

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.

130 Apologies and Declarations of Interest 130

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor C McEleny.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

131 2021/23 Revenue Budget and 2021/24 Capital Programme 131

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.

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

Decided:

- (1) that the latest position of the 2021/23 Revenue Budget advised by the Interim Service Director Corporate Services & Organisational Recovery be noted;
- (2) that approval be given to the proposals from the Members' Budget Working Group and that:
 - (a) the savings as detailed in Appendix 2 be approved;
 - (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;
 - (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;
 - (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;
 - (e) the use of Reserves as detailed in Appendix 4 be approved;

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 18 MARCH 2021

- (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.