

## SAFE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 10 MARCH 2009

Safe, Sustainable Communities CommitteeTuesday 10 March 2009 at 3.00 pm

**Present:** Councillors Ahlfeld, Dorrian, Grieve, MacLeod, McCabe, McIlwee, Moran, Rebecchi, Wilson and White.

**Chair:** Councillor Moran presided.

**In attendance:** Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection, Ms M McCabe (for Chief Financial Officer), Head of Environmental Services, Mr R Graham, Environmental Services Manager (Roads), Head of Safer Communities, Mr N McLaren, Mr F MacLeod and Mr R Lee (for Head of Planning & Housing), Mr J Douglas (for Head of Legal & Administration) and Mr M Bingham (for Head of Corporate Communications & Public Affairs).

**Apologies:** Councillor Ferguson.

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

**175 Revenue Budget 2008/09 - Period 9**

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There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on the position of the Revenue Budget 2008/09 as at Period 9 (31 December 2008) which projected an underspend of £219,000.

Following discussion, Councillor Moran moved (1) that the current projected underspend of £219,000 as at 31 December 2008 be noted and (2) that the virement requests set out in Section 7.1 of the report be approved. As an amendment, Councillor White moved that £10,000 of the projected underspend of £219,000 be reallocated to Roads and Lighting to allow the continuation of pothole maintenance and lighting works to the end of March 2009.

On a vote, four Members voted for the amendment and six for the motion which was declared carried.

**Decided:**

(1) that the current projected underspend of £219,000 as at 31 December 2008 be noted; and

(2) that the virement requests set out in Section 7.1 of the report be approved.

**176 Trading Account Revenue Budget 2008/09 - Period 9**

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There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on the position of the Roads and Vehicle Maintenance Trading Accounts as at Period 9 (31 December 2008). The report advised that (1) the Roads Trading Account was currently projecting a surplus of £135,000 which represented a shortfall of £31,000 against the cash target and (2) that the Vehicle Maintenance Trading Account was currently projecting a surplus of £44,000 which represented a shortfall of £16,000 against the cash target.

**Noted**

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- 177 Capital Programme 2008/11 - Progress 177**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection and the Chief Financial Officer on the position of the Capital Programme 2008/11.
- Noted**
- 178 Environmental Services Service Plan 2009/12 178**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection appending the Environmental Services Service Plan which incorporates the Roads and Vehicle Maintenance Significant Trading Organisations.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the report be noted; and
  - (2) that agreement be given to the format of the Service Plans in terms of aligning services to the respective Directorate Plans.
- 179 Report on the Scottish Building Standards Agency Verification Audit of Inverclyde Council's Building Standards Service 179**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on the Scottish Building Standards Division Follow Up Verification Audit of the Council's Building Standards Function.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the report be noted; and
  - (2) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to the relevant staff for the improvements achieved.
- 180 Adoption of Inverclyde Core Paths Plan 180**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) advising of the successful outcome of the formal consultation on the draft Inverclyde Core Paths Plan, (2) seeking approval of the proposed responses to the representations received and (3) requesting authority to adopt the Plan in light of the positive response.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the broad overall support for the Inverclyde Core Paths Plan contained within the representations received and agree the proposed responses to each of the representations;
  - (2) that agreement be given to the two proposed changes concerning path nos 55 and 5B; and
  - (3) that approval be given to the adoption of the finalised version of the Inverclyde Core Paths Plan and for the arrangements for publication and associated publicity.
- 181 Modernising Planning - New Regulations 181**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection advising of new Planning Regulations laid before Parliament as part of the Scottish Government's Modernising the Planning System agenda.
- Decided:** that the Committee note the changes being introduced into the planning system and that further reports will be submitted on the administrative arrangements required to implement these changes.

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- 182 Inverclyde Local Development Plan: Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement 182**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) on the Council's new responsibilities under the Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006 to prepare and produce a Local Development Plan for Inverclyde which is the first prescribed stage in commencing the preparation of a new Plan and (2) seeking endorsement of a Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the introduction and intended commencement of the new Development Plan system from March 2009 which is a first stage in the preparation of the first Local Development Plan for Inverclyde; and
- (2) that the Committee endorse the Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement appended to the report, for submission to the Scottish Government.
- 183 Householder Permitted Development Rights 183**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) advising of proposed changes to the planning controls in respect of existing dwellinghouses and (2) seeking approval for a response to the consultation paper to be submitted to the Scottish Government.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee note the proposed changes to the planning controls in respect of existing dwellinghouses; and
- (2) that approval be given to the responses detailed in the appendix as the Council's formal response to the consultation paper.
- 184 Investing in Affordable Housing: A Consultation 184**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection informing the Committee of the Lead Developer proposals contained within the document "Investing in Affordable Housing: A Consultation" published by the Scottish Government in December 2008 and of the proposed response by Inverclyde Council.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the publication of the consultation document "Investing in Affordable Housing: A Consultation" be noted; and
- (2) that approval be given to the Inverclyde Council response to the consultation document as set out in the appendix to the report for submission to the Scottish Government.
- 185 Environmental Services (Roads) - Capital Programme 2009/10 185**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on a proposed programme of projects to be funded from the Environmental Services (Roads) Capital Budget for 2009/10.
- Decided:**
- (1) that approval be given to the list of projects detailed in the report to be funded from the 2009/10 Environmental Services (Roads) Capital Programme;
- (2) that it be remitted to the Head of Environmental Services to proceed to tender in respect of the various projects listed (or in terms of the Best Value regime, to issue the work to the Environmental Services (Roads) Significant Trading Organisation) and that delegated authority be granted for the acceptance of the most advantageous tender in each case, in terms of the Council's Financial Regulations and Standing Orders relating

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to Contracts;

(3) that it be remitted to the Head of Environmental Services to apply appropriate variances as specified in paragraph 4.4 of the report; and

(4) that approval be granted to the Head of Environmental Services to evaluate and accept, in terms of the Council's Financial Regulations and Standing Orders relating to Contracts, negotiated tenders to a total value of £60,000 from Colas and Kiely as single suppliers of proprietary treatments for appropriate carriageways and footways, as set out in paragraph 6.1 of the report.

**186 Environmental Services (Roads) - Grant Aided Roads Related Projects 2009/10 186**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection seeking approval of a proposed programme of projects to be undertaken in 2009/10 using grant offers of funding by (1) the Scottish Executive for Cycling, Walking and Safer Street Projects (CWSS) and (2) Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT).

**Decided:**

(1) that the proposed list of Grant Aided Roads Related Projects as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report be approved;

(2) that the SPT approved project list for 2009/10 detailed in paragraph 5.2 of the report be noted;

(3) that it be remitted to the Head of Environmental Services to proceed to tender in respect of the various projects listed (or in terms of the Best Value regime, to issue the work to the Environmental Services (Roads) Significant Trading Organisation) and that delegated authority be granted to accept the most advantageous tender in each case, in terms of Council's Financial Regulations and Standing Orders relating to Contracts; and

(4) that it be remitted to the Head of Environmental Services to apply appropriate variances as specified in paragraph 4.3 of the report.

**187 Winter Maintenance 2008/09 Update 187**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection advising of the likely impact of the extreme winter weather of 2008/09 on the budget.

(Councillors Wilson, Dorrian and Ahlfeld left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

**Decided:**

(1) that the report be noted; and

(2) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to all staff involved in the winter maintenance works.

**188 Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - On-Street Parking Places (Without Charges) Order No 1 2009 188**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources recommending the making of a Traffic Regulation Order to accompany the provision of parking bays for the disabled by restricting parking to drivers displaying a Blue Badge.

**Decided:** that The Inverclyde Council be recommended to make a Resolution under the Road Traffic Regulation (Scotland) Act 1984 in relation to a Traffic Regulation Order to restrict parking in parking bays to disabled drivers displaying a Blue Badge and thereafter that it be remitted to the Head of Planning & Housing and the Head of Legal & Administration to arrange for implementation of the Order.