Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee

Tuesday 5 May 2009 at 3 pm

Present: Councillors Ahlfeld, Dorrian, McCabe, McIlwee, MacLeod, Moran, Blair (for Rebecchi), Wilson and White.

Chair: Councillor Moran presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection, Head of Environmental Services, Head of Planning & Housing, Head of Safer Communities, Ms M McCabe (for Chief Financial Officer) and Mr J Douglas (for Head of Legal & Administration).

Apologies: Councillors Grieve and Rebecchi.

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

281 Capital Programme 2008/11 - Progress Report

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection and the Chief Financial Officer (1) on the status of the projects forming the Environment & Community Protection Capital Programme and (2) highlighting the overall financial position. **Noted**

281(a) Environmental and Community Protection Directorate Performance Report 281(a)

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection advising the Committee on progress made by Environment & Community Protection in achieving its key objectives as set out in the Directorate Plan 2008-11 and performance in relation to key performance indicators.

Decided: that the Committee endorse the performance information contained in the report.

282 Environment and Community Protection Directorate Plan 2009-11

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection appending the Environment & Community Protection Directorate Plan for 2009-11.

Decided: that the Committee adopt the Environment & Community Protection Directorate Plan for 2009-11.

283 Area Renewal Strategy Update

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection informing the Committee of the financial expenditure and progress of area renewal across Inverclyde for the period up to the end of March 2009. **Decided:**

(1) that the Committee note the progress made to date on early action fund grant

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aided projects for the area renewal strategy; and

that the Committee note the progress made to date on the reprovisioning (2) programme under area renewal projects by a registered social landlord operating within Inverclyde.

284 Affordable Housing Investment Programme: Resources for Inverciyde

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection informing the Committee of the allocation of Affordable Housing Investment Programme (AHIP) funding for the financial year 2009/10 and how this will effect delivery of Area Renewal and Reprovisioning Programme works in Inverclyde.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the allocated £34.5M of Affordable Housing Investment Programme funding to Invercive for the financial year 2009/10; and

that the Committee note the discussions to date on the expenditure of this (2) funding by Registered Social Landlords operating within Invercive and arrangements for the monitoring of this expenditure throughout the 2009/10 financial year.

Councillor White left the meeting at this juncture.

285 Inverciyde Local Housing Strategy 2004-09 - Monitoring and Update Report 2009

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) informing the Committee of progress against the strategic objectives set out in the Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy (LHS) 2004-09, and (2) seeking endorsement of the continuing relevancy of the LHS and the key issues identified for the preparation of the next LHS arising out of new guidelines and revised policies.

(Councillor White returned to the meeting during consideration of this item).

Decided: that the Committee note:

the progress made in achieving the strategic aims and objectives of the (1) Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy 2004-09;

the revised timetable for the production of the 'new style' Local Housing Strategy; (2) and

(3) the transitional arrangements required in the intervening period prior to the production of Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy 2011-16.

286 Inverclyde Local Plan 2005 - Monitoring and Update Report 2009

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) informing the Committee of the findings of the review undertaken on the adopted Inverclyde Local Plan and (2) seeking endorsement of the continuing relevancy of the Plan and the key issues identified for the preparation of the new Inverclyde Local Development Plan.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the findings of the 2009 review of the adopted Inverclyde Local Plan (2005) set out in annex 1 and endorse the continuing relevancy of the Plan's policy guidance and, where appropriate, the keys issues identified that will form part of the preparatory work for the first Inverciyde Local Development Plan; and

that it be remitted to the Head of Planning & Housing to establish a working (2) group to review the Local Plan and that the working group comprise the Chair, Vice-Chair, a Member of the SNP and Liberal Democrat Groups, an Independent Member and

appropriate Council Officers.

287 Housing (Scotland) Act 2006 - Work to Meet the Needs of Disabled People

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection seeking the Committee's approval of a policy which brings the procedure for and delivery of adaptations into line with the duty to meet the needs of disabled people as set out in the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the mandatory changes and eligible works and levels of financial assistance for work to meet the needs of people with disabilities, introduced by the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006 as at 1 April 2009; and

(2) that the Committee approve the Policy Statement on Equipment and Adaptations set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

288 Glasgow & Clyde Valley Strategic Review Group - Update on Waste Management 288 Procurement Partnership

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection updating the Committee on the Glasgow & Clyde Valley Strategic Review Group headed by Glasgow City Council for the development of a waste treatment procurement partnership.

Decided: that the Committee note the content of the report and remit it to the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection to report on any significant developments during the procurement process.

289 Rhinopatch Proprietary System - A Sustainable Road Repair Solution

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection and the Chief Financial Officer seeking the Committee's approval for the procurement in respect of a single supplier proprietary road repair system (Rhinopatch) which provides a sustainable solution to potholes and patching operations. **Decided:** that the Committee approve the procurement of the road repair system from a

Decided: that the Committee approve the procurement of the road repair system from a single source supplier.

290 Safer Communities Charges

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection seeking approval for a range of charges for works carried out by Safer Communities.

Decided: that the Committee approve the charges listed in Appendix 1 for 2009/10.

291 Delegated Powers: Authorisation of Officers

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection requesting the Committee to renew and update the delegated powers of the Head of Safer Communities with respect to the authorisation of officers.

Decided: that the Head of Safer Communities be given delegated powers to authorise officers under the Consumers, Estate Agents and Redress Act 2007.

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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)
Contaminated Land - Fir Street and Cedar Crescent	6, 8 & 12
Proposed Green Charter Unit	1
Demolition Order, Garvald Street, Greenock	13
Increase in Kennelling Charges for Stray Dogs	6 & 8
Play Area Investment	6 & 8

292 Contaminated Land - Fir Street and Cedar Crescent

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on the development of the remediation strategy for Fir Street and Cedar Crescent, Greenock.

Decided:

(1) that the remediation measures initially proposed not be carried out given the new evidence which has been obtained since the last report to the Committee and that, instead, Safer Communities continue to monitor the site; and

(2) that further information be provided to residents updating them on the situation and the reason for the decision.

293 Proposed Green Charter Unit

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection seeking approval for the creation of a Green Charter Unit, to include a new post of Carbon Management Officer and the secondment of the Energy Management Officer.

Decided: that the Committee approves the creation of the Green Charter Unit as detailed in Section 5 of the report including a new post of Carbon Management Officer and the secondment of the Energy Management Officer from Property Resources & Facilities Management Services to this unit for an initial period of two years.

294 Demolition Order, Garvald Street, Greenock

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection advising of developments at a property in Garvald Street and seeking approval to make a Demolition Order which was agreed, all as detailed in the appendix.

295 Increase in Kennelling Charges for Stray Dogs

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community

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Protection advising the Committee on the financial and other implications of the decision by the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SSPCA) to increase significantly their cost to the Council to kennel stray dogs and re-home unclaimed dogs and making recommendations in this regard which were agreed, all as detailed in the appendix.

296 Play Area Investment

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There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection requesting approval to prioritise spend of the 2009/2010 investment budget. **Decided:**

(1) that consideration of recommendation 3.1 be continued pending a further report on play area provision as detailed in decision 4 below;

(2) that the Committee approve the allocation of £45,500 from the £250,000 2009/10 play area investment budget for the renovation of Overton Play Area;

(3) that the Committee approve a request from the Quarriers Village Play Park Project for a £20,000 contribution from the Play Area Investment Budget to partly fund the installation of a play area within Quarriers Village; and

(4) that it be remitted to the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection to carry out a review of play area provision across Inverclyde with a view to producing a play area strategy for the medium and long-term.