

**POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 9 AUGUST 2022**

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**Policy & Resources Committee**

**Tuesday 9 August 2022 at 3pm**

**Present:** Councillors Armstrong, Clocherty (for Moran), Curley, Law, McCabe, McCormick, McCluskey, McGuire, McVey, Robertson and Wilson.

**Chair:** Councillor McCabe presided.

**In attendance:** Chief Executive, Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance, Interim Director Environment & Regeneration, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, Corporate Director (Chief Officer) Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications, Mr C MacDonald, Ms L Carrick and M Hughes (Legal & Democratic Services), Ms M Rae (Corporate Policy Officer), Ms P Ramsay (Organisational Development, Policy and Communications), Ms A Edmiston and M Thomson (Finance Services), and Service Manager Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

This meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors McCormick and McGuire attending by video-conference.

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

**353      Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest      353**

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Moran, with Councillor Clocherty substituting.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

**354      Revenue Budget Outturn 2021/22      354**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance (1) advising the Committee of the unaudited outturn of Service Committee Budgets for the year ending 31 March 2022; and (2) highlighting any significant variances between revised budgets, Period 9/10 Revenue Budget reports and outturn per the 2021/22 Unaudited Accounts.

**Decided:**

(1) that the following be noted (a) the underspend per the unaudited accounts for 2021/22 of £1,361,000; (b) the reasons for the material variances from budget; and (c) the movement of £930,000 (0.49%) from Period 10 to the unaudited outturn; and

(2) that it be noted that officers will identify where there are any matters which will impact on the 2023/26 Budget development.

**355      2021/22 Capital Programme Out-Turn & Impact of Material Shortages on the Delivery & Cost of the 2022/25 Capital Programme      355**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance advising of the delivery of the 2021/22 Capital Programme and highlighting issues relating to the availability and supply of materials which will potentially impact upon the

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delivery of the 2022/25 Capital Programme.

The Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance advised the Committee of a typographical error in the report and, accordingly, at paragraph 3.4 the reference to 'overall advancement' should read 'overall slippage'.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the 2021/22 Capital Out-Turn be noted; and
- (2) that the pressure being experienced in relation to the availability and cost of materials and the impact this could have on the delivery and cost of the 2022/25 Capital Programme be noted.

**356 Treasury Management – Annual Report 2021/22**

**356**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance (1) advising of the operation of the treasury function and its activities for 2021/22 as required under the terms of the Treasury Management Practice 6 (TMP6) on 'Reporting Requirements and Management Information Arrangements'; and (2) requesting that the report is remitted to the Inverclyde Council for approval.

**Decided:**

- (1) that (a) the contents of the annual report on Treasury Management for 2021/22 be noted; and (b) the ongoing work seeking to ensure the delivery of financial benefits for the Council during the current uncertainty and beyond be noted;
- (2) that the report be remitted to the Inverclyde Council for approval; and
- (3) that it be noted that an Elected Member training session on Treasury Management has been arranged for 6 September 2022.

**357 Budget Strategy 2023/26**

**357**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance (1) seeking agreement for the approach to the next Budget period in the context of the unprecedented financial challenges which Inverclyde Council is forecasted to experience; and (2) seeking approval for an initial batch of proposed adjustments/efficiencies.

**Decided:**

- (1) that it be agreed that the forthcoming Budget covers the period 2023/26 for both Revenue and Capital with the intention that proposals will be approved no later than March 2023, which will financially balance the Revenue Budget for the period 2023/25;
- (2) that it be noted that this report is written on the basis that the Inverclyde Council budget process will exclude budget decisions relating to the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board (IJB) on which a formal decision by the Council and IJB is due in September;
- (3) that the current estimated 2023/26 Revenue Budget funding gap and the actions taken to date to develop savings options for Members to consider over the coming months be noted;
- (4) that the adjustments/efficiencies as detailed in appendix 1 of the report and the Budget timetable as detailed in appendix 2 of the report be approved;
- (5) that the intention to agree the first £4.0million of savings for the 2023/25 Budget prior to the Christmas break, in order to address the use of one off Reserves approved as part of the 2022/23 Budget, be confirmed; and
- (6) that it be noted that (a) there will be updates on the forthcoming Budget presented to each meeting of the Committee until the Budget is formally approved; and (b) proposals for Budget Consultation will be presented to the next meeting of the Committee.

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| <b>358</b> | <b>Corporate Health and Safety Policy</b>   | <b>358</b> |
|            | <p>There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy &amp; Communications seeking approval for the reviewed Corporate Health and Safety Policy.</p> <p><b>Decided:</b> that the reviewed Corporate Health and Safety Policy for signing by the Chief Executive be approved.</p>  |            |
| <b>359</b> | <b>Inverclyde Council and Inverclyde Licensing Board Records Management Plan – Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011</b>   | <b>359</b> |
|            | <p>There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Finance &amp; Corporate Governance seeking approval for the submission of the Council's Records Management Plan to the Keeper of the Records of Scotland.</p> <p><b>Decided:</b></p> <p>(1) that approval be given to (a) the proposed Records Management Plan (RMP) on behalf of the Council; and (b) its submission to the Keeper of the Records of Scotland;</p> <p>(2) that authority be delegated to the Head of Legal &amp; Democratic Services to make any minor changes to the RMP that might be needed following submission, in order to have the Keeper of the Records of Scotland agree the plan;</p> <p>(3) that it be noted that the RMP will also be submitted on behalf of the Inverclyde Licensing Board; and</p> <p>(4) that it be noted that the Council's information Governance Steering Group will oversee delivery of the RMP once agreed by the Keeper of the Records of Scotland.</p> |            |
| <b>360</b> | <b>Co-operative Council's Innovation Network</b>  | <b>360</b> |
|            | <p>There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal &amp; Democratic Services advising that the Council has received an invitation to join the Co-operative Council's Innovation Network.</p> <p><b>Decided:</b></p> <p>(1) that the invitation received by the Council to join the Co-operative Council's Innovation Network be noted; and</p> <p>(2) that it be noted that officers will arrange a briefing for elected members from the Network in advance of bringing a report back to the next meeting of the Committee to consider whether or not the Council should join the network.</p>   |            |
| <b>361</b> | <b>Inverclyde Gaelic Language Plan Implementation Report 2021/22</b>  | <b>361</b> |
|            | <p>There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities &amp; Organisational Development providing the annual update on the Inverclyde Gaelic Language Plan Implementation Report prior to the Report's submission to Bòrd na Gàidhlig.</p> <p><b>Decided:</b></p> <p>(1) that it be noted that an Inverclyde Council Gaelic Language Plan Implementation Report, relating to the period 8 March 2021 to 8 March 2022, has been produced; and</p> <p>(2) that it be noted that the Implementation Report will be submitted to Bòrd na Gàidhlig on 10 August 2022.</p>  |            |
| <b>362</b> | <b>National Care Service (Scotland) Bill – Call for Views</b>   | <b>362</b> |
|            | <p>There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Finance &amp; Corporate Governance</p>  |            |

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advising the committee of the publication of the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill and the Call for Views from the Scottish Parliament.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted; and
- (2) that approval be given to the convening of a special meeting of the Policy & Resources Executive Sub-Committee to review and approve the submission of the Council response to the Call for Views on the National Care Service (Scotland) Bill, with the draft response having first been considered by the Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel.