

INVERCLYDE COUNCIL

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

Thursday 25 April 2024

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 15 FEBRUARY 2024

The Inverclyde Council

Thursday 15 February 2024 at 4pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Brooks, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Jackson, Law, McCabe, McCluskey, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Quinn, Reynolds and Robertson.

Chair: Provost McKenzie presided.

In attendance:

Louise Long	Chief Executive
Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Kate Rocks	Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Iain Strachan	Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services
Alan Puckrin	Chief Financial Officer
Morna Rae	Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications
Vicky Pollock	Legal Services Manager
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader
PJ Coulter	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Daisley and McGuire attending remotely.

76 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

76

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors McCormick, Nelson and Wilson.

No declarations of interest were intimated, but certain connections were intimated for the purposes of transparency as follows:

Agenda Item 5 (Management Rules for Museums and Libraries in Inverclyde – Remit from the Education & Communities Committee) – Councillor Law

At the commencement of proceedings it was agreed unanimously to suspend Standing Orders to allow for the consideration of a written Notice of Motion (Closure of EE Call Centre) from Councillor McCluskey.

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

77 Appointment Panel – Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection (Shortlisting) – 6 November 2023

77

Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 15 FEBRUARY 2024

78	Appointment Panel – Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection (Interviews) – 30 November 2023	78
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
79	Human Resources Appeals Board – 5 December 2023	79
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Brennan.	
80	Planning Board – 6 December 2023	80
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McVey.	
81	Local Review Body – 6 December 2023	81
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McVey.	
82	The Inverclyde Council – 7 December 2023	82
	Approved on the motion of Provost McKenzie.	
83	The Inverclyde Council (Special) – 7 December 2023	83
	Approved on the motion of Provost McKenzie.	
84	General Purposes Board – 13 December 2023	84
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Moran.	
85	Audit Committee – 9 January 2024	85
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Robertson.	
86	Local Review Body – 10 January 2024	86
	Approved on the motion of Councillor McVey.	
87	Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel – 16 January 2024	87
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Brennan.	
88	Environment & Regeneration Committee (Special) – 18 January 2024	88
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
89	Environment & Regeneration Committee – 18 January 2024	89
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
90	Education & Communities Committee – 23 January 2024	90
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 15 FEBRUARY 2024

- 91 Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel (Special) – 25 January 2024 91**
Approved on the motion of Provost McKenzie.
- 92 The Inverclyde Council (Special) – 1 February 2024 92**
Approved on the motion of Provost McKenzie.
- 93 Policy & Resources Committee – 6 February 2024 93**
Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.
- 94 Planning Board – 7 February 2024 94**
Approved on the motion of Councillor McVey.
- 95 Local Review Body – 7 February 2024 95**
Approved on the motion of Councillor McVey.
- 96 Local Police & Fire Scrutiny Panel – 8 February 2024 96**
Approved on the motion of Provost McKenzie.
- 97 Statutory Review of Polling Scheme 97**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (1) advising Members that there have been no representations received by interested parties on the recent Statutory Review of the Polling Scheme by the consultation deadline, (2) seeking approval of the proposed Scheme as detailed at appendix 1 to the report, and (3) noting the inclusion of additional polling districts within the new Inverclyde and Renfrewshire West County Constituency boundary as detailed in appendix 2 to the report.
- Decided:**
- (1) that it be agreed that further consultation on the proposed Polling Scheme is not required;
- (2) that the Polling Scheme as forming appendix 1 to the report be approved;
- (3) that the new Inverclyde and Renfrewshire West County Constituency boundary that came into force on 29 November 2023 and which will take effect at the next UK Parliamentary General Election be noted; and
- (4) that it be agreed that delegated authority continues to be granted to the Chief Executive as Returning Officer to modify the approved Polling Scheme as may be necessary in situations of need and also to make any alternative or emergency arrangements as may be necessary in the interests of voters.
- 98 Interim Monitoring Officer Arrangements 98**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (1) seeking approval to appoint a Monitoring Officer on an interim basis pending the completion of the recruitment for a permanent replacement to the current Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services, who currently holds the position of Council’s Monitoring Officer, and (2) noting

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 15 FEBRUARY 2024

the additional temporary resources that will be brought in to support delivery of the General Election which is expected to take place in 2024.

Decided: that (a) the contents of the report be noted, and (b) delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive to appoint an Interim Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services who will also act as the Council's Interim Monitoring Officer and Clerk to the Licensing Board.

99 Management Rules for Museums and Libraries in Inverclyde – Remit from the Education & Communities Committee 99

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services requesting that the Council consider a remit from the Education & Communities Committee of 23 January 2024 regarding the formal approval of the Management Rules for Museums and Libraries in Inverclyde.

Councillor Law declared a connection as a regular volunteer at the Watt Museum. She also formed the view that the nature of her connection and of the item of business did not preclude her continued presence in the meeting or her participation in the decision-making process and was declaring for transparency.

Decided: that (a) the Libraries Management Rules and Museums Management Rules as appended to the report be approved, and (b) delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services to take all actions necessary to formally make the said Rules in accordance with the statutory procedure for the same.

100 Elected Membership Representation on Town Board – Remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee 100

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services requesting that the Council consider a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee of 18 January 2024 regarding the nomination of two Elected Members to sit on a Town Board in line with the UK Government guidance on the Long Term Plans for Towns.

Decided: that Councillors Brennan and Robertson be appointed to sit on the Town Board on behalf of Inverclyde Council.

101 Literati Guide to Inverclyde and the Spring Clean 2024 – Notice of Motion by Councillor McCluskey 101

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services advising of the receipt of a Notice of Motion received from Councillor McCluskey, countersigned by Councillor Cassidy, in the following terms:

“Council notes:

1. Literati Guide to Inverclyde have co-ordinated regular litter picks and occasional corporate litter picks across Inverclyde for over 6 years.
2. In the first 3 weeks of this year 47 volunteers picked 90 bags of rubbish.
3. As an anchor group of Keep Scotland Beautiful, the Literati Guide to Inverclyde are planning a series of litter picks covering the entire length of Inverclyde's shoreline and surrounding areas.
4. These will take place between 15th March and 28th April 2024 as part of Keep Scotland Beautiful's Spring Clean 2024.
5. There is evidence that 80% of the litter in our rivers and oceans comes from the land so by keeping the beaches clean we can improve the quality of our seas for the marine life.

Council believes:

1. The Literati Guide to Inverclyde have made a significant contribution to keeping Inverclyde beautiful.
2. Our coastline is one of our area's greatest natural assets and needs to be kept clean and maintained.
3. It is important that we encourage people to take responsibility for our natural environment.

Council resolves:

1. To congratulate the Literati Guide to Inverclyde and volunteers on their work to keep Inverclyde beautiful.
2. To promote the Spring Clean 2024 and local events through the Council's networks.
3. To encourage members of the community to take part in Spring Clean 2024.

Decided:

- (1) that the Notice of Motion by Councillor McCluskey as set out above be agreed, and
- (2) that it be remitted to officers to (a) promote the Spring Clean 2024 and local events through the Council's networks; and (b) encourage members of the community to take part in the Spring Clean 2024.

The Provost being of the opinion that the undernoted motion was relevant, competent and urgent moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to allow the Council to consider at the earliest opportunity Councillor McCluskey's motion following the recent announcement by the BT Group of the planned closure of the EE call centre in Greenock.

102 Closure of EE Call Centre – Notice of Motion by Councillor McCluskey

102

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services advising of the receipt of a Notice of Motion received from Councillor McCluskey, countersigned by Councillor Clocherty, in the following terms as amended at the meeting: "Council notes:

1. The announcement by BT Group that they plan to close the EE call centre building in Greenock.
2. Around 450 people are employed at site and most of the workforce are drawn from the Inverclyde area.
3. While there are no redundancies, this removes a significant number of jobs from the local area, with a knock-on effect on the local economy that is likely to get worse over time.
4. Despite repeated calls for financial support, the Scottish Government has so far not provided a penny of support in response to job losses over the past year and has not responded to calls made by the Inverclyde Socioeconomic taskforce for more investment six months ago.

Council believes:

5. In the past year alone, around 1,000 jobs have been lost from the Inverclyde area because of site closures.
6. Each job lost represents a loss to the individual, but also a loss to the Inverclyde economy. We cannot afford to lose more jobs from the area.

Council resolves:

7. To ask the Leader of the Council to communicate the Council's opposition to these job cuts to BT Group and the Scottish and UK Governments.
8. To work with BT Group and the Scottish and UK Governments to establish if there is a way to keep the site open and to keep jobs in Inverclyde, and to direct the services and resources of the Council and our partners to help the 400+ staff members who are

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 15 FEBRUARY 2024

directly affected in this context, subject to any necessary Council approvals being obtained in the normal way.

9. To ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Scottish Government expressing our frustration that they have not come forward with any funds to support the Inverclyde economy in response to the requests from the Inverclyde taskforce.

10. To request BT to articulate fully the legacy arrangements that they will put in place:-
Legacy for staff – travel/childcare/flexible working/packages proportionate to length of service.

Legacy for site – there is a long relationship with this site as an employment route for people in Inverclyde and we should be pressing for alternative uses for the site to be considered at pace.”

The meeting adjourned at 4.20pm and reconvened at 4.25pm.

In response to Members’ questions and at the invitation of the Provost, Councillor McCabe and the Director of Regeneration and Planning provided Members with a verbal update on the progression of discussions with BT since the announcement, and the actions taken to date.

Decided:

(1) that the Notice of Motion by Councillor McCluskey, as amended at the meeting and set out above, be agreed; and

(2) that it be remitted to officers to take all appropriate actions required and as detailed above to facilitate the terms of the Notice of Motion.

Private Appendices to Minutes

103	Appointment Panel – Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection (Shortlisting) – 6 November 2023	103
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
104	Appointment Panel – Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection (Interviews) – 30 November 2023	104
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
105	Human Resources Appeals Board – 5 December 2023	105
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Brennan.	
106	Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel – 16 January 2024	106
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Brennan.	
107	Environment & Regeneration Committee – 18 January 2024	107
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
108	Education & Communities Committee – 23 January 2024	108
	Approved on the motion of Councillor Clocherty.	
109	Policy & Resources Committee – 6 February 2024	109

Approved on the motion of Councillor McCabe.

**APPOINTMENT PANEL
HEAD OF LEGAL, DEMOCRATIC, DIGITAL & CUSTOMER SERVICES
21 FEBRUARY 2024**

Appointment Panel – Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services

Wednesday 21 February 2024 at 4pm

Present: Councillors McCluskey, Robertson and Wilson.

Chair: Chief Executive presided.

In attendance:

Louise Long	Chief Executive
Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Morna Rae	Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications (as Adviser to the Panel)

The meeting was held by video-conference.

110 Apologies and Declarations of Interest 110

No apologies for absence or declarations of interest were intimated.

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.

111 Shortlisting and Arrangements for Interview of Applicant – Post of Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services 111

There were submitted copies of applications received from five candidates for the post of Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services.

Decided: that a shortlist of four candidates be called for interview, all as detailed in the Private Appendix.

GRANTS SUB-COMMITTEE – 26 FEBRUARY 2024

Grants Sub-Committee

Monday 26 February 2024 at 1pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Brooks, Crowther, McCluskey (for Brennan) McGuire and Reynolds.

Chair: Councillor Brooks presided

In attendance:

Tony McEwan	Head of Culture, Communities & Educational Resources (for Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development)
Hugh Scott	Service Manager, Community Learning Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport
Peter MacDonald	Principal Solicitor, Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services
Jackie Fallon	Development Officer (Community Learning & Development)
Iain Cameron	Principal Accountant (Education & Communities)
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Crowther, McCluskey, McGuire and Reynolds attending remotely.

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

112 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

112

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Brennan, with Councillor McCluskey substituting.

Agenda Item 2 – application number 12 (Greenock Torpedo Factory Club)

Councillor Crowther declared a non-financial interest in this application as a Member of the Greenock Torpedo Factory Club and left the meeting for the consideration of this application.

Prior to the commencement of business, Councillor Crowther experienced sound issues with the video-conference facility. The Convener adjourned the meeting at 1.06pm and it was reconvened at 1.09pm when the issue was resolved.

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 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 7 (A) of the Act.

113 Community Grants Fund 2023/24 – Round 2

113

GRANTS SUB-COMMITTEE – 26 FEBRUARY 2024

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director, Education, Communities and Organisational Development providing details of the applications received for consideration for funding from the remaining Community Grants Fund Budget in 2023/24. Councillor Crowther moved in relation to application number 1 for Greenock Philharmonic Society that £1,000.00 be awarded. As an amendment Councillor Brooks moved that £750.00 be awarded as per the recommendation.

Following a roll call vote, one Member, Councillor Crowther voted for the motion and five Members. Provost McKenzie, Councillors Brooks, McCluskey, McGuire and Reynolds voted for the amendment which was declared carried.

Decided: (1) that Grants to Community Organisations 2023/24 be made as follows:

All the awards are subject to the standard conditions of the Community Grants Fund Scheme.

No	Group	Award (see end note re headings A, B and C)
1	Greenock Philharmonic Society	A: £750.00 B: 0 C: 0 Total: £750.00
2	Thistle Theatre Company	A: £1,125.00 B: 0 C: 0 Total: £1,125.00
3	Gourock Bowling Club	A: 0 B: 0 C: 0 Total: 0
4	Inverkip Bowling Club	A: 0 B: 0 C: 0 Total: 0
5	Kilmacolm Bowling Club	A: £750.00 B: 0 C: 0 Total: £750.00
6	Parklea Bowling Club	A: £1,500.00 B: 0 C: 0 Total: £1,500.00 subject to the additional condition detailed in the appendix to the report
7	Port Glasgow Bowling Club	A: 0 B: 0 C: 0 Total: 0
8	Rankin Park Bowling Club	A: 0 B: 0 C: 0

GRANTS SUB-COMMITTEE – 26 FEBRUARY 2024

		Total: 0
9	Ardgowan Hospice	A: 0 B: 0 C: 0 Total: 0
10	Compassionate Inverclyde	A: 0 B: £1,125.00 C: 0 Total: £1,125.00
11	Inverclyde Family Contact Centre	A: 0 B: 0 C: 0 Total: 0
12	Greenock Torpedo Factory Club	A: 0 B: 0 C: 0 Total: 0 Councillor Crowther left during consideration of this item.
13	Inverclyde Naval Club	A: £1,500.00 B: 0 C: 0 Total: £1,500.00
14	Inverclyde Woodturning Club	A: 0 B: £652.49 C: 0 Total: £652.49
15	Inverkip Community Initiative	A: £1,500.00 B: £1,500.00 C: 0 Total: £3,000.00
16	Kilmacolm & Port Glasgow Agricultural Society Ltd	A: 0 B: £1,322.03 C: 0 Total: £1,322.03
17	Kilmacolm Playgroup & Toddlers	A: £562.50 B: 0 C: 0 Total: £562.50 subject to additional condition detailed in the appendix of the report.
18	The Country Club	A: 0 B: £525.00 C: 0 Total: £525.00 subject to additional condition detailed in the appendix of the report.

GRANTS SUB-COMMITTEE – 26 FEBRUARY 2024

19	Birkmyre Rugby Club	A: 0 B: 0 C: £3,000.00 Total: £3,000.00 subject to additional condition detailed in the appendix of the report.
20	Greenock Wanderers	A: 0 B: 0 C: 0 Total: 0
21	Inverclyde Masters Swimming Club	A: 0 B: 0 C: £1,725.00 Total: £1,725.00
22	Inverclyde Ramblers	A: £562.50 B: 0 C: 0 Total: £562.50
23	Port Glasgow Otters	A: 0 B: 0 C: £1,954.94 Total: £1,954.94
24	1st Gourock Scout Group	A: £2,250.00 B: 0 C: 0 Total: £2,250.00
25	Greenock & District Scout Council (Gang Show)	A: £1,125.00 B: 0 C: 0 Total: £1,125.00
<p>END NOTE - The grants awarded above are subdivided into the following headings namely: A – facilities/core costs; B – project/event costs; and C – fee waiver, all as more fully detailed in the report to the Sub-Committee.</p>		

(2) that the equalities monitoring information detailed in appendix C be noted.

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 29 FEBRUARY 2024

The Inverclyde Council

Thursday 29 February 2024 at 4pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Brooks, Cassidy, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Jackson, Law, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Nelson, Quinn, Reynolds, Robertson and Wilson.

Chair: Provost McKenzie presided.

In attendance:

Louise Long	Chief Executive
Alan Puckrin	Chief Financial Officer
Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Kate Rocks	Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership
Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Iain Strachan	Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services
Vicky Pollock	Legal Services Manager
Mary McCabe	Finance Manager (Education & Communities)
Matt Thomson	Finance Manager (Environment & Technical)
Tracy Bunton	Revenue & Benefits Manager
Allan MacDonald	Digital & Customer Service Manager
Barbara McQuarrie	Organisational Development & Human Resources Manager
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader
PJ Coulter	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillor Wilson attending remotely.

114 Apologies and Declarations of Interest 114

No apologies for absence or declarations of interest were intimated.

115 Mr Iain Strachan 115

Prior to the commencement of business Provost McKenzie referred to Mr Strachan, Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services, and his forthcoming departure from the Council. The Provost thanked Mr Strachan for his service and wished him well in his future post.

On the motion of Provost McKenzie, it was unanimously agreed that Standing Orders be suspended to permit the reading of speeches and flexibility on the length of speeches.

116 2024/26 Revenue Budget, 2024/28 Capital Programme and approval of the 2024/25 Band D Council Tax 116

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) seeking approval of the Council's 2024/26 Revenue Budget and 2024/28 Capital Programme, and (2) thereafter seeking approval of the Band D Council Tax for the year 2024/25, together with an

THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL – 29 FEBRUARY 2024

addendum report '2024/26 Budget Addendum – Status of the £62.7m' by the Chief Executive.

Following discussion, Councillor McCabe, seconded by Councillor McGuire, moved:

"That the Council notes it has considered the results to both phases of the Council's Budget Consultation and has had due regard to the Equality Impact Assessments, the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment, the UNCRC Impact Assessment and the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, all as relating to the savings and proposals set out in the Chief Financial Officer's report, and as referred to in Section 6 of the report;

That the Council approve all the recommendations contained in the Chief Financial Officer's report, subject to those adjustments detailed in the Motion as circulated (document '2024/26 Budget Proposal – Labour Group and Councillors McKenzie and McVey – 29th February 2024' - which forms appendix 1 to the minute);

That the Council approve the savings options as detailed in Appendix 2 to the Motion as circulated, together with the use of Reserves where noted;

That the Council approve officers conducting the 5 reviews detailed in Appendix 2 to the Motion as circulated, the outcomes of which will be reported to the relevant strategic committee for consideration during 2024; and

That the Council approve the following Council Tax Resolution: That Council Tax be increased by 8.2% in 2024/25 meaning that the level of Band D Council Tax for Inverclyde for 2024/25 be £1,547.01."

As an Amendment Councillor Curley, seconded by Councillor Armstrong, moved:

"That the Council notes it has considered the results to both phases of the Council's Budget Consultation and has had due regard to the Equality Impact Assessments, the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment, the UNCRC Impact Assessment and the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, all as relating to the savings and proposals set out in the Chief Financial Officer's report, and as referred to in Section 6 of the report;

That the Council approve all the recommendations contained in the Chief Financial Officer's report, subject to those adjustments detailed in the Amendment as circulated including the additional use of Reserves where noted (document '2024/25 Budget Proposal – SNP – 29th February 2024' - which forms appendix 2 to the minute); and

That the Council approve the following Council Tax Resolution: That the level of Council Tax in 2024/25 be frozen at 2023/24 levels, and that the level of Band D Council Tax for Inverclyde for 2024/25 be £1,429.77."

As a further Amendment, Councillor Quinn seconded by Councillor Reynolds moved:

"That the Council wishes to freeze Council Tax for 24/25 but it is not yet able to do so as it does not yet have the certainty that additional grant monies will be available to the Council from the Scottish Government.

The Council requests confirmation of this grant being available to the Council from the Scottish Government by 5pm Thursday 7th March. As such, the Council agrees to defer consideration of the Council Budget for 2024/26 to a Special meeting to be held at 4pm on Friday 8th March."

The meeting was adjourned at 5pm and reconvened at 5.13pm.

At this point in proceedings it was agreed that the further Amendment by Councillor Quinn seconded by Councillor Reynolds was acceptable to Councillor Curley and Councillor Armstrong, who withdrew their Amendment.

Following a roll call vote, 9 Members, Councillors Armstrong, Crowther, Curley, Daisley, Law, Nelson, Quinn, Reynolds and Robertson voted in favour of the further Amendment, and 11 Members, Provost McKenzie, Councillors Brennan, Cassidy, Clocherty, Jackson, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey and Moran voted in favour of the Motion which was declared carried. Councillors Brooks and Wilson abstained from voting.

Decided:

- (1) that the contents of the report, appendices, addendum and the updates provided, including the continued uncertainty regarding elements of the funding settlement for the Council, be noted;
- (2) that the Council notes it has considered the results to both phases of the Council's Budget Consultation and has had due regard to the Equality Impact Assessments, the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment, the UNCRC Impact Assessment and the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, all as relating to the savings and proposals set out in the Chief Financial Officer's report, and as referred to in Section 6 of the report;
- (3) that the following be approved subject to those adjustments detailed in the Motion as circulated:
 - (a) the contribution to the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board (IJB) of £73.714million in 2024/25, as set out in appendix 2 to the report, and that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to agree with the IJB the specifics of how the one-off and recurring saving arising from the actuarial review of employer pension contributions be utilised to support pressures within Social Work/Social Care, noting that this requires approval by the IJB in March 2024;
 - (b) the adjustments and efficiencies set out in appendix 3 to the report totalling £1.227million;
 - (c) recurring funding of £75,000 to meet the policy development proposals set out at paragraph 3.20 of the report relating to Free Summer Playschemes and payment of the Real Living Wage to Apprentices, the latter being subject to a further report to the Policy & Resources Committee;
 - (d) the 2024/28 Capital Programme as set out in appendix 6 to the report, including the allocation of £4.4million from Reserves and the deletion of the planned Dog Park project;
 - (e) the use of Reserves as set out in appendix 7 to the report, including the creation of a Sinking Fund to meet potential future costs associated with the closure/disposal of Council assets;
 - (f) the 2024/25 Common Good Budget as set out in appendix 8 to the report, including the transfer of the Shore Street, Gourock public convenience to the Common Good from 1 April 2024; and
 - (g) the Loans Charge Principal Repayments Policy as detailed at appendix 11 of the report;
- (4) that the Council notes (a) the risks around the receipt of a further £62.7 million, as referred to at appendix 1b of the report, and (b) that receipt of the Council's share of this sum will be conditional on the Council freezing Council Tax in 2024/25;
- (5) that it be noted that an update on the Council's 2024/25 Budget will be presented to the 26 March 2024 Policy & Resources Committee;
- (6) that the reduction in the budgeted Council Tax collection rate to 96.5% for 2024/25 be noted;
- (7) that the estimated funding gap of £16.8million over 2025/28, as set out in appendix 9 to the report, and the observations from the Chief Financial Officer at paragraphs 6.2 and 6.3 of the report regarding the significant challenges which lie ahead, be noted;
- (8) that the Council approve the savings options as detailed in Appendix 2 to the Motion as circulated, together with the use of Reserves where noted;
- (9) that the Council approve officers conducting the five reviews detailed in Appendix 2 to the Motion as circulated, the outcomes of which will be reported to the relevant strategic committee for consideration during 2024; and
- (10) that the Council approve the following Council Tax Resolution: That Council Tax be increased by 8.2% in 2024/25 meaning that the level of Band D Council Tax for Inverclyde for 2024/25 be £1,547.01.

2024/26 Budget Proposal

Labour Group and Councillors
McKenzie and McVey

29th February 2024

Index

Appendix 1 – 2024/26 Budget Summary

Appendix 2 – Savings

Appendix 3 – Reserves

Appendix 4 – Council Tax 2024/25 by Banding

Appendix 5 – 2025/28 Updated Position

Budget ProposalBalanced 2024/26 Budget based on a 8.2% Increase in Council Tax in 24/25 and 6.0% in 25/26

	2024/25 <u>£000</u>	2025/26 <u>£000</u>
Gap per Appendix 5 of 29.2.24 Report	2544	3035
Add back prior years use of reserves	3000	2628
Budget Proposal- 29.2.24 Council:		
Savings proposed	-46	-403 Appendix 2
Council Tax increase- 24/25 & 25/26	-2870	-2272 Note 1
Proposed use of Reserves	-2628	-2988 Appendix 3
Funding Gap	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Notes

1. Based on 96.5% collection rate

26.2.24

Appendix 2

Proposed Savings

2024/26 Budget Proposal - Labour/Councillors McKenzie & McVey

Directorate	Est Saving 2024/25 £000's	Est Saving 2025/26 £000's	Est Saving 2026/27 £000's	Est Savings Total £000's	Est FTE Impact
Chief Executive Services	-	-	-	-	-
Environmental and Regeneration	-	210	-	210	-
Education, Communities and Organisational Development	46	193	-	239	-
	46	403	-	449	-

Reviews to be progressed by CMT

1. Options for a sustainable solution to Gourrock Civic Amenity site provision
2. Review of Grants to Community Organisations criteria/process
3. Review Homelink provision as part of a Family Support Services Review
4. Review all School Crossing Patroller sites against national criteria
5. Options to make best use of Breakfast Club funding including review of charging

All to be reported to the relevant Strategic Committee during 2024.

Chief Executive Services Savings Summary
2024/26 Budget Proposal - Labour/Councillors McKenzie & McVey

Saving Title	Proposal	Est Saving 2024/25 £000's	Est Saving 2025/26 £000's	Est Saving 2026/27 £000's	Est Savings Total £000's	Est FTE Impact
				-	-	
		-	-	-	-	-

Environmental & Regeneration Savings Summary
2024/26 Budget Proposal - Labour/Councillors McKenzie & McVey

Saving Title	Proposal	Est Saving 2024/25 £000's	Est Saving 2025/26 £000's	Est Saving 2026/27 £000's	Est Saving Total £000's	Est FTE Impact	Comments
Employability	Reduction in employability services	-	100	-	100	-	Add £300k to employability EMR
Roads	Transfer of pothole patching and road markings to capital	-	110	-	110	-	Add £330k to 2025/28 RAMP Capital from Capital Programme contingency
		-	210	-	210	-	

Education, Communities & Organisational Development Savings Summary
2024/26 Budget Proposal - Labour/Councillors Mckenzie & McVey

Saving Title	Proposal	Est Saving 2024/25 £000's	Est Saving 2025/26 £000's	Est Saving 2026/27 £000's	Est Savings Total £000's	Est FTE Impact
Community Grants Fund	Reduction in grants available to community organisations from 2028/29	-	25	-	25	-
Clothing Grant	Implement National Qualifying criteria for Clothing Grants from 2028/29	-	100	-	100	-
Clothing Grant Primary	Reduce to National Award from 2028/29	-	42	-	42	-
Free School Meals	Implement National Qualifying criteria for Free School Meals from 2028/29	43	15	-	58	-
EY Transport	Cease transport to Bluebird & Glenbrae Centres	3	11	-	14	-
		46	193	-	239	-

Use £75k from Reserves to defer impact to 2028/29
Fund from Anti Poverty EMR for 3 years
Fund from Anti Poverty EMR for 3 years
Fund from Anti Poverty EMR for 4 years
Saving is vehicle/overhead costs only

Use of Available Reserves

	<u>£m</u>	
Balance available - Appendix 7 29.2.24 Report	1.250	
Reduced Reserves required for the 24/26 Revenue Budget	0.384	Appendix 1
Defer savings impact to 2028/29	-0.875	Note 1
Remaining balance	<u>0.759</u>	

Note 1

Made up of £500k top up to the Anti-Poverty EMR, £300k top up to Employability EMR and £75k into a Community Grants EMR to delay impact of all three to 2028/29

26/2/24

Weekly Impact of 8.2% Increase by Banding

Band	Chargeable Properties*	Band Value	Multiplier	Annual Increase	Weekly Increase	2024/25 Council Tax
A*			200/360	£65.13	£1.25	£859.45
A	17,379 (46.16%)	£0 - £27,000	240/360	£78.16	£1.50	£1,031.34
B	5,992 (15.91%)	£27,001 - £35,000	280/360	£91.19	£1.75	£1,203.23
C	3,697 (9.82%)	£35,001 - £45,000	320/360	£104.21	£2.00	£1,375.12
D	3,441 (9.14%)	£45,001 - £58,000	360/360	£117.24	£2.25	£1,547.01
E	3,613 (9.60%)	£58,001 - £80,000	473/360	£154.04	£2.96	£2,032.60
F	1,898 (5.04%)	£80,001 - £106,000	585/360	£190.52	£3.66	£2,513.89
G	1,418 (3.77%)	£106,001 - £212,000	705/360	£229.60	£4.42	£3,029.56
H	214 (0.57%)	£212,001 +	882/360	£287.24	£5.52	£3,790.18

Note - Estimated to be 37,652 Chargeable Properties

2025/28 Budget Gap - Labour/Cllrs McKenzie & McVey

	<u>2025/26</u> £m	<u>2026/27</u> £m	<u>2027/28</u> £m	<u>2025/28</u> £m
Block Grant Increase	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Continuing Impact of Depopulation	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.7
Inflation - Pay	3.5	4.0	3.4	10.9
- Non-Pay	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0
Pressures				
- General Pressures	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5
- Prudential Borrowing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3
Savings/Council Tax Approved to 29.2.24	(5.6)	0.0	0.0	(5.6)
Reduced Use of Reserves	-	1.0	1.0	2.0
Funding Gap	<u>-</u>	<u>7.2</u>	<u>6.6</u>	<u>13.8</u>

a/ £3.0m from Reserves used in 2025/26 and is reduced by £1.0m/year over 2026/29.

b/ Reduced impact of depopulation assumes 0.3% Floor for 2025/28

c/ Pay & Non-Pay inflation and Pressures excludes HSCP

d/ Assumes no new Prudential Borrowing above that already contained in the Loans Charges Model.

e/ Includes no Council Tax increase after 2025/26. (3% annual increase would raise £1.2 million per year)

f/ The movement in Block Grant excludes hypothecated funding increases as these are ring fenced for specific purposes

<u>Key Assumptions</u>	<u>2025/26</u> %	<u>2026/27</u> %	<u>2027/28</u> %
GRG/NDRI Cash Movement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pay Inflation	3.0	3.0	2.5

2024/25 Budget Proposal

SNP

29th February 2024

Index

Appendix 1 – 2024/25 Budget Summary

Appendix 2 – Reserves

Appendix 3 – Council Tax 2024/25 by Banding

Appendix 4 – 2025/28 Updated Position

Budget Position based on a Council Tax Freeze in 24/25

	2024/25 <u>£000</u>
Gap per Appendix 5 of 29.2.24 Report	2544
Add back prior years use of reserves	3000
Budget Proposal- 29.2.24 Council:	
Savings Proposed	0
Council Tax Freeze Grant	-1871 Note 1
Proposed use of reserves	-3103 Note 2
Prudent Increased Funding per 3.9	-570 Note 3
Funding Gap	<u>0</u>

Notes

1. Council Tax Freeze Grant in 24/25
2. £103k is a One- off use of reserves 2024/25
3. Excludes potential share of £17.7m linked to Spring Budget

26.2.24

Use of Available Reserves- SNP Group

	<u>£m</u>	
Balance available - Appendix 7 of main report	1.25	
One-off use of Reserves in 2024/25	-0.103	Note 1
Remaining balance	<u>1.147</u>	

Note 1

In the event that none of the £62.7m is received then the £570k currently assumed can be met from Reserves on a one-off basis whilst if the sum received is greater than £570k then the use of reserves in 24/25 will reduce commensurately

AP/LA
26/2/24

SNP Budget Proposal- Freeze Council Tax in 2024/25

Band	Chargeable Properties*	Band Value	Multiplier	Annual Increase	Weekly Increase	2024/25 Council Tax
A*			200/360	£0.00	£0.00	£794.32
A	17,379 (46.16%)	£0 - £27,000	240/360	£0.00	£0.00	£953.18
B	5,992 (15.91%)	£27,001 - £35,000	280/360	£0.00	£0.00	£1,112.04
C	3,697 (9.82%)	£35,001 - £45,000	320/360	£0.00	£0.00	£1,270.91
D	3,441 (9.14%)	£45,001 - £58,000	360/360	£0.00	£0.00	£1,429.77
E	3,613 (9.60%)	£58,001 - £80,000	473/360	£0.00	£0.00	£1,878.56
F	1,898 (5.04%)	£80,001 - £106,000	585/360	£0.00	£0.00	£2,323.38
G	1,418 (3.77%)	£106,001 - £212,000	705/360	£0.00	£0.00	£2,799.97
H	214 (0.57%)	£212,001 +	882/360	£0.00	£0.00	£3,502.94

Note - Estimated to be 37,652 Chargeable Properties

2025/28 Budget Gap - SNP Group

	<u>2025/26</u>	<u>2026/27</u>	<u>2027/28</u>	<u>2025/28</u>
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Block Grant Increase	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Continuing Impact of Depopulation	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.7
Inflation - Pay	3.5	4.0	3.4	10.9
- Non-Pay	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0
Pressures				
- General Pressures	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5
- Prudential Borrowing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3
Savings/Council Tax Approved to 29.2.24	(2.5)	0.0	0.0	(2.5)
Reduced Use of Reserves	0.1	1.0	1.0	2.1
Funding Gap	<u>3.2</u>	<u>7.2</u>	<u>6.6</u>	<u>17.0</u>

Anticipated that further Spring Budget Funding will reduce use of Reserves in 24/25 & also 2025/26 Funding Gap

- a/ £3.1m from Reserves used in 2024/25 and £3.0m 2025/26 and is reduced by £1.0m/year over 2026/29.
- b/ Reduced impact of depopulation assumes 0.3% Floor for 2025/28
- c/ Pay & Non-Pay inflation and Pressures excludes HSCP
- d/ Assumes no new Prudential Borrowing above that already contained in the Loans Charges Model.
- e/ Includes no Council Tax increase after 2025/26. (3% annual increase would raise £1.2 million per year)
- f/ The movement in Block Grant excludes hypothecated funding increases as these are ring fenced for specific purposes

<u>Key Assumptions</u>	<u>2025/26</u>	<u>2026/27</u>	<u>2027/28</u>
	%	%	%
GRG/NDRI Cash Movement	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pay Inflation	3.0	3.0	2.5

AUDIT COMMITTEE – 5 MARCH 2024

Audit Committee

Tuesday 5 March 2024 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Crowther, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Nelson and Robertson.

Chair: Councillor Nelson presided.

In attendance:

Lousie Long	Chief Executive
Vicky Pollock	Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services
Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Andi Priestman	Chief Internal Auditor
Matt Thomson	Finance Manager (Environment & Technical)
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Karen McVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Provost McKenzie and Councillors McCabe, McCormick, McGuire, McVey and Robertson attending remotely.

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 |
| | <p>Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Reynolds and Councillor Wilson.</p> <p>No declarations of interest were intimated.</p> | |
| 118 | Internal Audit Progress Report – 4 December 2023 to 9 February 2024 | 118 |
| | <p>There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services appending the monitoring report in respect of Internal Audit activity for the period 4 December 2023 to 9 February 2024.</p> <p>Decided: that the progress made by Internal Audit in the period from 4 December 2023 to 9 February 2024 be noted.</p> | |
| 119 | External Audit Action Plans – Current Actions | 119 |
| | <p>There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services on the status of current actions from External Audit Action Plans as at 31 January 2024.</p> <p>Decided: that the progress made in the implementation of External Audit actions be noted.</p> | |

AUDIT COMMITTEE – 5 MARCH 2024

-
- 120 **Review of Local Code of Governance** 120
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services advising Members that a review of the Local Code of Governance has been undertaken and there were no significant changes identified.
- Decided:**
- (1) that approval be given to the Local Code of Governance for 2023-24; and
(2) that it be remitted to officers to update the improvement plan to include a development session for all Elected Members on the Local Code of Governance.
- 121 **Appendix relative to Item 2 providing information on special investigations** 121
- There was submitted an appendix to the Internal Audit progress report providing information on special investigations.
- Councillor McGuire left the meeting during consideration of this item.
- Decided:** that the contents of the appendix be noted.

PLANNING BOARD – 6 MARCH 2024

Planning Board

Wednesday 6 March 2024 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brooks, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Jackson, McCabe, McGuire and McVey.

Chair: Councillor McVey presided.

In attendance:

Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Neale McIlvanney	Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection
Daniel Henderson	Planning and Building Standards Service Manager
Gordon Leitch	Team Leader (Consultancy) – Roads and Transportation
Elaine Provan	Supervisory Engineer – Traffic & Transportation
Jim Kerr	Solicitor (for Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services)
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Curley, McCabe and McGuire attending remotely.

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

122 APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 122

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

There were no declarations of interest.

123 PLANNING APPLICATIONS 123

**(a) Change of use of flat to short term holiday lets (in retrospect):
4F Margaret Street, Gourock (24/0003/IC)**

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration for a change of use of a flat to short term holiday let (in retrospect) at 4F Margaret Street, Gourock (24/0003/IC).

After discussion, Councillor Armstrong moved that planning permission be granted.

As an amendment, Councillor Jackson moved that planning permission be refused as the application was contrary to Policy 1 of the adopted Local Development Plan on the basis that the use as a short term holiday let is not safe and pleasant and causes conflict with adjacent uses; in particular, tenement properties are unsuitable for short term lets and there are risks of anti-social behaviour and to elderly persons and children.

Following a roll call vote, 4 Members, Councillors Clocherty, Crowther, Jackson and McVey voted in favour of the amendment and 6 Members, Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brooks, Curley, McCabe and McGuire voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

Decided: that planning permission be granted.

LOCAL REVIEW BODY – 6 MARCH 2024

Local Review Body

Wednesday 6 March 2024 at 4pm

Present: Councillors Brooks, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, McCabe, McGuire and McVey.

Chair: Councillor McVey presided.

In attendance:

Margaret Pickett	Senior Planner (Planning Adviser)
Katrine Dean	Planning Officer (Planning Adviser)
Daniel Henderson	Planning and Building Standards Manager
Jim Kerr	Solicitor, Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services (Legal Adviser)
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Curley, McCabe and McGuire attending remotely.

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

124 APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 124

No apologies for absence were intimated.

Councillor McGuire declared an interest in Agenda Item 2(b) (Change of use of former bookmakers to café and hot food takeaway (in retrospect): 172 Dunlop Street, Greenock (23/0095/IC)).

125 PLANNING APPLICATION FOR REVIEW 125

(a) Change of use of former bookmakers to café and hot food takeaway (in retrospect): 172 Dunlop Street, Greenock (23/0095/IC)

There was submitted papers relative to the application for review for the change of use of a former bookmakers to café and hot food takeaway (in retrospect) at 172 Dunlop Street, Greenock (23/0095/IC) to enable the Local Review Body to consider the matter afresh. Councillor McGuire declared an interest in this item as a public supporter of the business and left the meeting.

Prior to the commencement of discussion on this item, Mr Kerr referred to new matters raised by the applicant's agent within the Statement of Review to the Local Review Body and advised that no justification had been received from the applicant's agent in relation to the new matter. The Local Review Body agreed to have regard to the new matter and the meeting was adjourned from 4:05pm until 4:10pm to allow the Local Review Body to view the new material, hard copies of which were distributed at the meeting, and digital copies provided to those Elected Members who joined remotely.

Ms Pickett acted as Planning Adviser relative to this case.

Decided:

(1) that sufficient information had been submitted to allow the Local Review Body to decide the matter without further procedure; and

LOCAL REVIEW BODY – 6 MARCH 2024

(2) that the application for review be upheld and that planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions and advisory note:

Conditions

1. Within two months of the date of this decision exact details and specification of the ventilation and extraction systems to serve the cafe and hot food takeaway, including the proposed odour mitigation measures, shall be submitted for the approval in writing by the Planning Authority. For the avoidance of doubt the details and specification to be submitted shall include:

- a) the exhaust point of the ventilation system being situated at a point most distant from opening windows of neighbouring residential properties and taking cognisance of the environmental conditions in the area including the immediate topography of the area;
- b) ensuring that the exhaust air is expelled from the exit point at sufficient temperature/velocity to ensure it is taken away from nearby residential properties;
- c) the maintenance/management scheme for the ventilation and filtration system; and
- d) the mechanical and electrical installations being arranged to ensure that the ventilation system operates during periods when the premises are open for the preparation and/or cooking of food.

The ventilation, filtration and extraction systems shall then be implemented as approved with the systems retained and maintained/managed for as long as the premises remain as a cafe and hot food takeaway, to protect local residents from nuisance resulting from cooking odours; and

2. The use hereby permitted shall not operate between the hours of 23:00 and 07:00 on any day. For the avoidance of doubt, this is inclusive of deliveries and collections to and from the site, to protect the amenity of occupiers of nearby residential premises from unreasonable late night and early morning noise and disturbance.

Advisory Note

1. Air conditioning units/heating units/refrigeration units and extract ducting if attached to the property should be suitably insulated or isolated to minimise noise and vibration to neighbouring properties.

Councillor McGuire rejoined the meeting at this juncture.

**(b) Proposed new dwellinghouse in curtilage of existing dwelling (planning permission in principle):
58 Esplanade, Greenock (23/0179/IC)**

There was submitted papers relative to the application for review for a proposed new dwellinghouse in curtilage of existing dwelling (planning permission in principle) at 58 Esplanade, Greenock (23/0179/IC) to enable the Local Review Body to consider the matter afresh.

Ms Dean acted as Planning Adviser relative to this case.

Decided:

(1) that sufficient information had been submitted to allow the Local Review Body to decide the matter without further procedure; and

(2) that the application for review be dismissed and that planning permission be refused (upholding the Appointed Officer's determination) for the following reasons:

1. the proposed development does not accord with the six factors contributing to successful places of Policy 1 of both the adopted and proposed Inverclyde Local Development Plans, in that it fails to meet the quality of not being 'Distinctive' by not reflecting the urban form or character of the surrounding area;
2. the proposed development would not contribute to the amenity, character and appearance of the surrounding residential area, to justify support for the application under the provisions of Policy 14(c) of National Planning Framework 4;

LOCAL REVIEW BODY – 6 MARCH 2024

3. the subdivision of the large plot which characterises the north-west character area of the Greenock West End Conservation Area would introduce an additional built form to the rear of the property which would fail to preserve or enhance the conservation area, contrary to Policy 7 of National Planning Framework 4 and Policy 28 of both the adopted and proposed Inverclyde Local Development Plans; and
4. the proposed development does not meet the guidance of the Greenock West End Conservation Area Appraisal which has a presumption against development within the original plots.

**APPOINTMENT PANEL
HEAD OF LEGAL, DEMOCRATIC, DIGITAL & CUSTOMER SERVICES
11 MARCH 2024**

Appointment Panel – Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services

Monday 11 March 2024 at 9.30am

Present: Councillors Brooks, McCluskey and Robertson.

Chair: Chief Executive presided.

In attendance:

Louise Long	Chief Executive
Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development
Morna Rae	Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications (as Adviser to the Panel)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock.

126 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

126

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

No declarations of interest were intimated.

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.

127 Interview of Applicants – Post of Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services

127

The Panel interviewed four candidates and agreed to appoint Lynsey Brown to the post of Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services, all as detailed in the Private Appendix.

SOCIAL WORK & SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL – 12 MARCH 2024

Social Work & Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Tuesday 12 March 2024 at 3pm

Present: Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Curley (for Daisley), Jackson, McCluskey, Quinn, Reynolds and Robertson.

Chair: Councillor Brennan presided.

In attendance:

Kate Rocks	Chief Officer (Inverclyde HSCP)
Craig Given	Head of Finance, Planning & Resources (Inverclyde HSCP)
Peter MacDonald	Principal Solicitor (for Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services)
Jonathan Hinds	Chief Social Work Officer and Head of Children & Families and Criminal Justice Services (Inverclyde HSCP)
Alan Best	Interim Head of Health & Community Care (Inverclyde HSCP)
Audrey Howard	Interim Head of Public Protection (People) (Inverclyde HSCP)
Marie Keirs	Senior Finance Manager (Inverclyde HSCP)
Arlene Mailey	Service Manager, Quality & Development Service (Inverclyde HSCP)
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader
PJ Coulter	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Curley, Quinn and Reynolds attending remotely.

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

128 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 128

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Daisley, with Councillor Curley substituting, Provost McKenzie and Councillor Brooks.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

129 Revenue & Capital Budget Report – 2023/24 Revenue Outturn Position as at 31 December 2023 129

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership and the Head of Finance, Planning & Resources, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership, on the projected outturn on revenue and capital for 2023/24 as at 31 December 2023.

Decided:

- (1) that the projected current year revenue outturn of £0.770million overspend at 31 December 2023 be noted;
- (2) that the current projected capital position be noted; and
- (3) that the current reserves position be noted.

SOCIAL WORK & SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL – 12 MARCH 2024

- 130 National Care Service Update 130**
- Mr Hinds provided a verbal report on the current position regarding the implementation of the National Care Service (NCS).
- The following points were noted:
- (1) the National Care Service Bill returned to the Scottish Parliament on 28 February 2024 with proposed amendments and before stage 2 concludes in early summer a number of amendments are expected to be made;
 - (2) tri-partite meetings of Scottish Government, NHS and Local Government have continued, with Integration Joint Board (IJB) Chief Officers now represented; and
 - (3) it is expected that NCS Boards would provide oversight and governance of social work, social care and community health services, as well as maintaining an improvement framework to support good practice. Reformed IJBs would be accountable to the NCS Board whilst local authorities and the NHS would retain existing responsibilities, staff and assets.
- Decided:** that the verbal report be noted.
- 131 Technology Enabled Support Use to Augment Supported Living 131**
- It was noted that this item was withdrawn from the agenda.
- 132 Technology Enabled Care Gold Award 132**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership advising (1) of the progress within Technology Enabled Care (TEC), and (2) that the HSCP TEC Team achieved a Gold Level 2 Award Accreditation from the Digital Office for Scottish Government.
- Decided:** that the content of the report and the ongoing work within TEC to improve independence and create new ways of working for all services be noted.
- 133 The Lens Project 133**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on the partnership between Inverclyde HSCP Children and Families Service and the Lens Project to develop an Ideas to Action Programme which supports Inverclyde's vision and ambition to deliver The Promise and improve outcomes for children and young people.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the content of the report and the evaluation report at appendix 1 of the report be noted; and
 - (2) that the thanks and appreciation of the Panel be extended to all staff who participated in the Project which led to the following six ideas being considered (a) It Takes a Village, (b) Throughcare Hub, (c) Connected 2 Care, (d) Feel Good Fund, (e) Home from Home, and (f) The Practice Pad.
- It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6 & 9 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.**

134 Reporting by Exception – Governance of HSCP Commissioned External Organisations 134

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde Health & Social Care Partnership providing an update on matters relating to the Health & Social Care Partnership governance processes for Externally Commissioned Social Care Services.

Decided:

- (1) that the governance report for the period 2 December 2023 to 9 February 2024 be noted; and
- (2) that Members acknowledge that officers regard the control mechanisms in place through the governance meetings and managing poorly performing services guidance within the Contract Management Framework is sufficiently robust to ensure ongoing quality and safety and the fostering of a commissioning culture of continuous improvement.

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 13 MARCH 2024

General Purposes Board

Wednesday 13 March 2024 at 3.15pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Crowther, Jackson (for Cassidy), Moran, McCabe (for McCluskey), Reynolds and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor Moran presided.

In attendance:

David Keenan	Solicitor (for Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services)
Anne Sinclair	Legal Services Manager (Licensing, Litigation & Committees)
Fiona Denver	Senior Paralegal Licensing Officer
Emma Peacock	Solicitor
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer

In attendance also: Sergeant I Robertson (Police Scotland).

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Reynolds and Wilson attending remotely.

The Board commenced at 3.15pm as connectivity and technical issues were experienced in the Chambers.

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

135 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 135

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Cassidy, with Councillor Jackson substituting, Councillor McCluskey, with Councillor McCabe substituting, and Councillor Curley.

Councillor Reynolds declared an interest in Agenda Item 5 (Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence).

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

136 Application for Renewal of a Taxi Driver's Licence 136

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

137 Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence 137

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 13 MARCH 2024

Services on an application for the grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence which was refused following a vote, all as detailed in the private appendix.

138 Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence

138

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services on an application for the grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence which was refused following a vote, all as detailed in the Private Appendix. Councillor Reynolds declared an interest in this item and left the meeting, all as detailed in the Private Appendix.

Following consideration of the above items the Board returned to public session and Councillor Reynolds returned to the meeting.

139 Review of the Short-Term Let Policy Statement

139

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services (1) providing an update on the outcome of the public consultation exercise in relation to a review of the Council's Short-Term Let (STL) Policy Statement, and (2) requesting that the Board considers what revisals, if any, are to be made to the STL Policy Statement in light of the received responses to the consultation.

The Legal Services Manager (Licensing, Litigation & Committees) provided a verbal update to the figures provided at paragraph 6.3 of the report and advised as at the date of the meeting:

Applications received: 72

Applications granted: 15

Applications on hold awaiting this Policy review: 21

Applications to go before this Board in April following objections: 3

Applications due to be granted: 5

Decided:

(1) that the content of the report and the views expressed in response to the formal consultation exercise in relation to the review of the Council's STL Policy Statement be noted;

(2) that (a) the proposed amendments as shown as tracked changes in the STL Policy Statement at appendix 2 be approved, and (b) that the adoption of the amendments take effect from the date of this meeting, namely 13 March 2024; and

(3) that delegated authority be granted to the Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make such further changes as are deemed necessary.

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 14 MARCH 2024

Environment & Regeneration Committee

Thursday 14 March 2024 at 3pm

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

Chair: Councillor McCormick presided.

In attendance:

Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Eddie Montgomery	Head of Physical Assets
Neale McIlvanney	Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection
Matt Thomson	Finance Manager (Environment & Technical)
Julie Ann Wilson	Principal Accountant
Jennifer Horn	Regeneration Manager
Daniel Henderson	Planning and Building Standards Service Manager
Gordon Leitch	Team Leader (Consultancy) – Roads & Transportation
Kenny Lang	Service Manager, Grounds, Fleet & Waste Services
Peter MacDonald	Principal Solicitor (for Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services)
Emma Peacock	Solicitor
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' and Committee Services Team Leader

This meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillor Cassidy attending remotely.

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

140 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

140

No apologies for absence were intimated.

Councillor Robertson declared an interest in Agenda Item 23 (Award of Contracts for Employability Services).

Certain connections were intimated for the purposes of transparency as follows:

Agenda Item 9 (Former Clune Park Primary School / Clune Park Church) – Councillor Curley.

Agenda Item 10 (Local Housing Strategy Update) – Councillor Curley.

Agenda Item 12 (Clydeplan) – Councillor Curley.

Agenda Item 23 (Award of Contracts for Employability Services) – Councillors Clocherty and Jackson.

141 2023/24 Environment & Regeneration Revenue Budget at 31 December 2023

141

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Director Environment & Regeneration advising the Committee of the 2023/24 Environment & Regeneration Committee Revenue Budget projected position at 31 December 2023.

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 14 MARCH 2024

The Director Environment & Regeneration advised the Committee of a typographical error in the report and, accordingly, the reference to “£160,00” in the heading of paragraph 3.2 should read “£160,000”.

Councillor Nelson joined the meeting during consideration of this item of business.

Decided:

- (1) that it be noted that the Committee’s Revenue Budget is currently projected to overspend in 2023/24 by £160,000 based on figures at 31 December 2023;
- (2) that the virement as detailed in appendix 5 of the report be approved;
- (3) that (a) the proposal to earmark the projected over recovery in Planning income for the Local Development Plan, as detailed in 4.4 of the report, be approved, and (b) this decision be remitted to the Policy & Resources Committee for approval; and
- (4) that it be noted that there are reports elsewhere on the agenda providing options to address the Parking income shortfall as part of the 2024/26 Budget as well as a report on the use of the balance of Business Grants.

142 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme 2023/26 – Progress

142

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration and the Chief Financial Officer providing an update on the status of the projects within the 2023/26 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme.

Councillor McCluskey, not being a member of the Committee but having intimated in advance his wish to ask a specific question in relation to this item in accordance with Standing Order 65(d), was present and, the Convenor being satisfied as to the competency, raised the question intimated.

Decided:

- (1) that the current position and progress on the specific projects of the 2023/26 Capital Programme and externally funded projects, as detailed in the report and appendices, be noted; and
- (2) that the on-going work in respect of the further identification of priority projects relating to core asset condition and allocation of funds from the 2023/25 Core Property budget be noted.

143 Environment and Regeneration Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26 Performance Report

143

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on the progress made in the delivery of the Environment and Regeneration Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress made in the delivery of the Environment & Regeneration Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26 be noted; and
- (2) that it be noted that a refreshed Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan will be brought to the next meeting of this Committee for approval.

144 Roads & Transportation – Proposed RAMP/Capital Programme for 2024/25

144

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration seeking approval for a proposed programme of projects to be undertaken in 2024/25 using RAMP/Capital Funding and a grant offer of funding by the Scottish Government for Cycling, Walking and Safer Routes projects.

Decided:

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 14 MARCH 2024

(1) that the list as detailed in appendix 1 of the report for the 2024/25 RAMP/Capital and Cycling Walking and Safer Routes grant aided roads related projects be approved; and

(2) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Physical Assets to achieve full spend of the RAMP/Capital budget through the substitution of projects from a reserve list when necessary.

145 Car Parking Charges**145**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Physical Assets providing information and context in relation to the reduction in car parking revenue income and making recommendations for solutions for both the short and medium term.

Decided:

(1) that the costs associated with the various options available to the Council in respect of Decriminalised Parking Charges and the implications to the Parking income budget be noted;

(2) that it be noted that (a) there is a significant capital spend required to install cashless machines, and (b) officers recommend that cashless machines should not be progressed in the short term;

(3) that it be noted that increasing the parking charges to £3/day will ultimately reduce the income, and that approval to not implement the previously approved increase was obtained at the Inverclyde Council meeting of 1 February 2024 including the allocation of £254,000 from the Budget pressures allowance to mitigate the shortfall in the budget;

(4) that the Officer recommendation of Option C be approved, i.e. to leave the parking charging and enforcement regime the same for the time being, with the addition of a payment App solution (cost of App included in the £254,000 as noted in the report); and

(5) that it be noted that Officers will develop proposals to simplify the various parking regimes across the authority area for consideration by the Committee in the medium term, including the progression of the car parks on Lochwinnoch Road, Kilmacolm; Princess Street, Port Glasgow; and Jamaica Street, Greenock.

146 Kirn Drive, Gourock – One-way Study Findings**146**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Physical Assets informing the Committee of a study undertaken to consider the impact of making Kirn Drive in Gourock one-way, addressing the remit from the Petitions Committee of 19 March 2020.

The Head of Physical Assets advised the Committee of a typographical error in the report and, accordingly, the reference to “Staffa Road” in paragraph 1.3 should read “Staffa Street”.

Decided:

(1) that the findings of the modelling study for Kirn Drive be noted; and

(2) that it be agreed to hold a non-statutory consultation on the proposed scheme with the outcome subject to a further report to this Committee.

147 Business Support Interventions**147**

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration seeking agreement in respect of reallocation of unspent funds from COVID allocation in support of Business Development interventions.

Decided: that it be agreed to support the interventions as highlighted in paragraph 3.3 of the report.

148 Former Clune Park Primary School / Clune Park Church**148**

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 14 MARCH 2024

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration (1) providing an update on the costs incurred to date following the extensive fire damage affecting the former Clune Park Primary School in Port Glasgow, (2) advising on the projected future costs associated with demolition / retention, and (3) providing an update on the adjacent Clune Park Church and associated risks / potential budget pressures linked to the current condition of the property.

Councillor Curley declared a connection as a member of the board of River Clyde Homes. 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 the progression of Option C as detailed in the report and the submission of listed building consent applications for the demolition of the remaining structure of the former Clune Park Primary School and former Clune Park Church be approved.

149 Local Housing Strategy Update

149

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on the Local Housing Strategy Action Plan.

Councillor Curley declared a connection as a member of the board of River Clyde Homes. 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 the Local Housing Action Plan for 2023/2028 be approved.

150 Rent Policy for Temporary Accommodation

150

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration seeking agreement for a Rent Policy for Temporary Accommodation.

Decided: that the Rent Policy as detailed in appendix 1 of the report be approved.

151 Clydeplan

151

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration advising of proposed new governance structures to continue progress on a collaborative approach to regional spatial planning following the publication of National Planning Framework 4.

Councillor Curley declared a connection as a member of the board of Clydeplan. 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.

The Director Environment & Regeneration provided a verbal update to the report, advising that following a meeting of the Clydeplan Joint Committee it was requested that the recommendation in respect of Inverclyde Council nominating one representative and one substitute on the Regional Spatial Planning Committee be changed to two representatives.

Decided:

(1) that the recommendation of the Clydeplan Joint Committee to transfer responsibility for the development of a Regional Spatial Strategy to the Glasgow City Region Cabinet be noted;

(2) that the Glasgow City Region Cabinet's approval of the establishment of a new Regional Spatial Planning Sub Committee to oversee the development of a Regional Spatial Strategy be noted;

(3) that it be noted that approval of participation in any future Regional Spatial Strategy will remain a decision for Inverclyde Council;

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 14 MARCH 2024

(4) that it be remitted to the Inverclyde Council to formally withdraw from the Clydeplan Joint Committee and transfer requisition funding to Glasgow City Council as lead authority for the Glasgow City Region;

(5) that the decision on nominating two Elected Members as Inverclyde Council's representatives on the new Regional Spatial Planning Committee be remitted to the Inverclyde Council; and

(6) that it be agreed that an update on progress will be provided within 12 months.

152 Tender for a Delivery Partner for 2024/2025 Energy Efficiency Scotland: Area Based Schemes 152

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration seeking approval to grant delegated authority to the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services to accept a tender for a Delivery Partner for the 2024/25 Energy Efficiency Scotland, Area Based Schemes Programme as per Standing Orders for Contracts 20.3 (ii).

Decided: that delegated authority be granted to the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services to accept the most economically advantageous tender for a Delivery Partner for the 2024/2025 Area Based Schemes Programme and also, subject to further funding from the Scottish Government, accept the optional year extension to the Contract, as per the Standing Orders relating to Contracts 20.3 (ii).

153 Management Rules for Park in Inverclyde 153

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services (1) seeking approval of the draft Parks Management Rules 2024 prior to the statutory public consultation, (2) seeking approval to proceed with the statutory public consultation with a report to be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee on this matter, and (3) advising that following the consultation and any subsequent Committee approvals there will be a report to the Inverclyde Council seeking approval to make the Management Rules.

Decided:

(1) that the draft Parks Management Rules, as attached to the report for public consultation, be approved;

(2) that delegated authority be granted to the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services to take all action which is required in terms of implementing the statutory consultation procedure in terms of the proposed management rules;

(3) that the intention of the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services to report back to the Committee on the outcome of the public consultation exercise to allow the Committee to consider any objections and any consequential amendments as considered appropriate, be noted; and

(4) that it be noted that the outcome of the public consultation exercise and recommendations of the Committee following that exercise will, subject to the decision of the Committee, be reported to the Inverclyde Council and that authority will subsequently be sought from the Inverclyde Council to make the Management Rules.

154 Single Use Vapes 154

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on controls on the sale of single use vapes and future actions.

Decided: that the progress nationally on banning the sale of single use vapes and the actions locally in enforcing current legal requirements be noted.

155 Flood Risk and Surface Water Management Protocol 155

There was submitted a report by the Head of Physical Assets seeking approval of (1) the updated Operational Protocol for Flood Risk and Surface Water Management which will strengthen resilience to flood risk by promoting avoidance as a first principle and reducing the vulnerability of existing and future development to flooding under the National Planning Framework 4, and (2) the updated Flood Risk Assessment and Surface Water Management Assessment: Planning Guidance for Developers that supersedes the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Impact Assessment: Planning Guidance for Developers.

Decided:

- (1) that the updated Operational Protocol, as detailed in appendix 1 of the report, be approved;
- (2) that the updated Flood Risk Assessment and Surface Water Management Assessment: Planning Guidance for Developers, as detailed in appendix 2 of the report, be approved; and
- (3) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Physical Assets to review and update the Operational Protocol and the Flood Risk Assessment and Surface Water Management Assessment: Planning Guidance for Developers to address future policy and guidance changes.

156 Energy & Climate Change – Scottish Government Public Consultations

156

There was submitted a report by the Head of Physical Assets providing an update on Energy and Climate Change related consultations and the Council's responses to these as detailed in appendices 1 and 2 of the report.

Decided:

- (1) that the Heat in Buildings Consultation and Inverclyde Council's response, as detailed in appendix 1 of the report, be noted; and
- (2) that the Social Housing Net Zero Standard Consultation and Inverclyde Council's response, as detailed in appendix 2 of the report, be noted.

157 Property Asset Management Public Report – Consultations on Land at Walled Garden, Gourrock Park and Land at Wateryetts Drive, Kilmacolm

157

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration (1) advising of the progress on two consultation processes in relation to (a) a proposal to lease an area of ground within the walled garden of Gourrock Park, and (b) a proposal to dispose of an area of land at Wateryetts Drive, Kilmacolm, to which areas the public currently have access, and (2) providing an update on the Remembering Together Labyrinths.

Decided:

- (1) that the following be noted, (a) the outcome of the open space consultation in relation to the proposed lease of land at the walled garden, Gourrock Park, Gourrock, (b) the terms of the representations received, and (c) any comments from the Inverclyde Shed on those representations, all as detailed in appendix 2 of the report, prior to consideration of the recommendation on this proposal in the private report later in the agenda;
- (2) that (a) the update on the open space consultation in relation to the proposed disposal of land at Wateryetts Drive, Kilmacolm be noted, and (b) it be noted that officers are progressing negotiations in relation to the proposed disposal to allow a more detailed report to be considered at the next meeting of the Committee; and
- (3) that Committee grant consent for the installation of the Remembering Together Labyrinths at Greenock, Gourrock, Port Glasgow and Kilmacolm, subject to the full Council sitting as the Trustees of Birkmyre Park granting permission for the installation of the Labyrinth at Birkmyre Park, Kilmacolm, but does not grant consent to the proposed installation at Lunderston Bay.

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 14 MARCH 2024

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)
Clune Park	6 & 13(b)
Property Asset Management Private Report – Acquisition of Land for National Cycle Route 75; former Neil Street Children’s Home, Greenock and Land at Gourock Park, Gourock	6 & 9
Commercial and Industrial Portfolio Information – Scheme of Delegation Register	6 & 8
Commercial and Industrial Property Update: 119/121 Grieve Road, Greenock; Demolition of Commercial Storage Unit 94/96 Bridgend Avenue, Port Glasgow, Demolition; and Anderson Street, Port Glasgow, Ground Lease Renewal	6 & 9
Award of Contracts for Employability Services	6 & 8
158 Clune Park	158
<p>There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update in relation to the current position of Clune Park as part of the regular reporting requirements.</p> <p>Decided: following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended, all as detailed in the private appendix.</p>	
159 Property Asset Management Private Report – Acquisition of Land for National Cycle Route 75; former Neil Street Children’s Home, Greenock and Land at Gourock Park, Gourock	159
<p>There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration (1) advising the Committee of activities relating to the management of the Council’s property assets and (2) making recommendations in this regard.</p> <p>Decided: following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended, all as detailed in the private appendix.</p>	
160 Commercial and Industrial Portfolio Information – Scheme of Delegation Register	160
<p>There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update on the management of Inverclyde Council’s commercial and industrial portfolio.</p> <p>Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.</p>	
161 Commercial and Industrial Property Update: 119/121 Grieve Road, Greenock; Demolition of Commercial Storage Unit 94/96 Bridgend Avenue, Port Glasgow, Demolition; and Anderson Street, Port Glasgow, Ground Lease Renewal	161

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration providing an update and seeking approval for actions in relation to 119/121 Grieve Road, Greenock, 94/96 Bridgend Avenue, Port Glasgow and Anderson Street, Port Glasgow.

Decided: following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended, all as detailed in the private appendix.

162 Award of Contracts for Employability Services

162

There was submitted a report seeking approval for the award of contracts for Employability services to be delivered from 1 April 2024, replacing services previously delivered since 2008 under Fairer Scotland Funds, Regeneration Funding, European Funding, UK Shared Prosperity Funding and Scottish Government No One Left Behind funding.

Councillors Clocherty and Jackson declared connections as members of the board of an organisation mentioned in the report. 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 they were declaring for transparency.

Councillor Robertson declared an interest as a member of the board of an organisation mentioned in the report and left the meeting.

Decided: following consideration, the Committee agreed to the actions recommended, all as detailed in the private appendix.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 19 MARCH 2024

Education and Communities Committee

Tuesday 19 March 2024 at 2pm

Present: Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Clocherty, Crowther (for Law), Daisley, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Quinn, Robertson and Wilson, and Ms P McEwan, Teacher Representative, and Ms F MacDonald, Parent Representative.

Chair: Councillor Clocherty presided.

In attendance:

Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Tony McEwan	Head of Culture, Communities & Educational Resources
Michael Roach	Head of Education
Anne Sinclair	Managing Solicitor (for Interim Head of Legal & Democratic, Services)
Hugh Scott	Service Manager, Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport
Eddie Montgomery	Head of Physical Assets
Iain Cameron	Principal Accountant (Education & Communities)
Mary McCabe	Finance Manager (Education & Communities)
Peter MacDonald	Principal Solicitor
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Karen MacVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader
PJ Coulter	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Daisley, McGuire and Quinn and Ms MacDonald attending remotely.

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

163 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

163

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Law, with Councillor Crowther substituting, and Mr J Docherty, Rev D Burt and Rev F Donaldson, Church Representatives.

No declarations of interest were intimated, but certain connections were intimated for the purposes of transparency as follows:

Agenda Item 2 (Communities Revenue Budget Report – 2023/24 Projected Outturn at 31 December 2023) – Councillors Clocherty and Quinn.

Agenda Item 3 (Communities Capital Programme Progress and Asset Related Items) – Councillor Clocherty.

Agenda Item 4 (Communities Update Report – Overview of Local and National Initiatives) – Councillor Quinn.

Agenda Item 6 (Beacon Arts Centre – Performance Outcomes to be agreed with the Beacon Arts Centre for the year 2024/25) – Councillor Robertson.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 19 MARCH 2024

164 Communities Revenue Budget Report – 2023/24 Projected Outturn at 31 December 2023 164

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising Committee of the 2023/24 Revenue Budget position at 31 December 2023.

Councillors Clocherty and Quinn declared connections as members of the Board of Inverclyde Leisure. They also formed the view that the nature of their connection 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 the current projected underspend for 2023/24 of £151,000 as at 31 December 2023 be noted; and
- (2) that it be noted that £143,000 of the projected underspend relates to Inverclyde Leisure utility costs and that this budget over provision will be returned to the non-pay inflation contingency from 2024/25, in line with the treatment of windfall savings.

165 Communities Capital Programme Progress and Asset Related Items 165

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer (1) providing performance information for the Communities part of the Education & Communities Committee, and (2) providing an update in respect of the status of the projects which form the Communities Capital Programme and Asset related items.

Councillor Clocherty declared a connection as an allotment holder at Wellington Allotments. 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 was declaring for transparency.

Decided:

- (1) that the current position of the 2023/26 Capital Programme be noted; and
- (2) that the progress on the following projects be noted (a) Leisure Pitches Asset Management Plan/Lifecycle Fund, (b) Community Hub King George VI, (c) Bank Street Community Hub (32nd Scouts), (d) Parklea Branching Out, and (e) the Asset Transfer Working Group updates on (i) Gourock Park Walled Garden, (ii) Wellington Allotments, and (iii) KGV Bowling Club.

166 Communities Update Report – Overview of Local and National Initiatives 166

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the Communities aspects of the service.

Councillor Quinn declared a connection as a family member has been elected as a Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament. She also formed the view that the nature of her connection and of the item of business did not preclude her continued presence in the meeting or her participation in the decision-making process and was declaring for transparency.

Decided: that the updates on the following be noted (a) Review of School Crossing Sites, (b) Community Council Elections 2024, (c) The Multiply Programme Inverclyde, (d) the Early Adopter Affordable Out of School Childcare Pilot, (e) Scottish Youth Parliament, (f) UK Department for Culture Media & Sport funding and LED pitch lighting, and (g) libraries service developments for (i) Pathways Through Play, (ii) author visit – Thomas Clark, (iii) South West Library events, (iv) author events at HMP Greenock – Dr Jim Ferguson, (v) International Women’s Day Events, and (vi) First Aid in a Resilient

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 19 MARCH 2024

Inverclyde Community Conference.

167 Update on Inverclyde Council's Approach to Asset Transfer 167

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the Asset Transfer process in Inverclyde following a request to do so at the 23 January 2024 meeting of this Committee.

Decided:

- (1) that the content of the report be noted; and
- (2) that the submission of an Asset Transfer Annual Report to Committee be agreed, commencing at the end of 2024/2025.

168 Beacon Arts Centre – Performance Outcomes to be agreed with the Beacon Arts Centre for the year 2024/25 168

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development (1) seeking agreement for the performance outcomes for 2024/25 between Inverclyde Council and the Greenock Arts Guild Ltd who are the Board for the Beacon Arts Centre, and (2) asking the Committee to note that the Funding Agreements and Service Level Agreements between the two organisations are being revised and updated to run on a three yearly basis.

Councillor Robertson declared a connection as a member of the Board of Greenock Arts Guild. She also formed the view that the nature of her connection and of the item of business did not preclude her continued presence in the meeting or her participation in the decision-making process and was declaring for transparency.

Decided:

- (1) that it be noted that the timescales for the review of the Funding and Service level Agreements between Greenock Arts Guild Ltd, the Board for the Beacon Arts Centre, and Inverclyde Council will now move to a three yearly basis;
- (2) that the performance outcomes, as detailed at appendix 1 to the report, be agreed;
- (3) that it be noted that the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development, the Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Chief Financial Officer will finalise details of the Funding Agreement, Minute of Variation and Service Level Agreement; and
- (4) that it be noted that the Annual Report will be presented to the Committee in the autumn in line with approved governance requirements.

The Communities business concluded at 3.10pm. The Committee commenced consideration of the Education items of business at 4pm with Ms McEwan and Ms MacDonald joining the meeting remotely.

169 Education Revenue Budget Report – 2023/24 Projected Outturn at 31 December 2023 169

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development advising Committee of the 2023/24 Revenue Budget position at 31 December 2023.

Decided:

- (1) that the current projected overspend for 2023/24 of £161,000 as at 31 December 2023 be noted;
- (2) that it be noted that the Communities part of the Committee is currently projecting an underspend of £151,000 which largely offsets the projected overspend for the

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 19 MARCH 2024

Education part of the Committee.

170 Education Capital Programme 2023/26 - Progress 170

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Financial Officer (1) providing performance information for the Education part of the Education & Communities Committee, and (2) providing an update in respect of the status of the projects which form the Education Capital Programme.

Decided:

- (1) that the current position of the 2023/26 Capital programme be noted; and
- (2) that the progress on the following projects be noted (a) general lifecycle works, (b) CO² monitors in schools, and (c) Universal Free School Meals.

171 Education and Communities Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/24 Performance Report 171

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the progress made in the delivery of the Education and Communities Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress made in the delivery of the Education and Communities Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26 be noted; and
- (2) that it be noted that a refreshed Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan will be brought to the next meeting of this Committee for approval.

172 Education Update Report – Overview of Local and National Initiatives 172

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on local and national projects and initiatives linked to education.

Ms McEwan joined the meeting during consideration of this item of business.

Decided: that the updates on the following be noted (a) Independent Review of Qualifications and assessment, (b) Education and skills reform, (c) Pupil Equity Funding (PEF), (d) Regional Improvement Collaboratives (RICs), (e) Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) Results 2022, (f) systematic improvement curriculum cycle, (g) digital learning, (h) secondary Gaelic medium education progress, (i) teacher numbers, (j) Inverclyde STEM Festival, and (k) Education projects on vaping.

173 Report on Future Operation of Lomond View Academy 173

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the proposed staffing structure and delivery model for Lomond View Academy.

Decided:

- (1) that the contents of the report and the success of the Delivering Differently Project for Lomond View Academy be noted;
- (2) that the staffing structure and funding implications, as detailed at appendices 1a and 1b of the report, be noted;
- (3) that the delivery model, as detailed at appendix 2 of the report, be noted; and
- (4) that it be noted that a further report on primary provision will be brought back to the Committee in the future.

Councillor Wilson left the meeting at this juncture.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 19 MARCH 2024

- 174 Devolved School Management – Scheme of Delegation 174**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development seeking approval to continue the current Devolved School Management Scheme of Delegation for a further two-year period.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the contents of the report be noted; and
 - (2) that the Devolved School Management Scheme of Delegation be approved for a further two-year period.
- 175 Education Services – Child Protection Guidelines 175**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing the Committee with Education Services' 'Protecting Children and Supporting their Wellbeing' child protection procedures for noting
- Decided:** that the 'Protecting Children and Supporting their Wellbeing' procedures be noted.
- 176 Appendix relative to Agenda Item 11 (Report on Future Operation of Lomond View Academy) providing additional information on Lomond View Academy 176**
- There was submitted a private appendix providing additional information on Lomond View Academy by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development.
- Decided:** that the appendix be noted.

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 26 MARCH 2024

Policy & Resources Committee

Tuesday 26 March 2024 at 3pm

Present: Councillors Armstrong, Curley, Law, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Moran, Robertson and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor McCabe presided.

In attendance:

Alan Puckrin	Chief Financial Officer
Stuart Jamieson	Director Environment & Regeneration
Ruth Binks	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development
Vicky Pollock	Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services
Morna Rae	Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications
Craig Given	Head of Finance, Planning & Resources (Inverclyde HSCP)
Angela Edmiston	Finance Manager (Corporate Services & Strategic Finance)
Matt Thomson	Finance Manager (Environment & Technical)
Gerard Smith	Capital Assets Principal Accountant
Mary McCabe	Finance Manager (Education & Communities)
Allan McDonald	Digital & Customer Service Manager
Hugh Scott	Service Manager, Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport
Karen MacVey	Members' & Committee Services Team Leader
Peter MacDonald	Principal Solicitor
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Alison Ramsey	Corporate Communications Officer (Media Relations)

This meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillor Wilson attending remotely.

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

177 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 177

No apologies or declarations of interest were intimated.

178 2023/24 Policy & Resources Committee and General Fund Revenue Budget Update as at 31 January 2024 178

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer, Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development and Chief Executive advising the Committee of (1) the 2023/24 Revenue Budget position as at 31 January 2024, (2) the overall General Fund Revenue Budget projection, and (3) the position of the General Fund Reserve at the same date.

Decided:

(1) that the current projected Committee underspend for 2023/24 of £542,000 as at 31 January 2024 be noted;

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 26 MARCH 2024

(2) that the projected underspend of £122,000 for the General Fund and the projected surplus reserves of £4.478million as at 31 January 2024 be noted;

(3) that it be noted that the above projection reflects confirmation that the £655,000 funding held back pending assessment of the 2023 Teachers Census will now be paid in full to the Council; and

(4) that the projected 2023/24 surplus of £25,910 for the Common Good Budget set out in appendix 5 of the report, be noted.

179 Policy & Resources Capital Budget and Council 2023/26 Capital Programme 179

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer providing an update on (1) the latest position of the Policy & Resources Capital Programme, (2) the 2023/26 Capital Programme, and (3) the impact of the 2024/25 Capital Grant settlement confirmed by the Scottish Government on 29 February 2024.

Decided: that the current position of the 2023/26 Policy & Resources Capital Budget and the current position of the 2023/26 Capital Programme be noted.

180 Corporate Policy and Performance Update: February-March 2024 180

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on Corporate Policy and Performance matters relating to (1) Cyber Security and Resilience Annual Report, (2) Gaelic Language Plan: Bòrd na Gàidhlig response to Implementation Report 2022/23, (3) Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2022/23, (4) Self-evaluation to support continuous improvement, and (5) International Women's Day 2024.

Decided: that the latest updates in relation to Corporate Policy and Performance be noted.

181 Policy & Resources Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/24 Performance Report 181

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive providing an update on the progress made in the delivery of the Policy & Resources Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26.

Decided:

(1) that the progress made in the delivery of the Policy & Resources Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan 2023/26 be noted; and

(2) that it be noted that a refreshed Committee Delivery and Improvement Plan will be brought to the next meeting of the Committee for approval.

182 2024/26 Revenue Budget Update 182

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer providing an update regarding the latest position of the 2024/26 Revenue Budget and seeking decisions as required. Following discussion, Councillor McCabe moved the recommendations contained in the report.

As an amendment, Councillor Robertson moved that the report be remitted to the Inverclyde Council for consideration.

Following a roll call vote, 4 Members, Councillors Armstrong, Curley, Law and Robertson voted in favour of the amendment and 7 Members, Councillors McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McVey, Moran and Wilson voted in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 26 MARCH 2024

Decided:

- (1) that the developments around the 2024/26 Budget since 29 February 2024 and the contents of the letter dated 16 March 2024 from the Deputy First Minister and subsequent exchange of letters be noted;
- (2) that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Financial Officer to process a one-off credit to relevant 2024/25 Council Tax accounts to offset the financial impact of the 8.2% Council Tax increase once the Council's share of the £62.7million is confirmed and on the basis that this is in line with the share estimated by the Chief Financial Officer and the Scottish Government;
- (3) that the proposal to reverse the 2024/25 Council Tax increase prior to considering the level of Council Tax in 2025/26 be supported in principle, noting that this will require approval from the Full Council no later than February 2025;
- (4) that the revised 2024/26 Budget Proposal as detailed in appendix 3 of the report, including the planned 7.0% increase in Council Tax in 2025/26, be approved; and
- (5) that it be noted that the Scottish Government has given a commitment that, subject to approval by the Inverclyde Council of recommendations (2) and (3) as listed above, from 2025/26 the Council will receive a baselined share of the £210million funding linked by the Scottish Government to freezing the 2024/25 Council Tax.

183 Capital Strategy 2024-2034 and Treasury Management Strategy Statement & Annual Investment Strategy 2024/25-2027/28 183

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer requesting that the Committee remits to the Inverclyde Council, for approval, the Capital Strategy 2024-34 and the Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy 2024/25-2027/28.

Decided:

- (1) that (a) the significant financial challenges facing the Council in maintaining the existing asset base be noted, and (b) the Capital Strategy 2024-34, as detailed in appendix 1 of the report, be remitted to the Inverclyde Council for approval; and
- (2) that the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2024/25-2027/28, as detailed in appendix 2 of the report, be remitted to the Inverclyde Council for approval.

184 People and Organisational Development Strategy 2024 – 2027 184

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications (1) advising of the progress made against the 2020-23 People and Organisational Development Strategy and (2) seeking approval of the 5th edition of the strategy for 2024-27.

Decided:

- (1) that the progress made in relation to the People and Organisational Development Strategy 2020-2023 be noted; and
- (2) that the 5th edition of the People and Organisational Development Strategy for 2024-27 be approved.

185 Update on the Digital Modernisation Programme and Delivery of the ICT and Digital Strategies 185

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive providing an update on the work of the Council's Digital Modernisation Programme.

Decided:

- (1) that the update on the work of the Digital Modernisation Programme, and the projects within it, be noted;

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 26 MARCH 2024

- (2) that the proposed upgrade to Chris21, the use of the Digital Modernisation Earmarked Reserve for project costs including support from another Local Authority and a temporary post to manage and support the project, be approved; and
 (3) that the update on the work of the Council's ICT Service be noted.

186 Review of Council Policy Framework

186

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services providing a refresh of the Council's policy framework, fulfilling an action from the 2022/23 external audit undertaken by KPMG and reported to the Inverclyde Council on 16 November 2023.

Decided:

- (1) that the Council policy hierarchy, as detailed in appendix 1 of the report, be approved;
 (2) that the Council Policy Template, as detailed in appendix 2 of the report, which will be rolled out across Council service areas by the Corporate Quality Improvement Group, together with guidance and training, be approved;
 (3) that (a) the list of policies and strategies included in appendix 3 of the report be noted, and (b) it be noted that officers will take forward the review of those policies in accordance with the planned review dates, subject to such adjustment as the relevant Director considers appropriate; and
 (4) that the content of the report, the actions that officers are intending to take, and the undertaking that progress will be reported back to the Committee every other cycle, be noted.

187 2024 Inverclyde Community Council Elections

187

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services and the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development providing an update on the outcome of the recent Community Council Elections and, following the same, the proposed actions of officers.

Councillor Cassidy was present as a Member with a specific interest in the item as the Community Council Champion and, with the consent of the Convenor, participated in the debate.

Decided:

- (1) that the outcome of the 2024 Inverclyde Community Council Elections and the actions officers propose to undertake both in relation to the community councils re-established or newly established in those elections and in relation to those areas in which no community council has been formed, be noted; and
 (2) that it be noted that as per the undertaking provided to the Special Meeting of the Inverclyde Council on 28 September 2023, as there remain two areas without established community councils, officers will within 12 months of completion of the elections bring a report to a future meeting of the Inverclyde Council on the developments of community council activity, which report may include recommendations for a further review, in whole or in part of the Scheme and/or the community council areas.

188 Tender for the Provision of Electronic Call Monitoring System: Care at Home Services – Delegated Authority and Change of Weightings

188

There was submitted a report by the Chief Officer, Inverclyde HSCP seeking approval to (1) grant delegated authority to the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services to accept a tender, and (2) to change the tender weightings for the forthcoming tender process for

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 26 MARCH 2024

the provision of an Electronic Call Monitoring System for Care at Home Services as per the Standing Orders for Contracts 20.3 (ii) and 16.3.

Decided: that delegated authority be granted to the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services to (a) approve the award of Contract for the period 1 July 2024 until 31 March 2028 with options to extend until 31 March 2029 and 31 March 2030, (b) enter into all contractual documentation necessary to complete the award of the Contract, and (c) approve the use of a 60% Quality and 40% Cost of Service weighting in the forthcoming tender for the Inverclyde HSCP Electronic Call Monitoring System for Care at Home Services and therefore suspend Contract Standing Order 16.2.

189 Water Quality Management Policy and Control of Asbestos Policy 189

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy & Communications seeking approval of a new Water Quality Management Policy and an updated Control of Asbestos Policy.

Decided:

- (1) that the Water Quality Management Policy be approved; and
- (2) that the updates to the Control of Asbestos Policy be approved.

190 Proposal to Earmark Projected Over Recovery in Planning Income – Remit from Environment & Regeneration Committee 190

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services requesting consideration of a remit from the Environment & Regeneration Committee relative to a proposal to earmark the projected over recovery in Planning income for the Local Development Plan.

Decided: that approval be given to the earmarking of £50,000 in over recovery in Planning income for the one off costs associated with the development of the Local Development Plan.

LOCAL POLICE AND FIRE SCRUTINY PANEL – 28 MARCH 2024

Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel

Thursday 28 March 2024 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Brennan, Clocherty, Crowther, Daisley, McGuire, Moran, Quinn, Reynolds and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor Wilson presided.

In attendance:

Tony McEwan	Head of Culture, Communities & Educational Resources (for Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development)
Hugh Scott	Service Manager Community Learning & Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport
Martin McNab	Public Protection Manager
Roisin Dillon	Trading Standards and Enforcement Team Leader
Anne Sinclair	Legal Services Manager (for Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services)
Lindsay Carrick	Senior Committee Officer
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Peter MacDonald	Principal Solicitor

In attendance also:

Gordon McCreadie	Chief Superintendent, Local Police Commander, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division, Police Scotland
Damien Kane	Chief Inspector, Area Commander, Inverclyde Division, Police Scotland
David McCarrey	Area Commander, Service Delivery. Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde
Rod Anderson	Group Commander, Prevention & Protection, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde
Paul McQueen	Watch Commander, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors McGuire, Quinn and Reynolds attending remotely.

The Convener welcomed the representatives from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire & Rescue Services to the meeting.

Prior to the commencement of business, the Convener conveyed his thanks and appreciation to Chief Superintendent McCreadie and officers from Police Scotland for the recent 'Journey of a Call' demonstration session which he and a number of other Members had attended and which had been extremely informative.

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

LOCAL POLICE AND FIRE SCRUTINY PANEL – 28 MARCH 2024

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

No declarations of interest were intimated.

192 Police Scotland Performance Report

192

At the commencement of discussion, Chief Superintendent McCreadie expressed his thanks to Police Scotland staff and Members of the Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel for attending the recent demonstration of the 'Journey of a Call' session held on 20 March 2024.

There was submitted a report on the performance and activities of Police Scotland during the reporting period 1 April 2023 to 31 December 2023. During discussion on this item Chief Superintendent McCreadie informed the Panel that the closing date of Police Scotland's Estates Strategy consultations is 31 March 2024 and conveyed his thanks to everyone who has contributed. It was noted that that an update will be provided to the Panel on proposals, recommendations and details of further consultations. Chief Superintendent McCreadie stated that he will continue to advocate for appropriate cell custody provision that will meet the needs of the community and Police Scotland staff and officers. He informed the Panel that following the recent Proportionate Response to Crime pilot, it has been recommended to be rolled out across the rest of the service on a phased basis with timescales to be confirmed. It was noted that drop-in sessions will be arranged to address specific questions and to provide additional information and dates will be communicated to Members. Concerns were expressed in relation to youth gatherings in certain areas of Inverclyde over the summer months. Chief Inspector Kane informed the Panel of the ongoing partnership prevention work regarding this and provided assurance that plans and initiatives are being implemented to alleviate youth gatherings. It was noted that the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 will come into effect on 1 April 2024. Chief Inspector Kane answered a number of questions and provided clarification on how Police Scotland is approaching this issue locally.

Decided: that the information contained in the report be noted

193 Spotlight on Scottish Fire & Rescue Service East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Community Action Team

193

Prior to discussion of this item, Area Commander McCarrey conveyed his thanks and appreciation to Inverclyde Council who funded the 2024 Fire Skills course which was held earlier in the month and to the other emergency services who supported the ten secondary school pupils who attended. The course aimed to provide pupils with important life skills including safety, discipline, respect, CPR, communication, and teamwork.

Group Commander Anderson provided an overview of the ongoing work of the Community Action Team for East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde and Watch Commander McQueen highlighted the activities taking place in Inverclyde. It was noted that a summary of the update provided by Group Commander Anderson and Watch Commander McQueen would be circulated to Members. Councillor Quinn left the meeting during discussion of this item.

Decided: that the spotlight report on Scottish Fire & Rescue Service East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire & Inverclyde Community Action Team be noted.

194 Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel Update Report

194

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

LOCAL POLICE AND FIRE SCRUTINY PANEL – 28 MARCH 2024

Decided: that the updates on the following matters be noted (a) The Scottish Police Authority Board, (b) change to prioritise frontline policing, (c) HMICS Thematic Review on Policing Mental Health, (d) drug enforcement, (e) drink and drug driving enforcement, (f) domestic abuse prevention campaign, (g) technology to support front line policing, (h) VR/VER update, (i) invite to demonstrate the 'journey of a call', (j) HMICS Thematic Inspection of Road Policing in Scotland – Terms of Reference, (k) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Framework and (l) HM Fire Service Inspectorate – Mental Health and Wellbeing Support in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

PLANNING BOARD – 3 APRIL 2024

Planning Board

Wednesday 3 April 2024 at 3pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brooks, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, Jackson, Law, McCabe and McVey.

Chair: Councillor McVey presided.

In attendance:

Neale McIlvanney	Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection
Daniel Henderson	Planning and Building Standards Service Manager
Gordon Leitch	Team Leader (Consultancy) – Roads and Transportation
Elaine Provan	Supervisory Engineer – Traffic & Transportation
Jim Kerr	Solicitor (for Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services)
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Alison Ramsey	Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillor Law attending remotely.

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

195 APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 195

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

There were no declarations of interest.

196 PLANNING APPLICATIONS 196

**(a) Erection of 18 one bedroom flats following demolition of existing buildings (planning permission in principle):
14 West Glen Road, Kilmacolm (23/0228/IC)**

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration for the erection of 18 one bedroom flats following demolition of existing buildings (planning permission in principle) at 14 West Glen Road, Kilmacolm (23/0228/IC).

Decided: that planning permission in principle be granted subject to the following conditions and following the conclusion of a Section 75 Legal Agreement relating to the provision of 25% affordable housing within the development:-

- (1) that the development to which this planning permission in principle relates must be begun within 5 years from the date of this permission, to comply with Section 59(2A)(a) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended);
- (2) that development shall not commence until an application for an approval of matters specified in conditions has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority relating to the proposed site layout. The proposed layout shall be shown on a plan at a scale of 1:500 showing the position of the proposed flats (ensuring the established building line is respected at the site frontage), footpaths, means of access, parking areas and any vehicular turning areas, to ensure the Planning Authority has the

PLANNING BOARD – 3 APRIL 2024

necessary information to determine the application and to ensure the matters are acceptable at this location;

(3) that for the avoidance of doubt the application submitted in relation to condition 2 above shall allow for the following, to ensure the development has the appropriate amount of parking:

i) parking should be provided in accordance with the National Guidelines:

1 parking space for a 1 bedroom flat;

2 parking spaces for a 2 or 3 bedroom flat;

3 parking spaces for a 4 bedroom flat;

visitor parking should be provided at 0.25 spaces per dwelling (unallocated);

the parking spaces within car parks shall be a minimum of 2.5m by 5.0m with a minimum aisle spacing of 6.0m. A 1m asphalt strip should be provided at the end of the aisles to allow vehicles to turn at the end;

iii) the roads within the site shall be a minimum of 4.8m wide and have a gradient of 8% or less;

iv) the footpaths within the site shall be a minimum of 2.0m wide;

(4) that development shall not commence until an application for an approval of matters specified in conditions has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority relating to the proposed floor plans and elevations (ensuring the overall height of the development does not exceed three storeys) of the proposed development and shall show dimensions as well as the type and colour of all external materials, to ensure the Planning Authority has the necessary information to determine the application and to ensure the matters are acceptable at this location;

(5) that development shall not commence until an application for an approval of matters specified in conditions has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority relating to the type and colour of all hard surfacing materials to be used on hardstanding areas, to ensure the Planning Authority has the necessary information to determine the application and to ensure the matters are acceptable at this location;

(6) that development shall not commence until an application for an approval of matters specified in conditions has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority relating to the proposed ground levels throughout the site and proposed finished floor levels of the development in relation to a fixed datum point. The application shall include existing ground levels taken from the same fixed datum point, to ensure the Planning Authority has the necessary information to determine the application and to ensure the matters are acceptable at this location;

(7) that development shall not commence until an application for an approval of matters specified in conditions has been submitted to and approved in writing by the planning authority relating to all walls (including any retaining walls) and fences to be erected on site, to ensure the Planning Authority has the necessary information to determine the application and to ensure the matters are acceptable at this location;

(8) that development shall not commence until an application for approval of matters specified in conditions has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority relating to the details of surface water management and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems proposals. For the avoidance of doubt the surface water management for the proposed development shall be contained/attenuated within the site before discharging to the public system and shall be restricted to greenfield runoff rates, to ensure the Planning Authority has the necessary information to determine the application and to ensure the matters are acceptable at this location;

(9) that development shall not commence until an application for approval of matters has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority relating to the proposed landscaping/planting at the site. Details of the scheme shall include (as appropriate):

i) details of any earth mounding, hard landscaping, grass seeding and turfing;

PLANNING BOARD – 3 APRIL 2024

ii) a scheme of tree and shrub planting, incorporating details of the number, variety and size of trees and shrubs to be planted; and

iii) the phasing/timescale for carrying out these works;

thereafter the matters that are approved shall be implemented in their approved form in the first planting season following completion of the dwellinghouse, to ensure the Planning Authority has the necessary information to determine the application and to ensure the matters are acceptable at this location;

(10) that prior to the commencement of development, confirmation of connection to Scottish Water's Network shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure Scottish Water's acceptance of the drainage regime for the application site and in the interests of the provision of a satisfactory drainage regime;

(11) that development shall not commence until details/plans of the bin stores/containers to be used to store waste materials and recyclable materials at the development as well as details of the areas where such containers are to be located have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Following approval the bin stores/containers shall be implemented by first occupation of any of the flats, to ensure the Planning Authority has the necessary information to determine the application and to ensure the matters are acceptable at this location

(12) that prior to the start of development, details of a survey for the presence of Japanese Knotweed shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority and that, for the avoidance of doubt; this shall contain a methodology and treatment statement where any is found. Development shall not proceed until appropriate control measures are implemented. Any significant variation to the treatment methodology shall be submitted for approval, in writing by the Planning Authority prior to implementation, to help arrest the spread of Japanese Knotweed in the interests of environmental protection;

(13) that the development shall not commence until an Environmental Investigation and Risk Assessment, including any necessary Remediation Strategy with timescale for implementation, of all pollutant linkages has been submitted to and approved, in writing by the Planning Authority. The investigations and assessment shall be site-specific and completed in accordance with acceptable codes of practice. The remediation strategy shall also include a Verification Plan. Any subsequent modifications to the Remediation Strategy and Verification plan must be approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to implementation, to satisfactorily address potential contamination issues in the interests of environmental safety;

(14) that on completion of remediation and verification works and prior to the site being occupied, the developer shall submit a Completion Report for approval, in writing by the Planning Authority, confirming that the works have been carried out in accordance with the remediation strategy. This report shall demonstrate that no pollutant linkages remain or are likely to occur and include (but not limited to) a collation of verification/validation certificates, analysis information, remediation lifespan, maintenance/aftercare information and details of all materials imported onto the site as fill or landscaping material. The details of such materials shall include information of the material source, volume, intended use and chemical quality with plans delineating placement and thickness, to provide verification that remediation has been carried out to the Authority's satisfaction;

(15) that the presence of any previously unrecorded contamination or variation to reported ground conditions that becomes evident during site works shall be brought to the attention of the Planning Authority and amendments to the Remediation Strategy (i.e. that has not been included in contingency) shall not be implemented unless it has been submitted to and approved, in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure that all contamination issues are recorded and dealt with appropriately;

(16) that the development shall be designed to ensure that at least 25% of the carbon dioxide emissions reduction standard set by Scottish Building Standards is met through the installation and operation of low and zero carbon generating technologies, details of

PLANNING BOARD – 3 APRIL 2024

which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority prior to commencement of any construction works on site, to comply with the requirements of Section 72 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009; and

(17) that for the avoidance of doubt the development shall include Electric Vehicle Charging Points. Development shall not commence until the details have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority relating to the proposed Electric Vehicle Charging Points. Thereafter the approved details shall be implemented on site in their approved form before the first occupation of any flat in the development, in the interests of sustainable development and to accord with the Inverclyde Council Supplementary Guidance on Energy.

**(b) Change of use of dwellinghouse to holiday lets:
196 Wren Road, Greenock (24/0001/IC)**

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration for a change of use of dwellinghouse to holiday lets at 196 Wren Road, Greenock (24/0001/IC).

The Head of Regeneration, Planning & Public Protection advised the board that officers were preparing a report on Inverclyde Council's Short Term Let policy and that this would be presented to a future meeting of the Environment & Regeneration Committee. He also advised that notwithstanding the anticipated policy report, Elected Members had sufficient information to determine the applications before them on the agenda.

After discussion, Councillor Brooks moved that planning permission be granted subject to the condition contained in the report.

As an amendment, Councillor Clocherty moved that consideration be continued until after a report on Inverclyde Council's Short Term Let policy has been considered by the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

Following a roll call vote, 5 Members, Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brooks, Curley and McCabe voted in favour of the motion and 5 Members, Councillors Clocherty, Crowther, Jackson, Law and McVey voted in favour of the amendment. There being equality in voting, the Chair exercised his casting vote in favour of the amendment which was declared carried.

Decided: that consideration be continued until after a report on Inverclyde Council's Short Term Let policy has been considered by the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

**(c) Change of use of flats to short term lets:
24 Admirals Court, 84 Kempock Street, Gourock (24/0019/IC)**

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration for a change of use of a flat to short term lets at 24 Admirals Court, 84 Kempock Street, Gourock (24/0019/IC).

After discussion, Councillor Clocherty moved that consideration be continued until after a report on Inverclyde Council's Short Term Let policy has been considered by the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

As an amendment, Councillor Brooks moved that planning permission be granted subject to the condition contained in the report.

Following a roll call vote, 5 Members Councillors Clocherty, Crowther, Jackson, Law and McVey voted in favour of the motion, and 5 Members, Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brooks, Curley and McCabe voted in favour of the amendment. There being equality in voting, the Chair exercised his casting vote in favour of the motion which was declared carried.

Decided: that consideration be continued until after a report on Inverclyde Council's Short Term Let policy has been considered by the Environment & Regeneration Committee.

Notification of Application made to the Scottish Ministers under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989

There was submitted a report by the Director Environment & Regeneration on the notification of an application made to the Scottish Ministers by Aptura (GPC 700 Ltd) for installation of a battery energy storage system and associated infrastructure with a generating capacity of up to 700MW at land at Auchentiber Road, Port Glasgow (23/0001/EAA).

Decided: that the response to the Scottish Ministers be that the Council does not object to the proposed development and recommends that the Scottish Ministers attach the following conditions to any deemed planning permission that may be granted:-

(1) that the development to which this permission relates must be begun within 3 years from the date of the permission. Written confirmation of the intended date of Commencement of Development shall be provided to the Planning Authority no later than one calendar month before that date, to comply with Section 58 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) and to ensure to allow the Planning Authority to monitor compliance with the conditions attached to the permission;

(2) that development shall not commence until details of the phasing of the development has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Thereafter the development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved phasing scheme unless any change is agreed in advance in writing by the Planning Authority, in order to ensure a properly programmed development;

(3) that development shall not commence until a decommissioning, restoration and aftercare strategy has been submitted for the approval in writing by the Planning Authority. The strategy shall be submitted no later than 12 months from the first operation of the development. The strategy shall outline measures for the decommissioning of the development and the restoration and aftercare of the site and shall include proposals to remove the development, the treatment of ground surfaces, the management and timing of the works and environmental management provisions, to ensure the decommissioning and removal of the development in an appropriate and environmentally acceptable manner and the restoration and aftercare of the site, in the interest of safety, amenity and environmental protection;

(4) that no later than 3 years prior to the decommissioning of the development a detailed decommissioning, restoration and aftercare plan, based on the approved decommissioning, restoration and aftercare strategy, shall be submitted for the approval in writing by the Planning Authority. The decommissioning, restoration and aftercare plan shall provide updated and detailed proposals for the removal of the development, the treatment of ground surfaces, the management and timing of the works and environmental management provisions. Thereafter the development shall be decommissioned, the site restored, and aftercare undertaken in accordance with the approved plan unless agreed in advance in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the decommissioning and removal of the development in an appropriate and environmentally acceptable manner and the restoration and aftercare of the site, in the interest of safety, amenity and environmental protection;

(5) that development shall not commence until details of a bond or other financial provision to cover the completion of the restoration works together with any failure of the restoration works or in the aftercare arrangements associated with the site restoration and the decommissioning of the above ground infrastructure shall be agreed in writing the Planning Authority. As part of this agreement the applicant shall set out how the approved bond or other financial provision is maintained throughout the duration of this consent and that it will be subject to a five yearly review, to be conducted by a competent independent professional, to ensure that sufficient funds are in place to cover the completion of the restoration works together with any failure of the restoration works or in the aftercare arrangements associated with the site restoration and the decommissioning of the above

PLANNING BOARD – 3 APRIL 2024

ground infrastructure in the interests of protecting and minimising the impact on the environment and surrounding area;

(6) that for the avoidance of doubt if the battery storage facility does not import or export electricity to the grid for a continuous period of 12 months the applicant/developer shall, no later than the date of expiration of the 12 months period, submit a scheme to the Planning Authority setting out how the development is to be removed from the site and fully restored. Thereafter the approved scheme shall be implemented within 12 months of the date of approval unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Planning Authority, in the interests of maintaining control of the development should it become redundant and to ensure that the site is restored;

(7) that development shall not commence until detailed levels, diagrams and sections, showing the existing and proposed levels throughout the site in relation to a fixed datum point have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Thereafter the development shall be constructed in accordance with the approved levels, diagrams and sections, to ensure that the levels are acceptable at this location;

(8) that development shall not commence until samples of materials to be used on all external surfaces of the buildings in site and hard surfaces have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Thereafter the development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details unless any alternative has been approved in advance by the Planning Authority, to ensure the development is acceptable in appearance;

(9) that development shall not commence until full details of the proposed landscaping/planting as indicated on the "Landscape Masterplan" (Figure 5B of the Landscape and Visual Assessment) have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. The details shall include the phasing of the planting and a schedule of plants to comprise species, proposed numbers and density. Thereafter the landscaping/planting works shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details and shall be completed no later than the planting season immediately following the first operation of the development hereby approved. Any planting which, during the lifetime of the development, is considered by the Planning Authority to be dead, dying, severely damaged, or diseased shall be replaced by planting of a similar size and species to those originally approved, in order to ensure the planting is acceptable at this location;

(10) that development shall not commence until details of the widening of Auchentiber Road adjacent to the proposed vehicular access to the site, and as indicated on drawing RHC-23-128-01 Rev A, have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Following approval the widening of the road shall be completed no later than the first operation of the development hereby approved, in the interests of roads safety;

(11) that for the avoidance of doubt visibility splays of 2.4m by 33m shall be formed in both directions along Auchentiber Road at the vehicular access to the site and thereafter maintained for the duration of the development, in the interests of roads safety;

(12) that the principles of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) for the surface water drainage regime shall be incorporated into the development. Development shall not commence until details of the surface water management and SUDS proposals have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority, in the interests of sustainable development. Thereafter the surface water management details shall fully be implemented as approved;

(13) that development shall not commence until a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority in consultation with Transport Scotland. The CTMP shall contain details: on routing of all traffic associated with the development on public roads taking account of any height restrictions; allow for no HGV movements on the B788 Kilmacolm Road, Greenock Mondays to Fridays between 8.00-9.15am and between 2.30-3.30pm during school term time; measures to ensure that specific routes are adhered to, including monitoring procedures; details of signage and lining arrangements to be put in place; allow for any

PLANNING BOARD – 3 APRIL 2024

“no entry” signs to not be placed on the public road network; allow for “no right turn” signs to be placed within the site to advise drivers to turn left towards the B788 Auchenfoil Road; during the delivery period of the construction materials, any additional signing or temporary traffic control measures necessary due to the size and length of any loads being delivered; provisions for emergency vehicle access; and identification of a nominated person to whom any road safety issues can be referred. Thereafter the approved CTMP shall be fully implemented unless otherwise agreed in advance in writing by the Planning Authority in consultation with Transport Scotland, in the interests of roads safety and to ensure that the transportation of plant and/or materials do not have a detrimental effect on the road and structures along the route;

(14) that for the avoidance of doubt the access road into the site shall be 5.5m wide for the first 20m and be fully paved over this length. Any gates to be installed on the access road shall be a minimum of 10m back from the road, in the interests of roads safety;

(15) that development shall not commence until details of external lighting (including details of the lighting units, the angle and intensity of illumination and hours of operation) has been submitted to an approved in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure the external lighting is acceptable and to avoid dazzling drivers of vehicles using the public roads network;

(16) that development shall not commence until within the site until the developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Planning Authority. Thereafter the developer shall ensure that the programme of archaeological works is fully implemented and that all recording and recovery of archaeological resources within the development site is undertaken in accordance with the agreed programme, in order to identify and protect any archaeological remains;

(17) that development shall not commence until a Material Management and Verification Plan has been submitted for approval in writing by the Planning Authority. This shall include details of all deposits reused or imported for fill and landscaping. The details of any imported fill/landscape materials shall be demonstrated suitable for the corresponding intended function. The type of information provided in the verification plan shall include the material function, origins, volume, chemical characteristics (including soil-leachate and geotechnical analysis as required), with placement plans and thickness of deposit, to sustainably manage and protect soil resources and ensure quality of any imported materials in the interests of human health and environmental protection; and

(18) that the discovery of Japanese Knotweed or any previously unrecorded contamination that becomes evident during site works shall be brought to the attention of the Planning Authority and a Remediation Scheme shall not be implemented unless it has been submitted to and approved, in writing by the Planning Authority, to ensure that all contamination and Japanese Knotweed concerns are managed appropriately.

LOCAL REVIEW BODY – 3 APRIL 2024

Local Review Body

Wednesday 3 April 2024 at 4pm

Present: Councillors Brooks, Clocherty, Crowther, Curley, McCabe and McVey.

Chair: Councillor McVey presided.

In attendance:

Margaret Pickett	Senior Planner (Planning Adviser)
Daniel Henderson	Planning and Building Standards Manager
Jim Kerr	Solicitor, Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services (Legal Adviser)
Colin MacDonald	Senior Committee Officer
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer
Alison Ramsey	Communications Officer (Media Relations)

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock.

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

198 APOLOGIES, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 198

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

There were no declarations of interest.

199 PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW 199

(a) Change of use of former class 1 retail premises to restaurant (class 3) including installation of extraction flue on rear elevation of building: 17 Grey Place, Greenock (23/0009/IC)

There was submitted papers relative to the application for review for the change of use of a former class 1 retail premises to restaurant (class 3) including installation of extraction flue on rear elevation of building at 17 Grey Place, Greenock (23/0009/IC) to enable the Local Review Body to consider the matter afresh.

Prior to the commencement of discussion on this item, Mr Kerr referred to a new matter raised by the applicant's agent, namely, an odour report submitted with the Notice of Review. He asked the Local Review Body whether it wished to have regard to the new matter in determining the application for review. Following discussion, the Local Review Body agreed that it would take no regard of the new matter.

Ms Pickett acted as Planning Adviser relative to this case.

Decided:

- (1) that sufficient information had been submitted to allow the Local Review Body to decide the matter without further procedure; and
- (2) that the application for review be upheld and that planning permission be granted subject to the following conditions and advisory note:

Conditions

1. that the development to which this permission relates must be begun within 3 years from the date of this permission, to comply with Section 58 of the Town and Country

LOCAL REVIEW BODY – 3 APRIL 2024

Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended);

2. that prior to the restaurant hereby approved being brought into active use, the exact details and specification of the ventilation, filtration and extraction systems to serve the restaurant, including the proposed odour mitigation measures, shall be submitted for the approval in writing by the Planning Authority. For the avoidance of doubt the details and specification to be submitted shall include:

- a) the exhaust point of the extraction system shall terminate at the height shown in drawing number 22054_D_04, Revision A;
- b) ensuring that the exhaust air is expelled from the exit point at sufficient temperature/velocity to ensure it is taken away from nearby residential properties;
- c) the maintenance/management scheme for the ventilation and filtration system; and
- d) the mechanical and electrical installations being arranged to ensure that the ventilation system operates during periods when the premises are open for the preparation and/or cooking of food.

The ventilation, filtration and extraction systems shall then be implemented as approved with the systems retained and maintained/managed for as long as the premises remain as a restaurant, to protect local residents from nuisance resulting from cooking odours.

3. that prior to the restaurant hereby approved being brought into use, details of the waste storage and management on site shall be submitted for the approval, in writing, of the planning authority, to protect local residents from the nuisance of food waste odours and pests.

Advisory Note

1. Air conditioning units/heating units/refrigeration units/extract flues etc. if attached to the property must be suitably insulated or isolated to minimise the effects of vibration in neighbouring properties.

**(b) Proposed extension comprising one-and-a-half storey rear extension with north facing dormer window and single storey side extension on north side topped with roof terrace:
22 Rosemount Place, Greenock (23/0184/IC)**

There was submitted papers relative to the application for review for a proposed extension comprising one-and-a-half storey rear extension with north facing dormer window and single storey side extension on north side topped with roof terrace at 22 Rosemount Place, Gourock (23/0184/IC) to enable the Local Review Body to consider the matter afresh.

Ms Pickett acted as Planning Adviser relative to this case.

Following discussion, Councillor Brooks moved that (1) sufficient information had not been submitted to allow the Local Review Body to decide the matter without further procedure; and (2) in terms of Regulation 16 of the Town and Country Planning (Schemes of Delegation and Local Review Body Procedure) (Scotland) Regulation 2013, consideration of the application for review be continued for an unaccompanied site inspection to be arranged by the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services in consultation with the Chair.

As an amendment, Councillor McCabe moved that (1) sufficient information had been submitted to allow the Local Review Body to decide the matter without further procedure; and (2) that the application for review be dismissed and that planning permission be refused (upholding the Appointed Officer's determination) for the following reasons:

1. the proposed development, particularly the single storey flat roofed extension with roof terrace located along the north side of the dwellinghouse, will have a detrimental impact on the character of the dwellinghouse, specifically in terms of size, design and materials, contrary to Policy 16 of the National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4);

LOCAL REVIEW BODY – 3 APRIL 2024

2. the proposed development fails to have regard to the six qualities of successful places as required by Policy 14 of the National Planning Framework 4 and Policy 1 of both the adopted 2019 Inverclyde Local Development Plan and the proposed 2021 Inverclyde Local Development Plan, specifically as due to the size of the extension and close proximity of the extension and roof terrace to Rosemount Place, it fails to reflect the urban form of the area, as required under the quality of being "Distinctive"; and

3. the scale, design and use of materials proposed would result in an unexpected and uncharacteristic finish on the principal elevation of the dwellinghouse which would negatively impact on the character and appearance of the dwellinghouse and surrounding area, contrary to Policy 20 of the proposed 2021 Inverclyde Local Development Plan.

Following a roll call vote, 2 Members, Councillors Brooks and Crowther voted in favour of the motion, and 4 Members, Councillors Clocherty, Curley, McCabe and McVey voted in favour of the amendment which was declared carried.

Decided:

(1) that sufficient information had been submitted to allow the Local Review Body to decide the matter without further procedure; and

(2) that the application for review be dismissed and that planning permission be refused (upholding the Appointed Officer's determination) for the following reasons:

1. the proposed development, particularly the single storey flat roofed extension with roof terrace located along the north side of the dwellinghouse, will have a detrimental impact on the character of the dwellinghouse, specifically in terms of size, design and materials, contrary to Policy 16 of the National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4);

2. the proposed development fails to have regard to the six qualities of successful places as required by Policy 14 of the National Planning Framework 4 and Policy 1 of both the adopted 2019 Inverclyde Local Development Plan and the proposed 2021 Inverclyde Local Development Plan, specifically as due to the size of the extension and close proximity of the extension and roof terrace to Rosemount Place, it fails to reflect the urban form of the area, as required under the quality of being "Distinctive"; and

3. the scale, design and use of materials proposed would result in an unexpected and uncharacteristic finish on the principal elevation of the dwellinghouse which would negatively impact on the character and appearance of the dwellinghouse and surrounding area, contrary to Policy 20 of the proposed 2021 Inverclyde Local Development Plan.

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 10 APRIL 2024

General Purposes Board

Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 3.00pm

Present: Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Cassidy, Crowther, Curley, Daisley (for Reynolds), Moran, McCluskey, Quinn and Wilson.

Chair: Councillor Moran presided.

In attendance:

David Keenan	Solicitor (for Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services)
Fiona Denver	Senior Paralegal Licensing Officer
Diane Sweeney	Senior Committee Officer

In attendance also: Sergeant I Robertson (Police Scotland).

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Curley, Daisley, Quinn and Wilson attending remotely.

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

200 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 200

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Reynolds, with Councillor Daisley substituting, and Councillor Brennan.

Councillors Armstrong, Crowther and Curley declared an interest in Agenda Item 4 (Request for Suspension of Taxi Driver's Licence).

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

201 Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence 201

It was noted that this item was withdrawn from the agenda.

202 Request for Suspension of Taxi Driver's Licence 202

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services requesting the Board to consider (1) the immediate suspension of a Taxi Driver's Licence, and (2) whether to further suspend the licence as the Board may determine, to which the Board decided to (1) uphold the immediate suspension of the Taxi Driver's Licence, and (2) remove the suspension with immediate effect and reinstate the licence, all as detailed in the private appendix.

203 Request for Suspension of Taxi Driver's Licence 203

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 10 APRIL 2024

requesting the Board to consider (1) the immediate suspension of a Taxi Driver's Licence, and (2) whether to further suspend the licence as the Board may determine, to which the Board decided to (1) uphold the immediate suspension of the Taxi Driver's Licence, and (2) to further suspend the licence for the unexpired portion.

Councillors Armstrong, Crowther and Curley declared an interest in this item and left the meeting, all as detailed in the private appendix.