

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 27 OCTOBER 2022

Environment & Regeneration Committee

Thursday 27 October 2022 at 2pm

Present: Councillors Armstrong (for Nelson) Brooks, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Jackson, McCabe, McCormick, Quinn and Robertson.

Chair: Councillor McCormick presided.

In attendance: Interim Director Environment & Regeneration, Shared Head of Roads & Environmental Services, Interim Head of Property Services, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Public Protection Manager, Procurement and Building Services Manager, Mr P MacDonald, Mr C MacDonald and Ms L Carrick (Legal & Democratic Services), Mr M Thomson (for Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance), Ms J Wilson (Finance Services), Mr G Leitch (Roads and Transportation), Ms J Horn (Regeneration & Planning) and Service Manager Communications, Tourism and Health & Safety.

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

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

476 **Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest** 476

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Nelson, with Councillor Armstrong substituting.

No declarations of interest were intimated, but certain connections were intimated as follows:

Agenda Item 5 (Annual Procurement Report 2021/2022) – Councillors Cassidy, Jackson and Robertson.

Agenda Item 6 (Procurement Strategy 2022/25) – Councillor Jackson.

Agenda Item 7 (Employability Services Review) – Councillors Clocherty, Jackson and Robertson.

Agenda Item 13 (Governance of External Organisations) – Councillors Clocherty, Curley, Jackson and Robertson.

477 **2022/23 Revenue Budget as at 31 August 2022** 477

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance and the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration advising the Committee of the 2022/23 Revenue Budget projected position at 31 August 2022.

Decided:

- (1) that it be noted that the Revenue Budget is currently projected to overspend in 2022/23 by £37,280 based on figures as at 31 August 2022;
- (2) that it be noted that the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration will continue to monitor budgets closely with the intention of bringing the 2022/23 budget in on target;
- (3) that the virement request as detailed in appendix 5 of the report be approved; and
- (4) that it be remitted to officers to bring a report to a future meeting of the Committee on the Repopulation Action Plan.

- 478 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme 2022/25 - Progress 478**
- There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration and Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance providing an update on the status of the projects within the 2022/25 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the current position and progress on the specific projects of the 2022/25 Capital Programme and City Deal as detailed in the report and appendices be noted; and
 (2) that the use of powers delegated to the Chief Executive to issue an acceptance for the general building work contract associated with the installation of the new cremator units at Greenock Crematorium, which was authorised by Councillors McCormick, Clocherty, McCabe and Robertson (for Environment & Regeneration), and Councillors McCabe, McCluskey and Robertson (for Policy & Resources), and the Chief Executive, be noted.
- 479 Environment and Regeneration Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan Progress Report 2022/23 479**
- There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration and Interim Director Finance & Corporate Governance providing an update on the status of the Environment, Regeneration and Resources (ERR) Corporate Directorate Improvement Plan (CDIP) 2022/23, with a specific focus on the actions that are the responsibility of the Environment and Regeneration Service.
- Decided:** that the progress made by the Environment and Regeneration Service in delivering its actions within the ERR CDIP 2022/23 be noted.
- 480 Annual Procurement Report 2021/2022 480**
- There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration (1) providing an update on procurement related activity including the outcomes delivered during the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022; and (2) seeking approval to publish the Annual Procurement Report as detailed in appendix 1 of the report.
- Councillors Cassidy, Jackson and Robertson declared connections in this item of business. Councillor Cassidy declared a connection as a family relation sits on the Board of the Inverclyde Carers Centre, Councillor Jackson declared a connection as a member of the Board of the Inverclyde Community Development Trust and as a contractor and supplier to Inverclyde Council, and Councillor Robertson declared a connection due to a former financial relationship with Stepwell. They also formed the view that the nature of their connections and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision making process and were declaring for transparency.
- Decided:**
- (1) that approval be given to the Annual Procurement Report as detailed in appendix 1 of the report for publication to the Scottish Government and on the Council's website;
 (2) that the latest procurement compliant spend position and spend with SMEs and local suppliers be noted; and
 (3) that the commitment to Fair Work First and community benefits delivered by suppliers during the reporting period 1 April 2021 until 31 March 2022 be noted.
- 481 Procurement Strategy 2022/25 - Social Value Policy 481**

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There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration advising of the recently developed Social Value Policy.

Councillor Jackson declared a connection in this item as a contractor and supplier to Inverclyde Council. He also formed the view that the nature of his connection and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the meeting or his participation in the decision making process and he was declaring for transparency.

Decided: that (a) the Council's proposed approach to maximising social outcomes through the implementation of the Social Value Policy as part of its procurement activity be noted; and (b) it be noted that the Social Value Policy will be submitted to the Policy & Resources Committee for approval on 15 November 2022.

482 Employability Services Review**482**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration providing options for consideration for the provision of the Employability Service as presented to the Policy & Resources Committee under the Delivering Differently process. Councillors Clocherty, Jackson and Robertson declared connections in this item of business. Councillors Clocherty and Jackson declared connections as members of the Board of the Inverclyde Community Development Trust, and Councillor Robertson declared a connection due to a former financial relationship with Stepwell. They also formed the view that the nature of their connections and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision making process and were declaring for transparency.

The Interim Director Environment & Regeneration advised the Committee of a typographical error in paragraph 4.4 of the report, and accordingly the reference to "£191,000" should read "£211,000".

Decided: that (a) the options as detailed in section 4 of the report have been considered; and (b) it be noted that these options will be part of the overall budget consideration.

483 Community Wardens Service Review**483**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration providing options for the consideration of the Community Wardens Service as presented to the Policy & Resources Committee under the Delivering Differently process.

Decided: that (a) the options as detailed in section 4 of the report have been considered; and (b) it be noted that these options will be part of the overall budget consideration.

484 Traffic Calming Priority 2022/2023**484**

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on the traffic calming priority for 2022/23 and the proposed measures.

Decided: That it be remitted to officers to submit a further report to a future meeting of the Committee after consultation with Ward 4 Councillors (a) re-evaluating both the proposed and alternative traffic calming measures at Newark Street and Union Street, Greenock; and (b) containing (1) clarification on the possible use of external funding for the project; and (2) an appendix detailing the current prioritised list of locations that have been assessed against the traffic calming priority criteria.

485 Standardisation of Parking in Inverclyde – Consultation Findings**485**

There was submitted a report by the Shared Head of Roads & Environmental Services advising of the outcome of the public consultation exercise on the standardisation of parking restrictions in Inverclyde.

Decided: that the findings in the report and the proposal to retain the current on and off street restrictions be noted.

486 Auchenbothie Quietways Cycle Route

486

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on the Auchenbothie Quietways project and the results of the public consultation.

Mr G Leitch advised the Committee of a typographical error in paragraph 2.2 of the report, and accordingly the reference to “Marloch Avenue” should read “Montrose Avenue”.

Decided:

- (1) that the results of the public consultation be noted;
- (2) that the proposed scheme to move the N75 cycle route from Montrose Avenue to Auchenbothie Road be noted;
- (3) that it be noted that as part of the scheme the entire areas of Mid-Auchinleck, Slaemuir and Bardrainey will become a 20mph zone; and
- (4) that it be remitted to the Shared Head of Roads & Environmental Services and the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to prepare and promote a Speed Limit Order (SLO) to reduce the speed to 20mph and to prepare and undertake a consultation on the proposed traffic calming measures in accordance with the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, the Roads (Traffic Calming) (Scotland) Regulations 1994, the Road Humps (Scotland) Regulations 1998, the Road Humps and Traffic Calming (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1999 and the Roads Humps and Traffic Calming (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2002.

487 Spaces for People Update After 1 Year

487

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on the further six months of survey results along the cycle route from Battery Park to Laird Street.

Following discussion, Councillor Brooks moved that (1) that it be noted that the survey results show that annually 25,221 cyclists have used the cycle route and that the delays on Brougham Street at Patrick Street have reduced; and (2) that it be remitted to officers to remove the cycle lane on the A770 by 31 January 2023.

As an amendment, Councillor Clocherty moved that the recommendations contained in the report be agreed, subject to the addition of a further recommendation “(5) that it be remitted to officers to hold a briefing session for Elected Members on proposed improvements to the cycle lane.”

Following a roll call vote, 1 Member, Councillors Brooks, voted in favour of the motion and 10 Members, Councillors Armstrong, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Jackson, McCabe, McCormick, Quinn and Robertson voted in favour of the amendment which was declared carried.

Decided:

- (1) that it be noted that the survey results show that annually 25,221 cyclists have used the cycle route and that the delays on Brougham Street at Patrick Street have reduced;
- (2) that the proposal to make the cycle route permanent be approved;

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(3) that it be remitted to the Shared Head of Roads & Environmental Services and the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to prepare and promote an order to re-designate the road and cycleway;

(4) that it be remitted to the Shared Head of Roads & Environmental Services to allocate external funding to improve the route, as detailed in paragraph 4.3 of the report; and

(5) that it be remitted to officers to hold a briefing session for Elected Members on proposed improvements to the cycle lane.

488 Governance of External Organisations
488

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration providing an annual update in respect of the governance of external organisations with which the regeneration and planning service interact.

Councillors Clocherty, Curley, Jackson and Robertson declared connections in this item of business. Councillor Clocherty and Curley declared connections as members of the Board of Riverside Inverclyde, Councillor Jackson declared a connection as a member of the Board of the Inverclyde Community Development Trust, and Councillor Robertson declared a connection due to a former financial relationship with Stepwell. They also formed the view that the nature of their connections and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the meeting or their participation in the decision making process and were declaring for transparency.

Ms J Horn advised the Committee of an error in the report and accordingly references to “four” organisations should read “five” organisations, with an additional paragraph to the report being submitted verbally for inclusion after paragraph 3.5 as follows, “Enable provide contracted employability services under contract with the Council. Regular monitoring meetings take place with payment subject to validated invoice. Regular board meetings take place.” Ms J Horn then advised of a verbal update to the recommendation as detailed in paragraph 2.1 of the report to read “that Committee are asked to note that there are sufficient control measures in place in respect of the five organisations identified within the report.”

Decided:

(1) that it be noted that there are sufficient control measures in place in respect of (a) Enable, (b) Inverclyde Community Development Trust, (c) Inverclyde Advice and Employment Rights (d) Stepwell Consultancy Limited and (e) Riverside Inverclyde and Riverside Inverclyde Property Holdings Limited; and

(2) that it be remitted to officers to provide the Committee with regular update reports on the activities of Riverside Inverclyde.

489 The Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Act 2022 – Delegation of Powers to Officers
489

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration advising of legislative changes with respect to fireworks and pyrotechnic articles.

Decided:

(1) that delegated authority be granted to the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration for a period of up to 6 months to carry out the Council’s power, rights and duties under the Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Act 2022 and any regulations made thereunder in line with existing delegated powers for similar legislation; and

(2) that it be noted that the Head of Legal & Democratic Services will seek the approval of Inverclyde Council to make suitable changes to the Scheme of Delegation

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(Officers), to deal with this delegation on a permanent basis, at which point the above-mentioned delegation will cease.

490 Greater Renfrewshire and Inverclyde (GRI) LEADER/ Community Led Local Development (CLLD) Update 490

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration outlining the proposed approach to Community Led Local Development for Inverclyde and the wider Greater Renfrewshire and Inverclyde area and the work required following the conclusion of funding from the European Union funded LEADER programme.

Decided:

- (1) that the conclusion of the Greater Renfrewshire and Inverclyde LEADER 2014-2020 programme and the interim Rural Communities Testing Change Fund be noted;
- (2) that the offer from the Scottish Government to award £115,520 to the Greater Renfrewshire and Inverclyde area for the delivery of the Community Led Local Development programme for 2022/23 be noted;
- (3) that it be agreed that Renfrewshire Council continues as Lead Partner and Accountable Body for the Greater Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Area; and
- (4) that delegated authority be granted to the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration to work with Renfrewshire Council and deliver the requirements of the Community Led Local Development programme.

491 Annual Assurance Statement 491

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration seeking approval for Inverclyde Council's Annual Assurance Statement.

Decided: that the Annual Assurance Statement for 2022/23 be approved.

492 Nature Restoration Fund 492

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration advising of the proposals regarding the Nature Restoration Fund and seeking approval to progress the projects identified.

Decided:

- (1) that the funding available for Nature Restoration Projects be noted;
- (2) that it be agreed that officers progress the projects as detailed in the report; and
- (3) that it be noted that further progress on these projects will be reported through the regular Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme reports.

493 Brown Bin Collection – Extension Due to Strike Action 493

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration seeking approval to extend the brown bin collections as a result of the recent strike action by refuse collectors.

Decided: that it be agreed to extend Brown Bin collections as detailed in paragraph 4.2 of the report.

494 Property Assets Management – Baker Street Site, Greenock / Parklea Branching Out 494

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration (1) advising the Committee of various activities relating to the management of the Council's

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property assets and (2) making recommendations in this regard.

Decided:

(1) that (a) it be agreed to declare the site of the former roads depot on Baker Street, Greenock, surplus to requirements; (b) delegated authority be granted to the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration to place the same on the open market for lease, thereafter to set a closing date when the level of interest justifies it; and (c) it be noted that a further report will be brought before the Committee with a recommendation to accept whichever offer is deemed to provide the greatest economic benefit to the Council; and

(2) that delegated authority be granted to the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration to vary the terms of the sub-lease between the Council and Parklea Branching Out for land at Parklea Park, Port Glasgow, as detailed in the report.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act as are set opposite each item.

Item	Paragraph(s)
Property Asset Management – Land at Churchill Road, Kilmacolm / William Street/Brown Street, Port Glasgow / Housing Stock Transfer Update	6 & 9
Waste Collections Contracts Update	6, 8 & 9
Proposed Footbridge at Port Glasgow Station	8 & 9
Provision of Road Lighting and Traffic Sign Lighting Maintenance 2022/2023 - Contract Award	8

495 Property Asset Management – Land at Churchill Road, Kilmacolm / William Street/Brown Street, Port Glasgow / Housing Stock Transfer Update 495

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration making recommendations in respect of a number of property assets.

Decided: Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended all as detailed in the Appendix.

496 Waste Collection Contracts Update 496

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on the contract for the collection of residual waste.

Decided: Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended, all as detailed in the Appendix.

497 Proposed Footbridge at Port Glasgow Station 497

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director Environment & Regeneration informing the Committee of a proposed scheme by Network Rail to install an 'access for

all' footbridge across the railway line at Port Glasgow Station and link it to Highholm car park and seeking approval for a number of recommendations.

Decided: Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended, all as detailed in the Appendix.

498 Provision of Road Lighting and Traffic Sign Lighting Maintenance 2022/2023 - Contract Award 498

There was submitted a report by the Interim Director, Environment & Regeneration seeking approval for the award of the contract for the provision of lighting maintenance services.

Decided: Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended, as detailed in the Appendix.