

SAFE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 9 MARCH 2010

Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee

Tuesday 9 March 2010 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 L Bairden (for Chief Financial Officer), Mr J Douglas (for Head of Legal & Administration), Head of Safer Communities, Mr R Graham (for Head of Environmental Services), Mr W Rennie (Environmental Services), Mr F MacLeod (for Head of Planning & Housing), Mr R Lee and Mr W Rice (Housing Team), Head of Economic & Social Regeneration and Mr M Bingham (Corporate Communications & Public Affairs).

Apologies: Councillor Nelson.

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

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| 151 | Mr Neil Graham | 151 |
| | Prior to the commencement of business, the Convener referred to the forthcoming retirement of Mr Neil Graham, Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection. He thanked Mr Graham for his assistance over the years and, on behalf of the Committee, extended his best wishes for the future. | |
| 152 | Safe, Sustainable Communities Revenue Budget 2009/10 - Period 9 | 152 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on the position of the 2009/10 Revenue Budget as at Period 9 (31 December 2009) which projected an underspend of £28,000. | |
| | Decided: | |
| | (1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £28,000 as at 31 December 2009; and | |
| | (2) that the virement request detailed in Appendix 4 to the report be approved. | |
| 153 | Community Investment Fund (CIF) | 153 |
| | There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) providing an update on expenditure from the Community Investment Fund (CIF) and (2) seeking approval to allocate the remaining balance to the proposed Visitor Centre at Lunderston Bay. | |
| | Decided: | |
| | (1) that the Committee note the current position with regard to the Community Investment Fund and agree to allocate the balance, currently estimated at £74,681, to the proposed Visitor Centre at Lunderston Bay; and | |
| | (2) that it be agreed to allocate £25,000 of uncommitted Reserves within the Safe, Sustainable Communities Budget to the Lunderston Bay project. | |
| 154 | Safe, Sustainable Communities Trading Account Revenue Budget 2009/10 - Period 9 | 154 |

SAFE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 9 MARCH 2010

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on the position of the Roads and Vehicle Management Trading Accounts as at Period 9 (31 December 2009).

Decided: that the current outturn for the Vehicle Management Trading Account and the current projected under-recovery of £21,000 in respect of the Roads Trading Account as at 31 December 2009 be noted.

155 Safe, Sustainable Communities Capital Programme 2009/12 - Progress 155

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection and Chief Financial Officer on the position of the Capital Programme 2009/12.

Noted

156 Environmental Services (Roads) - Capital Programme 2010/11 156

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 Programme for 2010/11.

Decided:

(1) that approval be given to the list of projects detailed in the report to be funded from the 2010/11 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 Operation) 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 to Contracts; and

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

157 Directorate Performance Report 157

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection advising the Committee of progress made by Environmental & Community Protection in achieving its key objectives as set out in its Directorate Plan for 2009/11 and of performance in relation to Key Performance Indicators.

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

158 Area Renewal Strategy Update 158

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on expenditure on and progress of area renewal across Inverclyde for the period up to March 2010.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the successful completion of all projects funded by the Early Action Fund Programme during 2009/10; and

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

159 Scheme of Assistance: Private Sector Housing Grant Budget Proposal 2010/11 159

SAFE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 9 MARCH 2010

There was submitted a replacement report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection providing information on the proposed 2010/11 Private Sector Housing Grant Budget which will allow Inverclyde Council to deliver the aims and objectives as set out in the Council's approved Scheme of Assistance (Section 72 Statement) of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006.

Decided: that agreement be given to the proposed Private Sector Housing Grant 2010/11 Budget outlined in the report.

160 Clune Park Regeneration: Progress Report

160

There was submitted a replacement report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on progress made in respect of the proposed regeneration of the Clune Park area, Port Glasgow.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress made to date and ongoing discussions with the Scottish Government to take forward the physical and social regeneration of Clune Park, Port Glasgow; and
- (2) that the Committee note the approach made to the Minister for Housing and Communities for confirmation of Clune Park as a joint priority and for the allocation of appropriate funding packages.

161 Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy: Report on Engagement for Consultative Draft Report

161

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) on the outcomes of engagement with partners and stakeholders on the main issues to be addressed in the Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy (LHS) 2011-16 and (2) seeking endorsement of proposals for the development of a Consultative Draft LHS.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the outcomes of the initial engagement with partners and stakeholders on the development of the Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy 2011-16 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (2) that approval be given to the proposals for the development of a Consultative Draft LHS as set out in paragraphs 5.1 and 5.2 of the report and that the LHS Steering Group to be formed to oversee the development of the Consultative Draft comprise two Members of the Administration and two from the Opposition Groups; and
- (3) that approval be given to the timetable for the production of the Inverclyde Local Housing Strategy 2011-16 as set out in Appendix 3 to the report.

162 Inverclyde Local Development Plan: Pre-Main Issues Report Engagement and Consultation

162

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) on the outcomes and key issues arising from the first stage of engagement on the preparation of a new Inverclyde Local Development Plan and (2) seeking endorsement for the continuation of the current approved Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement, March 2009.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the outcomes of the first stage of the Pre-Main Issues Report engagement and the issues arising from the consultative exercise as summarised

SAFE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 9 MARCH 2010

in the report and Annex 1;

(2) that the Committee endorse the approach to the preparation of a new Inverclyde Local Development Plan in accordance with the Council's Approved Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement dated March 2009 which remains unchanged for 2010/11; and

(3) that approval be given to the submission of the unchanged Development Plan Scheme/Participation Statement to the Scottish Government.

163 Inverclyde Local Plan 2005: Interim Supplementary Planning Guidance for Wind Farms 163

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) on the outcome of the targeted consultation on the proposed Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) for wind farm developments and (2) seeking approval of amendments made for the finalised interim SPG.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the responses received on the draft Supplementary Planning Guidance and endorse the amendments made for the finalised interim SPG; and

(2) that approval be given to the finalised interim SPG for wind farms for use alongside the adopted Inverclyde Local Plan 2005.

164 Street Name - New Cul-de-Sac off Grosvenor Road, Greenock 164

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection requesting the Committee to assign a street name for a new cul-de-sac off Grosvenor Road, Greenock.

Decided: that it be delegated to the Ward Members to determine a suitable name for the new cul-de-sac off Grosvenor Road, Greenock.

165 Street Name - New Housing Development at Oronsay Avenue, Port Glasgow 165

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection requesting the Committee to assign street names for a new housing development by River Clyde Homes at Oronsay Avenue, Port Glasgow.

Decided: that the names Taransay Way, Barra Way and Jura Way be assigned to the new housing development at Oronsay Avenue, Port Glasgow.

166 Waste Management Contract 166

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on the proposed renewal of the existing waste management contract.

Decided:

(1) that agreement be given to the preparation of a tender for the provision of a residual waste management treatment contract for a period of two years with two separate one year extensions; and

(2) that reports be submitted to future meetings of the Committee on the development of discussions between Inverclyde Council and neighbouring authorities in respect of future collaborative waste management options.

167 Commercial Waste Charging 167

SAFE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 9 MARCH 2010

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection advising the Committee of an increase in charges for commercial waste.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the contents of the report and the impact of the increases in costs which are outwith the Council's control; and
- (2) that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection to determine reasonable commercial charges for the commercial waste service in conjunction with Finance Services.

168 Winter Maintenance Review 2009/10

168

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) advising Members of the significant difficulties, from a public roads perspective, which were experienced during the recent and unique period of adverse weather and (2) making recommendations to improve the resilience and level of service in the future.

(Councillor Wilson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business).

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee acknowledge and commend the winter maintenance staff who worked over prolonged periods in the worst conditions since records began to deliver snow clearing and gritting services to Inverclyde;
- (2) that in order to improve the resilience and effectiveness of winter gritting operations, it be agreed that a salt barn, with a minimum storage capacity of around 3,500 tonnes, be procured to provide dry storage conditions, it being noted that this has previously been taken account of in the future depot requirements established as part of the Council's Asset Management Plan;
- (3) that it be agreed to increase the mechanical footway gritting resources to provide a more responsive, efficient and cost effective method of dealing with frost, snow and ice on the priority footways throughout the area, to be procured as part of the current fleet replacement programme;
- (4) that the Committee endorse the criteria for the location of grit bins and confirm that requests for ad hoc bin locations be discouraged unless they meet the agreed criteria;
- (5) that the Council's Crisis and Resilience Management Team (CRMT) be required to include in their current review of contingency plans across all services, the arrangements which should be put in place to recall staff should similar events occur during future public holidays, particularly during the Christmas/New Year holiday period;
- (6) that the CRMT be required to review all services within the Council whose assets and operations are affected by winter conditions and to submit any proposals in this regard to a future meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee;
- (7) that it be agreed that prior to the start of the winter season each year, Members be briefed on the readiness of the Council to deal with winter conditions including the operational procedures to provide an effective winter maintenance regime within each of the affected services and that the level of service which can be expected as a result of this review form part of a public information update annually;
- (8) that approval be given to the writing off of 1,171 tonnes of unusable salt which pre-dates 1996; and
- (9) that the decisions outlined above be factored into the budget setting process for future years as appropriate.

169 Scottish Ferries

169

SAFE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 9 MARCH 2010

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection on the progress of the Scottish Ferries Review and the planned public consultation exercise.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress made to date with the Scottish Ferries Review; and
- (2) that it be noted that a further report will be submitted if required providing details of arrangements for the public consultation exercise.

170 Play Area Strategy

170

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection requesting approval of a strategy for the provision, management and maintenance of local authority play areas within Inverclyde.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee approve the play area strategy and associated recommendations;
- (2) that it be remitted to the appropriate Corporate Director to produce an action plan to prioritise the spend of currently available funding based on the criteria set out in the strategy and to report to the Committee with an updated action plan if or when additional funding is allocated or becomes available from external resources; and
- (3) that of the available budget of £519,000, £269,000 be allocated to the modernisation of existing play areas and £250,000 be allocated to investment in new play areas.

Councillor White left the meeting at this juncture.

171 Safer Communities Charges

171

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

Decided: that approval be given to the charges listed in Appendix 1 for 2010/11.

172 Public Space CCTV Review

172

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection (1) advising the Committee of developments made in the Council's Public Space CCTV system and (2) seeking approval for the development of a full CCTV strategy.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee note the progress made to date towards a sustainable future for Public Space CCTV in Inverclyde; and
- (2) that approval be given for the development of a long term CCTV strategy.

SAFE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 9 MARCH 2010

173 Community Safety Partnership - Strategic Purpose and Aims**173**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection seeking endorsement of the proposed Strategic Purpose and Aims of the Community Safety Partnership for the next four years.

Decided: that the Committee endorse the proposed Community Safety Strategic Purpose and Aims as the lead community safety partner.

174 Violence Learning Test Site Inverclyde - Violence Reduction Joint Action Group (JAG)**174**

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment & Community Protection advising the Committee of funding for, and the establishment of, a Violence Reduction Joint Action Group to effect positive change in violence and weapon carrying in Inverclyde.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the award of funding and learning site status for Inverclyde;

(2) that support be given to the establishment and development of a Violence Reduction Joint Action Group; and

(3) that it be noted that a report on the progress made with the initiative will be submitted to the Committee in due course.