

**THE INVERCLYDE COUNCIL - 18 DECEMBER 2008**

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**The Inverclyde Council**

**Thursday 18 December 2008 at 4.00 pm**

**Present:** Provost McCormick, Councillors Ahlfeld, Blair, Brooks, Clocherty, Dorrian, Fyfe, Grieve, Loughran, MacLeod, McCabe, McCallum, McIlwee, McKenzie, Moran, Rebecchi, White and Wilson.

**Chair:** Provost McCormick presided.

**In attendance:** Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education & Social Care, Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection, Corporate Director Improvement & Performance, Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources, Head of Legal & Administration, Head of Corporate Communications & Public Affairs, Mr J Lilley (for Head of Performance Management & Procurement), Chief Internal Auditor and Legal Services Manager (Procurement, District Court & Administration).

**Apologies:** Councillors Ferguson and Osborne.

**869 Political Balance on Committees**

**869**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive (1) advising the Council of the requirement to ensure political balance on Committees in light of the recent resignation from the Labour Group and the Labour Party of Councillor Charles McCallum and (2) requesting the Council to fill vacancies which have arisen on the Human Resources Appeals Board and the Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee.

Following discussion, Councillor McCabe seconded by Councillor McKenzie moved (1) that the terms of the report be noted; (2) that approval be given to the re-balancing of Committees as detailed on page 1 of Appendix 1 to the report; (3) that Councillor Ahlfeld be appointed to the Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee in place of Councillor McCallum; (4) that Councillor Moran replace Councillor McCallum on Strathclyde Police Board; (5) that Councillor McIlwee be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Human Resources Appeals Board; and (6) that Councillor Wilson be appointed as Vice-Convenor of the Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee.

As an amendment to (5), Councillor White seconded by Councillor Blair moved that Councillor Rebecchi be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Human Resources Appeals Board. On a vote, 7 Members voted for the amendment and 10 for the motion which was declared carried.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted;
- (2) that approval be given to the re-balancing of Committees as detailed on page 1 of Appendix 1 to the report;
- (3) that Councillor Ahlfeld be appointed to the Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee in place of Councillor McCallum;
- (4) that Councillor Moran replace Councillor McCallum on Strathclyde Police Board;
- (5) that Councillor McIlwee be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Human Resources Appeals Board; and
- (6) that Councillor Wilson be appointed as Vice-Convenor of the Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee.

**870 Approval to Participate in National Procurement Contracts**

**870**

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance seeking approval of various actions to allow the Council's participation in National Procurement Contracts.

**Decided:**

(1) that Standing Order No 5 of the Standing Orders relating to Contracts be suspended and interim authority be granted to the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance to authorise the Head of Legal & Administration to enter into National Contracts established by Procurement Scotland where the Council's anticipated total spend under the contract is below £250,000, provided the Corporate Director is satisfied that the contract represents Best Value;

(2) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal & Administration in terms of Standing Order 10(ii) to enter into all of the National Contracts referred to in paragraph 2.3 of the report on behalf of the Council, provided the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance is satisfied that the contract represents Best Value to the Council; and

(3) that approval be given to the Council's entering into the National Contracts established by Procurement Scotland notwithstanding the terms of Regulation 26.5 of the Council's Financial Regulations.

**The Provost being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources was relevant, competent and urgent moved its consideration to allow the Council to consider the motion by Councillor McCabe at the earliest opportunity. This was unanimously agreed in terms of the relevant Standing Order.**

**871 Crossrail - Motion by Councillor McCabe**

**871**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on a motion by Councillor McCabe countersigned by Councillor Wilson relative to the SPT Crossrail Project which had been submitted in accordance with Standing Order 22 as follows: "That this Council continues to fully support the SPT Crossrail project for Glasgow. This would allow continuous rail access from Inverclyde to the East and North of Scotland."

Following discussion, Councillor Wilson seconded by Councillor McCabe moved that the Council support the motion as detailed above. As an amendment Councillor Brooks seconded by Councillor MacLeod moved that consideration be continued for further information to ensure that Members are fully apprised of the position prior to meeting with the Scottish Government Minister in January 2009. On a vote, 4 Members voted for the amendment and 14 for the motion which was declared carried.

**Decided:** that the Council support the motion submitted by Councillor McCabe and countersigned by Councillor Wilson relative to the SPT Crossrail Project.