategy for 2021/31;
 - (b) Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy;
 - (c) authorised limits for 2021/25;
 - (d) Treasury Management Policy Statement as detailed in paragraph 8.6 of the report;
 - (e) Policy on repayment of Loans Fund advances as detailed in paragraph 8.5 of the report;
 - (f) Treasury Policy Limits;
 - (g) Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Indicators;
 - (h) List of Permitted Investments (including those for Common Good Fund); and
- (6) that the publication of the Local Government in Scotland, Financial Overview by the Accounts Commission be noted.

LOCAL POLICE & FIRE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 25 MARCH 2021

Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Committee

Thursday 25 March 2021 at 3pm

Present: Councillors Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, MacLeod, McVey, Moran, Robertson (for J McEleny) and Quinn.

Chair: Councillor McVey presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Interim Head of Service Public Protection and Covid Recovery, Head of Culture, Communities & Educational Resources, Service Manager Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport, Mr I Hanley (Community Safety & Resilience), Ms A Sinclair (Interim Head of Legal Services), Ms D Sweeney and Ms L Carrick (Legal Services), ICT Service Manager and Mr P Coulter (for Service Manager Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety).

In attendance also: Chief Superintendent D Duncan and Chief Inspector P Cameron (Police Scotland) and Group Manager D McCarrey and Station Commander D Fothergill (Scottish Fire & Rescue Service).

The meeting was held by video-conference.

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

137 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 137

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

138 Police Scotland Performance Report 138

There was submitted a report on the performance and activities of Police Scotland during the reporting period 1 April 2020 to 31 January 2021.

During the course of discussion on this item Chief Inspector Cameron provided an overview of the Distress Brief Intervention pilot scheme which seeks to address mental health distress. Chief Inspector Cameron advised the Committee that Inverclyde Police are beginning the roll out of training which will provide officers with a tactical option to consider when dealing with a person in distress.

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

139 Scottish Fire & Rescue Service - Local Fire & Rescue Plan for Inverclyde 139

There was submitted a Local Fire & Rescue Plan for Inverclyde covering the period 2019-2022 by the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service.

During the course of discussion on this item clarification was sought on the fire safety audit of empty commercial properties. Group Manager McCarrey advised that such audits are not carried out. He further confirmed that he would work with the Council on this matter if requested to do so. In relation to the Distress Brief Intervention pilot

LOCAL POLICE & FIRE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 25 MARCH 2021

scheme, Group Manager McCarrey confirmed that the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service are working with the partner agencies.

Councillor Curley left the meeting during discussion of this item.

Decided: that the Local Fire & Rescue Plan for Inverclyde 2019-2022 be noted.

140 Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Committee Update Report (March 2021) 140

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

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