

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION COMMITTEE - 17 JANUARY 2013

Environment & Regeneration Committee

Thursday 17 January 2013 at 3pm

Present: Provost Moran, Councillors Ahlfeld, Clocherty, Dorrian, MacLeod, McCabe, McCormick, McEleny, McIlwee, Nelson and Shepherd.

Chair: Councillor McCormick presided.

In attendance: Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Finance Manager, Mr M Thomson (Finance Services), Ms V Pollock (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services), Head of Environmental & Commercial Services, Mr R Graham and Mr W Rennie (Environmental & Commercial Services), Head of Property Assets & Facilities Management, Property Assets Manager, Head of Regeneration & Planning, Mr F Macleod (Regeneration & Planning Service) and Corporate Communications Manager.

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

30 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 30

No apologies for absence were intimated.

Declarations of interest were intimated as follows:-

Agenda Item 7 (Community Facilities Grant) - Councillor MacLeod;

Agenda Item 22 (River Clyde Homes Ground Maintenance Tender (Tender Outcome)) - Councillors Ahlfeld, McCabe, McEleny and McIlwee; and

Agenda Item 19 (Lease of Premises - Inverkip Street, Greenock) - Councillor Dorrian.

31 Environment & Regeneration Revenue Budget 2012/13 - Period 7 31

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer and the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the position of the Revenue Budget 2012/13 as at Period 7 (31 October 2012) which showed a projected underspend of £365,000, excluding earmarked reserves.

Decided:

(1) that the Committee note the current projected underspend of £365,000 for 2012/13 as at 31 October 2012; and

(2) that approval be given to the virement detailed in Appendix 4 to the report.

32 Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2014/15 - Progress 32

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources and the Chief Financial Officer on the position of the projects within the Environment & Regeneration Capital Programme.

Noted

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- 33 Environment, Regeneration & Resources Directorate Performance Report 33**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising the Committee of progress made by those services within the former Regeneration & Environment Directorate which reported to the former Regeneration Committee and the former Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee in achieving their key objectives as set out in the Regeneration & Environment Directorate Plan 2011-2012 and how they have contributed to the achievement of key corporate priorities.
- Decided:** that the Committee endorse the performance information contained in the report and note that further reports on performance will be presented to future meetings of the Committee.
- 34 Pre-determination Hearing Procedures 34**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval for the procedures to be adopted by the Council in holding Pre-determination Hearings on planning applications, as required by the Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006 and associated regulations and circulars.
- Decided:** that agreement be given to the adoption of the proposed Pre-determination Hearing Procedures set out in the report.
- 35 Planning Enforcement Charter 35**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval for the adoption of an updated Planning Enforcement Charter, as required by the Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006, a copy of which was appended to the report.
- Decided:** that approval be given to the adoption of the updated Planning Enforcement Charter.
- 36 Community Facilities Grant 36**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on the progress of the administration and disbursement of the Community Facilities Fund of £1,200,000 incorporating the additional planned expenditure for Phase 2 awards.
- Councillor MacLeod declared a non-financial interest in this matter as a Director of Parklea Branching Out. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber or his participation in the decision making process.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the Committee approve the Phase 2 awards outlined in appendix 1 to the report, with a total spend of £196,741, the funding for REACH for Autism being approved subject to the completion of a sustainable business plan to the satisfaction of the Chief Financial Officer; and
 - (2) that the Committee approve the three further projects assessed as eligible subject to the availability of additional funding as outlined in appendix 1 and that the Policy & Resources Committee be requested to approve the further funding of £52,491 required.

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- 37 Update on Inverclyde Tourism Action Plan 2009-2016 37**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the progress of the Inverclyde Tourism Action Plan 2009-2016.
Decided: that the Committee note the progress and ongoing development of the Tourism Action Plan.
- 38 Year of Natural Scotland 2013 38**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources apprising Members of plans to celebrate the Year of Natural Scotland 2013.
Decided: that the Committee note the planned activities to celebrate the year of Natural Scotland in 2013.
- 39 Housing Trends Monitoring Report and Annual Monitoring and Review of the Local Plan's Housing Strategy (2011-12) 39**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources informing the Committee of the annual review of the Local Plan's Housing Strategy using the findings of the first Inverclyde Housing Trends Monitoring Report.
Decided:
 (1) that the Committee endorse the findings and interpretation of this year's annual monitoring, in accordance with the requirements of Local Plan Policy H7; and
 (2) that it be noted there is sufficient capacity in the "Effective Land Supply" to meet demand and therefore there is no need to increase the land supply through greenfield release in advance of the forthcoming Local Development Plan.
- 40 Play Area Investment 40**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services (1) updating the Committee on the progress of the Council's play area investment programme in respect of works in progress and proposed and (2) seeking approval with regard to the next stage of the programme.
Decided:
 (1) that the Committee approve the balance of the 2012/2013 play area investment budget of £250,000 to be spent on the two undernoted projects:-
 (a) £175,000 for the replacement of the existing skate park in Battery Park with a new one to be constructed on the same site; and
 (b) £75,000 for the replacement of the old play area in Jacob's Drive, Gourock;
 (2) that a new play area due to be constructed in Gibshill in partnership with the Gibshill Residents' Association be adopted for maintenance by Inverclyde Council on its completion; and
 (3) that the Committee note the data associated with the gap in provision of play areas in certain neighbourhoods for the purposes of informing decisions on investment in new play areas in the future.

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- 41 LTS Action Plan Update 41**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources updating the Committee on the progress of the actions arising from the Local Transport Strategy 2011-2016 for Inverclyde.
Noted
- 42 Vehicle and Plant Equipment, Procurement Model - 3 Year Review 42**
- It was noted that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda.
- 43 Use of Powers Delegated to the Chief Executive - Battery Park Replacement 3G Pitch 43**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources advising of the use of the powers delegated to the Chief Executive for approval to accept the lowest acceptable tender for Battery Park Replacement 3G Pitch.
Noted
- 44 A Landfill Tax for Scotland - Scottish Government Consultation 44**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the Council's response to the Scottish Government's consultation on Landfill Tax, which required to be submitted by 15 January 2013.
Decided: that the Committee note the consultation response to the Scottish Government's consultation on Landfill Tax as appended to the report.
- The Convener being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources was relevant, competent and urgent moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order to allow a meeting of the Working Group to be arranged at an early date. This was agreed unanimously.**
- 45 Central Gourock Redevelopment Working Group 45**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources requesting the Committee to appoint Members to the Central Gourock Redevelopment Working Group.
Decided: that the Leader of the Council, the Convener and Vice-Convener of the Environment & Regeneration Committee and the three Ward Councillors for Gourock be appointed to the Central Gourock Redevelopment Working Group.
- 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)	
Lease of Premises - Dubbs Road, Port Glasgow	2, 6 and 9	
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Lease of Premises - Fore Street, Port Glasgow	2, 6 and 9	
Lease of Premises - Cathcart Street, Greenock	2, 6 and 9	
Lease of Premises - Inverkip Street, Greenock	2, 6 and 9	
Lease of Premises - Shore Street, Gourock	2, 6 and 9	
Property Assets Management Report	2, 6 and 9	
River Clyde Homes Ground Maintenance Tender (Tender Outcome)	6 and 9	
SPT Agency Agreement for the Management of Bus Stops and Bus Shelters and the Provision of New Bus Shelters under the SPT Bus Shelter Upgrading Programme	6 and 9	
46 Lease of Premises - Dubbs Road, Port Glasgow		46
There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to grant a lease of premises in Dubbs Road, Port Glasgow and the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.		
47 Lease of Premises - Dubbs Road, Port Glasgow		47
There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to grant a lease of premises in Dubbs Road, Port Glasgow and the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.		
48 Lease of Premises - Fore Street, Port Glasgow		48
There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to grant a lease of premises in Fore Street, Port Glasgow and the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.		
49 Lease of Premises - Cathcart Street, Greenock		49
There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to grant a lease of premises in Cathcart Street, Greenock and the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.		

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- 50 Lease of Premises - Inverkip Street, Greenock 50**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to grant a lease of premises in Inverkip Street, Greenock. Councillor Dorrian declared a non-financial interest in this matter, the tenant being a business client. He also formed the view that the nature of his interest and of the item of business did not preclude his continued presence in the Chamber or his participation in the decision making process. Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.
- 51 Lease of Premises - Shore Street, Gourock 51**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources seeking approval to grant a lease of premises in Shore Street, Gourock and the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.
- 52 Property Assets Management Report 52**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources together with addendum report on activities and proposals for the management of the Council's property assets. Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended in respect of (1) premises in Scarlow Street, Port Glasgow; (2) land at Wateryetts Drive, Kilmacolm; (3) land at Customhouse Quay, Greenock; (4) the Waterfront Cinema, Greenock; (5) Kempock House, Gourock; (6) the appointment of consultants to prepare a masterplan for the development of surplus sites; (7) land at lower Mary Street, Port Glasgow; (8) proposals to utilise the former Highlander's Academy for decant and to remove it from the list of surplus assets for disposal; (9) premises at Hunter Place, Greenock and (10) premises in Mearns Street and Nile Street, Greenock, all as detailed in the appendix.
- 53 River Clyde Homes Ground Maintenance Tender (Tender Outcome) 53**
- There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources on the outcome of the tender process for River Clyde Homes grounds maintenance contract, making recommendations in this regard and seeking approval to take action. Councillors Ahlfeld, McCabe, McEleny and McIlwee declared a non-financial interest in this matter as members of the Board of River Clyde Homes. They also formed the view that the nature of their interest and of the item of business did not preclude their continued presence in the Chamber or their participation in the decision making process. Following consideration, the Committee agreed to the action recommended, all as detailed in the appendix.

54 SPT Agency Agreements for the Management of Bus Stops and Bus Shelters and the Provision of New Bus Shelters under the SPT Bus Shelter Upgrading Programme

54

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources (1) on proposals to extend the existing Bus Stop and Bus Shelter Agency Agreements between Inverclyde Council and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) for a further period of one year and (2) seeking approval for the proposed locations for new shelters in the SPT bus shelter upgrading programme 2012/13, subject to further investigation by officers.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee approve the proposed extension of the current Bus Stop Agency Agreement and Non-advertising Bus Shelter Agency Agreement with Strathclyde Partnership for Transport from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014;
- (2) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to finalise the new Agency Agreements with SPT on behalf of the Council; and
- (3) that the Committee approve the provision of new shelters at the proposed locations detailed in the report, subject to further investigation by officers.