

**POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 3 FEBRUARY 2009**

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**Policy & Resources Committee**

**Tuesday 3 February 2009 at 3.00 pm**

**Present:** Councillors Blair, Brooks, Clocherty, Fyfe, McCabe, McIlwee, McKenzie, MacLeod, Moran and Wilson.

**Chair:** Councillor McCabe presided.

**In attendance:** Chief Executive, Corporate Director Education & Social Care, Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection, Corporate Director Improvement & Performance, Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources, Chief Financial Officer, Head of Legal & Administration, Head of Organisational Development & Human Resources, Head of ICT & Business Transformation, Head of Corporate Communications & Public Affairs and Legal Services Manager (Procurement, District Court & Administration).

**Apologies:** Councillor Ferguson.

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

**86 Revenue Budget 2008/09 - Period 8**

**86**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer, Corporate Director Improvement & Performance and Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources on the position of the 2008/09 Revenue Budget as at Period 8 (30 November 2008) which showed a projected underspend of £354,000.

**Noted**

**87 General Fund Revenue Budget 2008/09 - Period 8**

**87**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the position of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2008/09 as at Period 8 (30 November 2008) and (2) providing an update on the position of the General Fund Reserve.

(Councillor McKenzie entered the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

**Decided:**

- (1) that the current position of the General Fund Revenue Budget 2008/09 be noted;
- (2) that the position in respect of the General Fund Reserve and the associated Earmarked Reserves be noted; and
- (3) that it be noted that proposals in respect of the General Fund Reserve have been developed as part of the current budget process.

**88 Capital Programme 2008/11**

**88**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer on the current position of the three year Capital Programme 2008/11.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the current position of the 2008/11 Capital Programme be noted; and
- (2) that the Committee note the possibility that Capital Grant of up to £1.3m may be advanced from 2010/11 to 2009/10.

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- 89 Treasury Management Monitoring Report 2008/09 - Quarter 3 89**
- There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer summarising the Council's treasury management position and activities during Quarter 3 2008/09 as required under the terms of Treasury Management Practice 6 ("TMP6") on "Reporting Requirements and Management Information Arrangements".
- Decided:**
- (1) that approval be given to increasing the operational limit from £207,422,000 to £210,000,000;
  - (2) that approval be given for a two year extension of the contract with Sector Treasury Services Ltd for treasury consultancy services subject to the approval of the Chief Financial Officer and the Head of Legal & Administration; and
  - (3) that the Treasury Management monitoring report for Quarter 3 2008/09 be otherwise noted.
- 90 Improvement and Performance Capital Programme 2008/09 to 2010/11 - Progress Report 90**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance and the Chief Financial Officer (1) providing an update on the status of the projects forming the Improvement and Performance Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position.  
(Councillor Wilson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).
- Noted**
- 91 Corporate Performance Report - November/December 2008 91**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance appending the Corporate Performance Report for November/December 2008 which complements existing arrangements for Directorate Performance Reporting to the Committee and is a key component of the Council's overall Strategic Planning and Performance Management Framework.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee endorse the performance information contained in the Corporate Performance Report; and
  - (2) that it be noted that further reports on corporate performance will be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.
- 92 Improvement and Performance Directorate Performance Report 92**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance advising of (1) progress made by the Improvement and Performance Directorate in achieving its key objectives as set out in its Directorate Plan for 2008/11 and (2) performance in relation to key performance indicators.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee endorse the performance information contained in the report;
  - (2) that it be noted that further reports on the performance of the Improvement and Performance Directorate will be submitted to future meetings of the Committee; and
  - (3) that Members be requested to identify any further performance information for inclusion in the report to the next meeting of the Committee.
- 93 Regeneration and Resources Directorate Performance Report 93**

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There was submitted replacement report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources (1) on the progress made by the Regeneration and Resources Directorate in achieving its key objectives as set out in its Directorate Plan for 2008/11 and (2) advising of performance in relation to key Performance Indicators.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the performance information contained in the report be endorsed; and
- (2) that further reports on performance be submitted to future meetings of the Committee.

**94 Modernisation and Efficiency Programme - Progress Report**

**94**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance on the progress made in implementing the Council's Modernisation and Efficiency Programme.

(Councillor Blair entered the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee note the good progress being made with the implementation of the Council's Modernisation and Efficiency Programme;
- (2) that the revised funding profile for the Modernisation and Efficiency Programme as detailed in appendix 2 to the report be approved; and
- (3) that a further report on progress of phase 2 of the Modernisation and Efficiency Programme be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

**95 Public Service Improvement Framework (PSIF) - Progress Report**

**95**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance providing an update on progress in relation to the implementation of the Public Service Improvement Framework (PSIF).

**Decided:** that the Committee note the progress made in relation to the implementation of the PSIF and that a further report will be submitted once the first round of service assessments have been completed.

**96 Corporate Plan 2007/11 - Baseline Indicators**

**96**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance on a proposed series of indicators to be used as a baseline which will support and evidence the Council's progress in delivering the outcomes contained within the Corporate Plan 2007/11.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Committee adopt the performance indicators highlighted in the report for the purpose of evaluating performance in delivering the Corporate Plan's strategic outcomes; and
- (2) that further reports detailing progress in relation to the performance indicators be submitted to the Committee on an annual basis.

**97 Statutory Performance Indicators 2007/08 - National Context**

**97**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance providing an update on the position with regard to the Statutory Performance Indicators (SPIs) 2007/08 following the publication of Audit Scotland's profiles and ranking tables for all Scottish local authorities.

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**Decided:**

- (1) that the positive impact of the review of SPIs undertaken in the last three years be noted;
- (2) that the Committee note the content of the report and continue to support the Improvement Agenda for 2008/09; and
- (3) that a further report be submitted to the Committee outlining a proposed new set of indicators to be submitted to Audit Scotland to comply with recent directives for the year 2009/10.

**98 Inverclyde Single Outcome Agreement (SOA)****98**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance appending an updated version of the draft Inverclyde Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) which was developed in collaboration with key partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors and was considered by the Inverclyde Alliance Board at its meeting on 26 January 2009.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the revised version of the Single Outcome Agreement be endorsed;
- (2) that it be noted that negotiations will take place with representatives of the Scottish Government and the Inverclyde Alliance on the nature, purpose and content of the revised Inverclyde Single Outcome Agreement; and
- (3) that a finalised version of the SOA be referred to the appropriate Committee of the Council following negotiations with the Scottish Government.

**99 Organisational Improvement Plan (OIP) 2009/2012****99**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance seeking approval of the finalised Organisational Improvement Plan (OIP) for the Council covering the period 2009/2012.

**Decided:**

- (1) that approval be given to the Organisational Improvement Plan for 2009/12;
- (2) that it be noted that the Chief Executive and Corporate Director will work with lead officers and groups within their workstream to refine improvement actions where appropriate, monitor progress and ensure that any issues are addressed;
- (3) that it be agreed that monitoring and reporting of progress in the implementation of the OIP be undertaken through the Corporate Performance Report; and
- (4) that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to the relevant Officers and Members for the work undertaken to produce the OIP.

**100 Workplace Transport and Occupational Road Risk Policy****100**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development & Human Resources requesting the Committee to approve the Workplace Transport and Occupational Road Risk Policy appended to the report.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the Workplace Transport and Occupational Road Risk Policy be approved; and
- (2) that support be given to the Policy by the active promotion of safe driving standards.

**101 Amendment to ICT & Business Transformation Establishment****101**

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There was submitted a report by the Head of Organisational Development & Human Resources requesting approval of an amendment to the ICT & Business Transformation establishment.

**Decided:** that agreement be given to the establishment of the post of Systems Integration Lead at Grade J (£32,275 - £35,246) and the deletion of the Project Manager post.

**102 Establishment of a Renewal and Repair Fund 102**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer seeking approval for the establishment of a Renewal and Repair Fund and of the mechanism for draw downs on the Fund once it is established.

**Decided:**

- (1) that approval be given to the establishment of a Renewal and Repair Fund;
- (2) that it be agreed that contributions received from Scottish Water for the maintenance in perpetuity of the Greenock Cut be paid into the Fund and applied to the repair and maintenance of the Cut;
- (3) that it be agreed that from 2008/09, all relevant contributions from other external bodies in connection with the upkeep of specified Council assets be paid into the Fund for their repair and maintenance; and
- (4) that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Financial Officer to draw down such sums as may be required to provide for the repair and maintenance of the Greenock Cut and other assets of the Council for which funding is held in the Renewal and Repair Fund.

**103 Use of Powers Delegated to the Chief Executive 103**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources advising of the use of the powers delegated to the Chief Executive since the last ordinary meeting of the Committee relative to (1) the use of contractors not on an approved list for (a) Education Condition Surveys 2008, (b) Prudential Schools - Provision of Access Platforms, (c) Former Greenock High School - Boarding Up Works, (2) the award of a contract for the PC Refresh Programme, (3) the use of contractors not on a approved list for Street Lighting Works and (4) the use of contractors not on an approved list for Lightning Conductor Repairs.

**Noted**

**104 Authority to Advertise the Tender for Backscanning of Benefit Claim Files 104**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Improvement & Performance requesting authorisation to advertise the tender for backscanning of benefit claim files.

**Decided:** that authority be granted for the advertisement of the tender for the provision of the bulk backscanning of benefit claim files through an open OJEU process.

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

**105 Community Planning Partnership - European Bid 105**

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking authority for Inverclyde Council, as accountable body, on behalf of Inverclyde Alliance to accept offers of grant for European Structural Funds.

**Decided:** that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources to accept the offers of grant for the delivery of the Inverclyde Integrated Employability Programme including the resources and funds to manage the programme and partnership agreements.

**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 paragraphs 6 and 8 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.**

**106 Ravenscraig Pitch: Drainage Improvements - Permission to Issue Tenders for Works to Specialist Contractors**

106

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources seeking authority to issue tender documents for drainage improvement works at Ravenscraig Stadium Pitch to specialist contractors not included in the Council's list of approved contractors in addition to the specialist contractors currently on the list.

**Decided:** that approval be given to issue tenders to the specialist contractors detailed in the report in addition to the specialist contractors already included in the Council's list of approved contractors.